

DRIVER'S RALLY CHAMONIX

FROM 11 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2024



© Hervé Vitéz

by

LAURENT FERRIER
GENEVE

See you in Chamonix

from 11 to 15 September 2024!

In 2022, I invited you to join us at the foot of Mont Blanc for the 1st Driver's Rally Chamonix. It was a trip back to the roots of an event I had the pleasure of running and developing hand-in-hand with a fantastic team: the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race.

With almost 50 cars from Belgium, France, UK and Switzerland, many of you took up the invitation to enjoy a great time together around our shared passion: Motors.

This year, 2024, I hope you'll come and join me once again in this wonderful valley for an ever-

so friendly rally around Mont Blanc, through France, Italy and Switzerland.

The "24-Hour" spirit will definitely be present throughout Driver's Rally Chamonix with wonderful surprises, a feast for the eyes as well as for taste buds. And when night-time comes around, those of you who remember the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race evening events are in for a treat!

See you in Chamonix from Wednesday 11 to Sunday 15 September 2024!

Sportingly yours, Franz Hummel

SO, WHAT'S THE DRIVER'S RALLY SPIRIT LIKE?

Confidential get-together rallies • 30 cars at the most to ensure an ever-so friendly atmosphere • One base camp to make your logistics easier • 230 km stages so you have time to enjoy everything • Restaurants and wines selected with great care.

DRIVER'S RALLY CHAMONIX 2024

A really friendly get-together at the foot of Mont Blanc.

Chamonix. This village, nestling in the very heart of the French Alps, is known throughout the world for its Mont-Blanc, its Aiguille du Midi and its Montanvers - Mer de Glace (Sea of Ice) Train.

And, it will also be celebrated in 2024 to mark the centenary of the First Winter Olympic Games, which were held here!

For over 30 years, Chamonix was also well-known to fans of the motor sports world through 3 events: the Ronde Hivernale (Wintertime Round), the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race and the Festival Automobile.

Events which led to epic days and magical nights.

To rediscover these great moments at the foot of Mont Blanc, let's get together from Wednesday 11 to Sunday

15 September 2024 for the 2nd Driver's Rally Chamonix. Our 3-stage «road trip» rally covers around 230 km per day in France, Italy and Switzerland.

Our rally, organised like a chartered road trip, will comprise 3 stages of over 250 km a day in France, Italy and Switzerland with time checks.

Driver's Rally Chamonix is an event open to automobiles whether they're sporty, classical or modern, of any age, any type.

It will take place totally on public roads. Which means that the Highway code in effect in the country crossed must be strictly observed throughout the route.

The Roadbook is completed and registration is now open. Get ready to enjoy a fun-filled rally with other enthusiasts!

3 STAGES LAID OUT BY EXPERTS.

France, Italy, Switzerland: the Alps are a fantastic playground for thrill-seekers. The 3 stages, starting out from Chamonix, will whisk you off through magical sceneries and across the mythical mountain passes of the Mont Blanc massif. During your breaks, take time out and discover the specialities of the countries crossed, in extraordinary places.

1st stage in Italy:

Chamonix Mont-Blanc, **Great St Bernard Pass (2,469 m)**, Entrèves, Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

2nd stage in France:

Chamonix Mont-Blanc, **Col de la Colombière (1,613 m)**, Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

3rd stage in Switzerland:

Chamonix Mont-Blanc, **Col de la Croix de Cœur (2,173 m)**, Martigny, Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

WHERE?

Chamonix-Mont-Blanc - France

WHEN?

From Wednesday 11 to Sunday 15 September 2024.

WHAT?

An event open to automobiles whether they're sporty, classical or modern, of any age, any type, total number limited.

HOW?

800 km in 3 days, starting out from Chamonix on the Alpine routes of France, Italy and Switzerland.

HOW MUCH?

€3,200 excl. VAT, i.e. €3,840 incl. VAT (20%) . per participating team, all-inclusive price (apart from accommodation).





CHAMONIX AND AUTOMOBILE: A WONDERFUL TALE!

What village can boast of having witnessed the birth of 3 motor sport events of international acclaim? Well, Chamonix can of course in the 1970s and 80s.

1 Chamonix Ronde Hivernal (Wintertime Round)

The first-ever European ice race for cars took place on 30 January 1970: Chamonix Ronde Hivernal (Wintertime Round).

A race organized by Jean Brissaud, Director of Chamonix Tourist Office, and the rally driver from Megève, Alain Bompard, with support from Maurice Herzog, Deputy-Mayor of Chamonix.

4 editions of this race were held from 1970 to 1973 and the respective winners were Guy Verrier (1970 - DS 21), Jean-Claude Andruet (1971 & 1972 - Alpine A110 1600 Gr4) and Bernard Darniche (1973 - Alpine A110 1800 Gr4).

