



PRESS RELEASE

AR WORLD SERIES

8th edition of Raid in France From 4 to 10 September 2016

Raid in France is going back to its roots. From 4 to 10 September, the French race of the Adventure Racing World Series will be held in the Pyrénées, site chosen in 2007 for the first edition of this unique event in Europe.

- From Front-Romeu to the Mediterranean sea, participants will face a 430 kilometre long race with 16 000 meters of positive gain, which amounts to four times the ascent of the Aconcagua, America's highest peak.
- 4 to 6 days of nonstop racing, in total immersion in nature
- More than twenty teams signed up, representing several countries
- Trekking, mountain biking, kayaking, speleology, canyoneering and rafting are among the disciplines included in the race.



Raid in France 2015 - © JJ Raynal

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Logo and press pack
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Raid in France, the French round of the Adventure Racing World Series, will start in Front-Romeu, at the heart of the Catalonia Pyrenean Regional Natural Park; and will end on the Mediterranean coast. Participants will face a 430 kilometre long race through the Pyrénées Orientales, Aude and Ariège departments. They will make their way in total autonomy during a non-stop race lasting between four and six days, to the rhythm of activities such as trekking, mountain biking, kayaking, speleology, canyoneering and rafting.

An international line-up

Since the opening of registration on the January 22 this year, more than 20 teams have already signed up for the 8th edition of the French race. Among them are teams from Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Spain, and for the first time, South Korea.

This year's event could benefit from the presence of the reigning world champions, the Seagate team, who will come from New Zealand for the occasion. The team includes New Zealand racer Nathan Faavae, the international star of adventure racing.

The Pyrénées, a return to the roots of Raid in France

Font-Romeu is located at the very heart of the Catalonia Pyrenean Regional Natural Park, and will be the starting point of the 2016 Raid in France race. In the south of France, the Catalonia Pyrenean Regional Natural Park extends from the Canigou Mountains to the border of Spain, with a height varying between 300 and 3000m. The site, with its strong mountainous identity, will offer the racers three breathtaking landscapes: Capcir, Cerdagne and Haut-Conflent. The race will end near Gruissan, on the shores of the Mediterranean sea.

Back to nature, our environmental commitment

Raid In France is a demanding race that upholds strong values. Participants as well as organisers all sign the "Back to nature" environmental charter committing them to respect the environment throughout the whole race. No helicopter, a rigorous waste management, the use of recyclable products, printing on recycled paper, raising environmental awareness, the preservation of natural sites (refilling of the anchoring holes) are some of the gestures that make Raid in France an eco-friendly race since its creation.

Raid in France: the French round of the Adventure Racing World Series (ARWS)

Raid in France was created in 2007 by Pascal Bahuaud, a rowing finalist in Seoul's Olympic Games, 13 times French Champion and 6 out of 10 times on the podium of the Raid Gauloise, as the French round of the Adventure Racing World Series (ARWS).

The ARWS circuit, which gathers the world's long-distance multisport races, is composed of 12 annual races across the globe. Each one of them qualifies the first two teams for the world finale, which is set to take place this upcoming November in Australia.



Raid in France 2014 - © JJ Raynal

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Raid in France 2011 - © JJ Raynal