# DRIVER'S RALLY CHAMONIX



## See you in Chamonix 3 to 7 June 2026 !

In 2022, I invited you to the foot of Mont-Blanc to take part in the 1st Driver's Rally Chamonix. It was the return to the roots of an event that I've had the pleasure of running and developing with a formidable team: the 24 Heures sur Glace de Chamonix.

With almost 50 cars from Belgium, the United States, France, Italy, Monaco, the United Kingdom and Switzerland, many of you turned up at to share a good time around our common passion: the Automobile. In 2026, I look forward to seeing you again in this beautiful valley for a friendly rally around Mont-Blanc, through France, Italy and Switzerland.

The "24 Hours" spirit will be present throughout Driver's Rally Chamonix, with a host of surprises for the eyes and taste buds. As for the evenings, those who remember those of the 24 Heures sur Glace will not be disappointed!

See you from Wednesday June 3 to Sunday June 7 2026 in Chamonix!

Sportingly yours, Franz Hummel

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

Discreet rallies - A maximum of 30 cars for more conviviality - A single base camp to simplify your logistics - Stages of 250 km maximum to enjoy everything - Restaurants and wines carefully selected.



## **CHAM**( 2026

### A convivial summit at the foot of Mont-Blanc..

Chamonix. This village in the heart of the French Alps

is world-famous for its Mont-Blanc, its Aiguille du Midi and its Train du Montenvers - Mer de Glace. It will also be celebrated in 2024 on the occasion of the centenary of the First Winter Olympic Games, which took place here!

For over 30 years, Chamonix has also been recognized by fans of the automobile world thanks to 3 events: the Ronde Hivernale, the 24 Heures sur Glace and the Festival Automobile.

These events gave rise to epic days and magical evenings. To relive these good times at the foot of Mont-Blanc, let's meet again from Wednesday June 3 to Sunday June 7, 2026 for the second Driver's Rally Chamonix. respected throughout the route. The road book has been validated and registrations are officially open. Get ready to experience. Get ready to experience a rally for enthusiasts!

**DRIVER'S RALLY** 

### 3 STAGES DESIGNED BY EXPERTS

France, Italy, Switzerland: the Alps are a formidable playground for thrill-seekers. The 3 stages set out from Chamonix will take you through magical landscapes and over legendary mountain passes around the Mont-Blanc massif. During your breaks, you'll be able to discover the specialities of each country you pass through, in extraordinary places.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> stage Switzerland - France:

Chamonix Mont-Blanc, Martigny, Châtel, Morzine,

Col de Joux Plane (1690 m), Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> stage France:

Chamonix Mont-Blanc, Le Reposoir, Col de la Colombière (1613 m), Thônes, Col de la Croix Fry (1467m), Col des Aravis (1486 m), Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

#### **3**<sup>rd</sup> stage Switzerland - Italy:

Chamonix Mont-Blanc, **Col de la Forclaz (1527 m), Col du Grand-Saint-Bernard (2469 m), Colle San Carlo (1951m), Courmayeur, Mont-Blanc Tunnel,** Chamonix Mont-Blanc. Organized as a road trip, our rally will take place in 3 stages of around 250 km per day in France, Italy and Switzerland.

The Driver's Rally Chamonix is open to all categories of cars with a sporting bent, classic and modern, of all generations.

It takes place entirely on open roads. Which means that the country's Highway Code must be scrupulously respected throughout the route.

#### WHERE? Chamonix-Mont-Blanc - France

WHEN? Wednesday June 3 to Sunday June 7, 2026.

#### WHAT?

All categories of cars with a sporty, classic and modern look, of all generations, in limited numbers.

#### HOW? Almost 700 km in 3 loops from Chamonix to Chamonix on Alpine roads in France, Italy and Switzerland.

#### **HOW MUCH?**

€3,500 excl. VAT, i.e. €4,200 incl. VAT (20%) per all-inclusive crew (excluding 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.



#### Ronde Hivernale de Chamonix

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).



#### 24 Heures sur Glace de Chamonix

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.

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.



#### | Festival Automobile de Chamonix

The Festival was created during the 24 Heures sur Glace 1986 by Rémi Depoix and Franz Hummel. In 1987, the Automobile Festival saw the birth of the "Most

Beautiful Car of the Year" award. An election, for a prize awarded 100% by the public.