Thanks to night-time events, a hill race in Les Houches and live broadcasts on TF1, the leading French TV station, it established itself as the 4th greatest French motor sports race in terms of fame after the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the French F1 Grand Prix and the Paris-Dakar. Right up until its final edition in 2003, it was a real automobile celebration, bringing together between 15 and 20,000 spectators every year at the foot of Mont Blanc, as well as the best-known figures from all disciplines.

Yvan Muller and Gilles Stievenart were its final winners triumphing brilliantly with a Seat Cordoba.

2 24-Hour Chamonix Ice Race

In 1974, Alain Bompard helped by Jocelyne Vallée and team transformed the Ronde Hivernale (Wintertime Round) into the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race. The first edition was won by the duo Amilcare Balestrieri (I) - Simo Lampinen (FIN) with Official Lancia Fulvia HF.

In 1977, the event took time out after the victory of the duo Henri Pescarolo - Jean-Pierre Nicolas with the 104 ZS of the Official Peugeot team, managed by Jean Todt.

In 1983, Michel Charlet, who had just been elected Mayor of Chamonix, asked Franz Hummel to revive the race for a 1984 edition. Since then, it has constantly grown.

Every year, this highly-successful, highly-entertaining race would mark the first meeting of the season and reunions between drivers and a host of motor sports enthusiasts. Worth mentioning that, in addition to helping organize this event, Franz Hummel won it in 1986 behind the wheel of an Official Citroën Visa 4*4, hand-in-hand with Jean-Pierre Malcher.

3 Festival Automobile International

This Festival was created during the 1986 edition of the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race by Rémi Depoix and Franz Hummel. In 1987, the Festival Automobile welcomed a newcomer in the form of the "Most Beautiful Car of the Year". An election which still exists today, where the winner is chosen 100% by the Internet public.

In 2001, the Festival Automobile left Chamonix for Paris. Since then, still presided over by Rémi Depoix, it takes place every year in February outside the Invalides.

Concept cars and cars that 'dreams are made of' are showcased for a few days to a large public inside a glass structure.

It's also the occasion to host a prestigious evening event rewarding the work of the most visionary creators and the most proactive manufacturers dedicated to automobile beauty: The Festival's Grand Prizes.





Franz Hummel

Racing driver, record holder and event organiser.

As a child, he would watch his father race round the mythical Autodrome de Linas-Montlhéry, close to Paris. And, since that moment, the car bug's never left him!

As a racing driver, he finished 3rd in the 1973 Volant Shell on the Magny-Cours Circuit and became an instructor for the prestigious Winfield Racing School. In 1975, he took part in his first 24 Hours of Le Mans with a Lola Roc 2 liters. In 1977, he raced in the Monte Carlo Rally with a Renault Alpine and the 24 Hours of Le Mans with a Porsche 934 Turbo. In 1986, along with Jean-Pierre Malcher, he won the 6th edition of the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race with a Works sponsored Citroën Visa. In 1992, he participated in the 1st edition of Paris-Moscow-Beijing.

As a record holder, he has literally pulverized several cross continental times, including the solo drive from Cape Town to Algiers [\[Vidéo click: Transafrican Challenge 1990\]](#). With this still-unbeaten record, he won the «1991 Master of Human Adventure» adventure ahead of Hubert Auriol & Ari Vatanen.

Franz was awarded the Legion of Honour in 2006 by the great mountaineer Maurice Herzog for his motor racing achievements and as automobile event organiser, his second passion.

He was involved in the 1970 Ronde Hivernale (Wintertime Round) and continued to develop the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race. Based on an idea from Rémi Depoix, Franz launched the Festival Automobile de Chamonix hand-in-hand with Rémi. Franz also created ice races in Canada, Finland, Italy and Russia with the FIA. As well as Les Week-Ends de l'Excellence Automobile de Reims-Gueux and Les Grandes Heures Automobiles... on the Autodrome where he would watch his father race.

Chamonix is still the base camp for all of Franz's adventures, as he continues to live there today. With his perfect knowledge of this village and the best things it can offer you, Franz will welcome you with open arms to his delightful valley.



LAURENT FERRIER GENEVE

A prestigious partner.

Laurent Ferrier, a passionate automobile enthusiast, took third place in the overall 24 Hours of Le Mans Race in 1979 behind the wheel of a Porsche 935T. Caught up in the wave of euphoria following this achievement, Laurent and his partner François Servanin, who is also fascinated by watchmaking, set themselves the challenge to create their own watch - an exploit met some 30 years on.

Free from pressures and ties, and drawing on his experience of over 37 years in a leading watchmaking company, he realised the timepiece of his dreams. In 2010, he gave his own name to the brand: «Laurent Ferrier». He took the bold step of developing his own movements to remain totally independent.

