





















# PRESS KIT

EAS

(CEC)

000

EA

or Pula





## The event

La Thuile returns to host the Women's Alpine Skiing World Cup for the third time. In the 2024/2025 season, three races are scheduled, one more than those originally included in the calendar, as FIS had designated the Aosta Valley resort as a venue for potential rescheduled speed events from the start of the season. The first race day will be Thursday 13 March (final decision on the discipline to be made after Kvitfjell), followed by the downhill and super-G, scheduled for Friday 14 and Saturday 15 March. The races will be preceded by two official timed training runs on Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 March. The La Thuile stage will be the last before the World Cup Finals, which will take place immediately afterward in Sun Valley.

#### **Race programme**

**11 MARCH** First training - 3-Franco Berthod

#### 12 MARCH

Second training - 3-Franco Berthod 17:00 TCM - TH La Thuile - Hotel Planibel

#### **13 MARCH**

Rescheduled race (super-G or downhill) - 3-Franco Berthod 17:00 TCM - TH La Thuile - Hotel Planibel

#### 14 MARCH

- 11:00 Women's downhill
- 17:00 TCM TH La Thuile Hotel Planibel
- 18:30 Awards ceremony Piazzetta funivie
- 18:45 Public draw Piazzetta funivie

#### **15 MARZO**

11:00 Women's superG Awards ceremony - Finish area

The complete list of side events, starting on Wednesday and culminating in the final celebration on Saturday 15 March, with the DJ set by "La Pecora Nera," can be found on the official website skiworldcuplathuile.com.







# The history

With a slope like the 3-Franco Berthod included in its ski area, the Alpine Skiing World Cup has always been the most ambitious goal for the entire La Thuile community. For years, extensive work was done to present a bid dossier to FISI, which in turn submitted it to FIS. The wait was long, and the competition fierce, with many resorts vying for the opportunity, until the assignment finally came in the 2015/2016 season, fulfilling a long-awaited dream.

That first edition was an immediate success, featuring three spectacular races that showcased the best speed skiers in the world. Just days later, La Thuile was also chosen to host a rescheduled downhill, which had been cancelled at Crans Montana shortly before.

Following that success, La Thuile continued working towards securing another assignment, which came four years later. The February 2020 edition, however, will be remembered for more than just the races—it coincided with the emergence of the then-unknown COVID-19 pandemic, which would soon affect the entire world.

That year, only the super-G was completed, while overnight snowfall forced the cancellation of the alpine combined, resulting in the discipline's Crystal Globe being awarded to local Aosta Valley skier Federica Brignone.

La Thuile's third time in the Alpine Skiing World Cup comes after another five years of waiting. During this period, the organising committee has never stopped working. With the goal of once again bringing the queens of speed back to the "3-Franco Berthod", all the involved organisations have continued to organise events. First, the Italian Aspirants Championships, followed by the Italian National Championships, and then a Women's Europa Cup stage, which left the circuit pleasantly surprised.

It is also important to mention the Criterium Nazionale Cuccioli held last April, a competition reserved for young skiers, which took place on much easier slopes but once again served to refine the organisational details for an event that aims to become a permanent fixture in the World Cup calendar.







Many people have believed—and still believe—in this magnificent project, which has brought together the entire community. Among them is Dante Berthod, brother of the late Franco, to whom the slope is dedicated. For years, he served as a counsellor for the Italian Winter Sports Federation (FISI) and has supported this vision from the very beginning. Today, he serves as Vice President of the Organising Committee.

Sono tante le persone che hanno creduto e ancora oggi credono in questo magnifico progetto che unisce l'intera comunità. Tra questi c'è senza dubbio Dante Berthod, fratello del compianto Franco a cui è dedicata la pista. Per anni è stato consigliere della Federazione Italiana Sport Invernali e fin dall'inizio ha portato avanti questa idea. Oggi è vice-presidente del comitato organizzatore.