In 2001, the Festival Automobile left Chamonix

for Paris. Since then, it has been chaired by Rémi Depoix



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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the 24-hour Chamonix Ice Race with a Works sponsored Citroën Visa. In 1992, he participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 handin-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.

## Saturday, June 6, 2026 **RELIVE THE MAGIC** OF "24 HEURES SUR GLACE" FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL **EVENING!**

Even today, when you mention the Ronde Hivernale, the 24 Heures sur Glace or the Festival Automobile de Chamonix to car fans, you can still see their eyes shine, despite the passing years! So we've decided to organize a tribute evening to these events, which marked the start of every automobile season.

On Saturday, June 6, 2026, join us at a legendary venue, in the company of drivers and personalities who took part in the 24 Hours on Ice, the great reunion of enthusiasts.







## 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

#### Road Trip

The Driver's Rally Chamonix is open to all categories of car with a sporting bent, classic or modern, whatever the generation. Organized as a road trip, it will take place in 3 stages of around 250 kilometers maximum per day in France, Switzerland and Italy.

It will take place entirely on open roads. This means that the local highway code must be scrupulously respected throughout the route.

#### **Evenings for enthusiasts**

In addition to the special evening on Saturday, June 6, all our dinners will be an opportunity to chat in complete simplicity with personalities from the automotive world.

#### Wine selection

During the Driver's Rally Chamonix evenings, we will enjoy dinners accompanied by Champagne and vintage wines.

#### Reportage photo

A photo report will also be shot during the rally.

#### Numbered lithograph

A numbered lithograph featuring the Driver's Rally Chamonix 2026 visual will be offered to each participating crew. The design, by Hervé Voët, is inspired by the Citroën DS 21 factory prototype, powered by the Maserati 3.0 V6 250 hp engine, which took part in just one race: the Ronde Hivernale de Chamonix in 1972. Driven by Björn Waldegård, this unique model finished 2nd despite losing a wheel 4 laps before the finish of the final round: thanks to the oleopneumatic suspension!

limited.

#### ENTRY FEE

Entry fee (excluding hotels) per crew including 1 driver and 1 navigator: €3,500 excluding VAT, i.e. €4,200 including VAT.

#### PC RALLY

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

#### ACCOMMODATION

For participants, the organization recommends

Hôtel Mont-Blanc\*\*\*\*\* in Chamonix Mont-Blanc

(www.hotelmontblancchamonix.com).

Preferential rates have been negotiated for the duration of the Driver's Rally Chamonix.

It is also possible to stay in a hotel\*\*\*\* in the center of Chamonix Mont-Blanc. Please contact us for details. We do not wish to include hotels in the entry fees for the following reasons:

- Each participant is free to choose the category (\*) and type of room that best suits his or her needs.
- If participants already have a primary residence or secondary residence on the route, we avoid duplication.
- By paying the hotels directly, participants save the VAT (20%) on the cost of hotel services, which would have been included in the entry fee.

#### CONTACTS

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- 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 take place at the participants' welcome on Wednesday at late afternoon.

#### **SAFETY & SECURITY**

On the road, you will be in constant contact with the organization team. On arrival, your cars will be parked in your hotel's parking lot, or in the guarded Saint Michel parking lot at in the center of Chamonix.

#### **TEMPERATURES**

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

#### PROGRAM

#### Wednesday June 3, 2026

From 3:00 pm, arrival and welcome of participants at Hôtel Mont-Blanc\*\*\*\*\* in Chamonix Mont-Blanc 7:00 pm: Briefing, followed by aperitif and cocktail reception.

Thursday June 4 to Saturday June 6, 2026 Driver's Rally Chamonix in 3 stages.

#### Sunday June 7, 2026 Return of participants

#### **Arnaud Bachelard**

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"Whenever I meet friends, we always talk about the 24 Heures sur Glace de Chamonix. After hearing people say "God, we miss this!" as Serge Meyer from ORECA told me, I realize just how much they marked their era.

That's why we wanted to create a friendly weeting place at the foot of Mont-Blanc, where we could share some good times behind the wheel or in front of tasty dishes from our 3 countries.

See you soon in Cham !"

Franz

www.driversrally.com