Far from the frenzy of high design and the quest for originality at any cost, he proposes a return to fundamental values. His timepieces are created, assembled, decorated and adjusted in his own Geneva workshops, remaining true to traditional stylistic codes yet infused with state-of-the-art engineering.

www.laurentferrier.ch





TEAMS

ORGANIZATION, A FINELY-TUNED TEAM

A rally can't be set up with a click of the fingers. For the Driver's Rally Chamonix, Franz can count on a loyal team which has been working with him for a long time organizing these signature events. Events where logistics on the ground are forever the focus of the organizers' attention to ensure participants can keep their minds clear.

ASSISTANCE, PRESENT OVER THE 3 STAGES

Because your peace of mind is essential, you can count on an expert support team throughout the entire rally. Included in the entry fee: light repairs, tyre checks, fluid level checks... as well as a recovery vehicle to repatriate any vehicles which have broken down.

Not included: major servicing or repairs.

THE CHAMONIX DRIVER'S RALLY EXTRAS

Chartered Road Trip

Driver's Rally Chamonix is an event open to automobiles whether they're sporty, classical or modern, of any age, any type.

This 3-stage «road trip» rally covers around 230 km per day in France, Switzerland and Italy.

It will take place totally on public roads. Which means that the Highway code in effect in the country crossed must be strictly observed throughout the route.

Night-time events with other enthusiasts

Social get-togethers with their "24-hour Chamonix Ice Race" spirit will offer the opportunity to discover and get to know personalities from the automobile world in a relaxing atmosphere.

Wine selection

During the Driver's Rally Chamonix evening celebrations, we'll have the opportunity to delight in a dinner accompanied by Champagnes Taittinger Champagnes exclusively, including the best vintages, and another served with Château Lascombes grands crus.

Reportage photo

A photo report will also be shot during the rally.

Souvenir book

A souvenir book will be offered to participants with photos shot during the Driver's Rally Chamonix.

Numbered lithograph

A numbered lithograph featuring the Driver's Rally Chamonix 2024 visual will be given to each participating team. The design by Hervé Voët is inspired by the Citroën DS 21 factory prototype with 250 hp Maserati 3.0 V6 engine that only took part in one race: Chamonix Ronde Hivernale (Wintertime Round) in 1972. This one-of-a-kind model, driven by Björn Waldegård, finished 2nd even though it lost a wheel 4 laps before the finish line of the last round: big UP to hydropneumatic suspensions!

PRACTICAL INFO

VEHICLES ACCEPTED

An event open to automobiles whether they're sporty, classical or modern, of any age, any type, total number limited.

ENTRY FEE

€3,200 excl. VAT, i.e. €3,840 incl. VAT (20%). per participating team, all-inclusive price (apart from accommodation).

PC RALLY

It will also be set up at the 5* Hotel Mont-Blanc in Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

ACCOMMODATION

The organizers highly-recommend the 5* Hôtel Mont-Blanc in Chamonix Mont-Blanc for participants (www.hotelmontblancchamonix.com/en/).

Discounted rates available throughout the Chamonix Driver's Rally.

You may also choose to stay in a 4 Hôtel at the very heart of Chamonix Mont-Blanc. Please get in touch with us.

We have decided not to include hotels in the entry fee for the following reasons:

- In this way, each participant is free to choose the class of hotel (*) and the type of guest rooms to best suit their needs.
- If participants already have a principal or second residence along the route, it prevents unnecessary costs.
- By paying for hotels directly, participants save the VAT (20%) on the cost of hotel services, which would have been included in the entry fee.

MEALS

- 1 cocktail reception for two.
- 3 aperitifs and dinners for two, including drinks.
- 3 country-style lunches for two, including drinks.

LOGISTICS

A minibus will follow the rally with seats available if required.

PRESENTING THE SOUVENIR LITHOGRAPH

This will be done at the end of the rally.

SAFETY & SECURITY

On the road, you'll be in constant contact with the organizing team. When you arrive, your cars will be parked on a guarded car park.

TEMPERATURES

During the 3 stages, we will cross over high mountain passes and temperatures can drop quickly. Remember to bring warm clothes!

PROGRAM

Wednesday 11 September 2024

Participants' arrival and welcome from 3pm at the 5* Hôtel Mont-Blanc in Chamonix Mont-Blanc 7pm: Briefing session followed by an aperitif and cocktail reception.

From Thursday 12 to Saturday 14 September 2024

Chamonix Driver's Rally in 3 stages.

Sunday 15 September 2024

Retours des participants

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"Anytime I bump into friends, we always end up talking about the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race.

By hearing people say "Goodness, I miss it so much!" as Serge Meyer from ORECA told me, I realize just how much these events left a mark on their lives at that time.

So, we decided to create this friendly get-together at the foot of Mout Blanc to share great moments together behind the wheel and while enjoying delicious dishes from our 3 countries.

See you soon in Chamonix!"

Frauz

www.driversrally.com

by

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