



Adventure Racing World Championship 2018

La Réunion, France

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The Adventure Racing World Championship 2018 will take place in the heart of Reunion Island

For the second time in the history of the AR World Championship, Raid in France will organise the 2018 edition, taking place on the magnificent island of the Reunion. From the 4th to 16th of November, the top worldwide racing teams will plunge into this unique sporting and human adventure.

- **75 teams of 4 runners (including at least 1 woman) in autonomy**
- **Between 110 and 200 hours (4 to 8 days)**
- **A non stop race, day and night, immersed in the wilderness**
- **A succession of activities: kayak, trek, mountain biking, rafting, caving, via ferrata climbing, horse-riding...**

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The world's top teams are already on the list of participants

ARWC is off to a flying start! The first week of inscriptions, consisting of the 30 teams of the Adventure Racing World Series ranking, was a success. In less than 24 hours, all the inscriptions were completed and a waiting list has been established in order to anticipate the second inscription wave commencing on the first of March.

Amongst the 30 registered teams, 6 are in the World «Top 10» list, including the New-Zealand team «Seagate», who have already qualified being the world championship holders.

A message from Philippe Lescure, the president of the French Triathlon Federation

« This world championship is a major international event for the French Triathlon Federation (adventure racing are attached to our French Triathlon Federation since January 2017). This event promises to be a great celebration of adventure racing on Reunion Island, combining a highly competent and experienced organization team with the world's finest athletes. We are entirely rallying around this event ».





An authentic and challenging race

The concept is simple, teams will go on a 400km race to discover the rich and diversified natural environment. The racers will be completely immersed in the luxuriant wilderness of Reunion Island whilst taking part in a multitude of demanding outdoor disciplines such as mountain bike, trek, caving, climbing, kayak, pack raft, ropes, horse-riding and much more... The entire race takes place in total autonomy and orientation. The route taken will take into account the specificities of the territory and will adapt to its geographical constraints. This 2018 World Championship will be the most committed of the year.

La Réunion is magic

Reunion is popular for its aquatic environment displaying a diversified fauna and flora. In the heart of the Indian Ocean, the change of scenery is guaranteed.

The brightly coloured and warm sandy beaches created by strong erosion stand alongside steep reliefs, extending over 2 512km². A few kilometres further inland, an authentic mountainous landscape stretches as far as the eye can see consisting of two volcanic peaks. The first named Piton des Neiges (or 'Snow Peak' in English) is a 3.070-meter-high volcano which is now inactive. The second is a 2.632-meter high volcano named Piton de la Fournaise (or 'Peak of Furnace'), which dresses in blazing red when erupting.

The combination of these landscapes and mountainous areas undeniably appears to be the perfect place for extreme sports enthusiasts and for the ARWC organization to express their potential alongside the motto «Back to Nature».

A message from Pascal Bahuaud, race director

« We are preparing an authentic race, one that pushes the racers to be as autonomous as possible and one that encourages a respectful discovery of the island's natural territories. Our baseline «Back to Nature» demonstrates our desire to stay grounded to what is the very essence of the long-distance races which implies an immersion and the discovery in full autonomy within a team. And we couldn't dream of a more magical place than Reunion Island to organize this World Championship! We are proud to organize such a challenge and we are extremely excited about the months ahead during which we will be entirely devoted to the realization of this outstanding adventure ».



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1. Adventure Racing World Series 2017 - Raid in France > kayak on Ardèche river.

2. Adventure Racing World Series 2017 - Raid in France > team spirit.

3. Adventure Racing World Series 2015 - Raid in France > mountain bike on Ain river.

The World Championship is looking for volunteers

The race organizers wish to call on volunteers on Reunion Island to contribute to the success of this event. During the race, the volunteers will either keep an eye on the checkpoints when the teams arrive, they will drive doctors, help with equipment management, work alongside the food team... All these tasks are crucial to the success of the race. Go to benevole@raidinfrance.fr to volunteer!

About ARWS : created in 2001, the Adventure Racing World Series federates the international "long-distance" adventure races. It is the circuit that organizes and structures the World Cup of the 11th legs of adventure races around the world. All these rounds are qualifier events in the ARWC (Adventure Racing World Championship).

Regarding the journalists willing to join us and follow the race on the field, please send us back the press accreditation downloadable in the media heading of the website www.raidinfrance.fr.