# The Organising Committee

The La Thuile World Cup stage is organised by Reveal La Thuile, a consortium established specifically for the management of both sporting and non-sporting events, ranging from local competitions to global-scale events. In close synergy with local institutions, it oversees regional, national, and international events, such as the Alpine Skiing World Cup.

Reveal La Thuile operates in collaboration with Funivie Piccolo San Bernardo and the Municipality of La Thuile, both of which are highly involved and engaged. The La Thuile Ski Club and the entire local community have also played a fundamental role, remaining united from the very first edition.

A key role is also played by the Autonomous Region of Valle d'Aosta, which in recent years has increasingly focused on major sporting events as a platform for international visibility and promotion. The regional government and its offices, with their availability and commitment, are valuable allies in organising an event of such international significance. Additionally, the financial backing of the regional administration is indispensable at this level.

President: Marco Mosso Vice President: Dante Berthod - Mathieu Ferraris General Director: Corrado Giordano General Secretary: Sara Noro Race Director: Daniele Collomb Slope Director: Corrado Garino







# La Thuile's track record

#### SUPERG - 29.02.2020

- 1. Nina Ortlieb (AUT)
- 2. Federica Brignone (ITA)
- 3. Corinne Suter (SUI)

#### SUPERG - 21.02.2016

- 1. Tina Weirather (LIE)
- 2. Lara Gut (SUI)
- 3. Lindsey Vonn USA)

#### DISCESA LIBERA - 20.02.2016

- 1. Nadia Fanchini (ITA)
- 2. Lindsey Vonn (USA)
- 3. Daniela Merighetti (ITA)

#### DISCESA LIBERA - 19.02.2016

- 1. Lara Gut (SUI)
- 2. Cornelia Huetter (AUT)
- 3. Nadia Fanchini (ITA)











# The 3-Franco Berthod Slope

It is one of the steepest slopes in Italy, one of the most challenging in the entire World Cup circuit. Since the first edition, athletes have praised and appreciated it for its characteristics and technical difficulty. It reaches a maximum gradient of 76% in the Grand Muret section, just a few seconds after the initial push of the downhill race.

Some skiers have compared it to the women's Kitzbühel, also due to the snow conditions, often very hard and compact, especially in March. Over time, numerous Europa Cup races have been held on the 3-Franco Berthod – the most recent edition in February 2024 – as well as events valid for the Italian Championships.









## The International Ski Area

Espace San Bernardo is an international ski area that spans Italy and France, connecting the resorts of La Thuile (Aosta Valley) and La Rosière (Savoie). A landmark for skiing enthusiasts in vast open spaces. A borderland paradise that welcomes skiers from all over the world in winter, offering 152 kilometres of slopes suitable for all types of skiers, from those taking their first steps on snow to experts, with easy, intermediate, and highly technical slopes.

A vast ski area that benefits from a unique microclimate and allows for a long winter season. The excellent snow quality is ensured by the constant work of pisteurs and snow groomers, as well as by 400 snow cannons for artificial snowmaking.

There are 80 ski runs, all accessible with a single international ski pass, served by 38 modern and fast ski lifts, with a total capacity of 63,200 people per hour.

Espace San Bernardo also features two slalom stadiums, one snowpark, a boarder cross track, two fun cross areas, a secured freeride zone, a snowkite area easily accessible via ski lifts, and two children's play parks, catering to every need.

The "Espace San Bernardo" app – free and available for iOS and Android – provides real-time information on slopes and lifts, as well as a quick and easy way to purchase a ski pass.

The highest point of the ski area is Mont Valaisan, at 2,800 metres, reachable by two modern chairlifts from both the French and Italian sides via Belvedere (2,650 metres). From these points, the 360-degree view of the peaks is breathtaking and unique.







# L'Espace San Bernardo in Numbers

Altitude (min/max): 1,200 metres – 2,800 metres Vertical drop: 1,450 metres Surface area: 3,000 hectares Slope length: 152 kilometres Lifts: 38 – 1 gondola, 20 chairlifts, 12 drag lifts, 5 conveyor belts Runs: 82 – 33 easy, 35 intermediate, 14 difficult Snow cannons: 477 covering 64 kilometres of slopes Facilities: 2 slalom stadiums, 1 snowpark, 1 boardercross, 2 fun cross areas, 1 secured freeride zone, 1 snowkiting area, 2 children's play parksi

## La Thuile, the wild side of Mont Blanc

In the heart of the Alps, a village so far west that it is one of the last in the Aosta Valley, bordering France, with which it shares its international ski area. La Thuile is one of those places where humans remain marginal compared to nature: 793 inhabitants spread over more than 125 square kilometres give an idea of the scale. Completing the scenery are stone and wooden houses, slate roofs, and a forest at the heart of the village. All framed by three Alpine giants: Mont Blanc, Grand Assaly, and the Rutor Glacier.

La Thuile offers visitors an endless variety of landscapes: peaks, glaciers, waterfalls, lakes. A mountain destination for those who still seek out silent, untouched places where they can immerse themselves completely in nature. It is easy to reach: from the Morgex motorway exit, you can be in La Thuile in less than twenty minutes, and after just a few hairpin bends, you will find yourself face to face with Mont Blanc.

Today, La Thuile is an international destination offering everything from winter sports (downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, ski touring, heli-skiing, snowshoeing, snowkiting, freeriding) to summer activities (trekking, mountain biking, horse riding, tennis), along with a rich cultural and gastronomic scene, making for a truly complete holiday experience. A diverse offering that caters to all needs: from expert athletes seeking the adrenaline rush of the most demanding slopes to families and beginners looking to enjoy nature and the services that make the mountain experience more accessible.







## **Tickets and public access**

Free entry for the two official training sessions, while a ticket is required to access the finish area on the three race days. Tickets for the grandstand, fan zone, and VIP lounge are available on the official website skiworldcuplathuile.com, where all information on how to reach the finish area and public viewing areas can also be found.

The organisation recommends purchasing tickets online to secure a place at the event and to facilitate logistical operations.









## Where is Thuile

La Thuile is one hour and forty minutes from Turin, two hours from Milan, and three hours from Genoa. It is located just 15 kilometres (25 minutes) from the Morgex motorway exit, less than an hour from Chamonix (France), and an hour and a half from Geneva (Switzerland) via the Mont Blanc Tunnel.

## **Transport and spectator parking**

A few weeks before the event, the transport and parking plan will be available on the website to ensure a pleasant stay in the area. Additional parking areas will be set up in La Thuile and nearby villages, and public transport services will also be enhanced.









## Web and social media

The new official website skiworldcuplathuile.com is now live and will be updated regularly, providing all relevant information for the public and event staff. We are on Facebook and Instagram: Ski World Cup La Thuile.

## **FIS Telegram**

FIS provides real-time updates through its Telegram channel. Information on delays, cancellations, schedules, and other media communications will be promptly shared at: <u>https://t.me/+SGIDDmBjcDilwYy1</u>

## Area download foto

Photographic material is available and distributed daily and may be used free of charge exclusively for editorial purposes. It will be released alongside daily press statements and will always be accessible in the "media" section of the website skiworldcuplathuile.com.









# Link utili

<u>Fis Ski - La Thuile</u>	Start lists, results, statistics
<u>Meteo</u>	eather updates - Autonomous Region of Valle d'Aosta
<u>La Thuile</u>	Local services, bars, restaurants, ski lifts: all information

# Contacts

## Andrea Chiericato | Acmediapress

Media & communication press@lathuile.net

# Alessandro Trovati | Pentaphoto

Photo manager ale@pentaphoto.it

#### **Federico Margini | Infront** Tv-radio rights <u>federico.margini@infrontsports.com</u>

## Giulia Candiago | FIS

Media coordinator Women's <u>candiago@fisski.com</u>

