

Press Release:

Only **x** Days Left Until the Start of the 27th Mountain Attack

- Numerous athletes from 22 nations ready to compete
- Top-tier lineup for the “Crown Jewel of Ski Mountaineering”

Saalbach-Hinterglemm, January **16**, 2025. What began in 1999 with around 300 participants has now firmly established itself as the largest and toughest ski touring race, far beyond Austria's borders. This Friday (January 17, 2025), the Mountain Attack will take place for the 27th time. The external conditions are perfect, with numerous international top stars at the start line.

As every year, Saalbach-Hinterglemm once again serves as the venue for international ski touring sports, attracting athletes from over 20 nations to the start of the 27th Mountain Attack. At exactly 4:00 PM, the starting gun will fire at the village square for the world's longest, steepest, and hardest individual race, which demands everything from the participants – whether they are hobbyists, amateurs, or professional athletes. Right at the beginning of the race, participants face the ascent of the Schattberg, with gradients of up to 70%, before reaching the first checkpoint after climbing about 1,000 vertical meters. This climb not only requires endurance but also the necessary strength, proper step technique, and race strategy. History has shown that decisive moments often occur at the Schattberg. As dusk falls, about an hour after the start, athletes will continue from summit to summit as the finish line gradually comes into reach step by step.

The Favorites of 2025

MARATHON:

An open and highly exciting race is expected. In the women's marathon, the victory will likely be decided among top athlete Sarah Dreier from Salzburg. However, Bianca Somavilla will give it her all to defend her title from last year. Claudia Boffelli (ITA) and Martina Senn (AUT) are also among the favorites. In the men's marathon, a thrilling race is guaranteed. The main favorites are the Italians Davide Magnini and William Boffelli, along with young talent Paul Verbnjak from Carinthia. Last year's winner and veteran Christian Hoffmann is also considered a strong contender for a top position. The international elite field is rounded out by Frenchman Matheo Jacquemoud and Nadir Maguet (ITA).

TOUR:

For the men's tour, last year's winner Kevin Hinterberger is the top favorite to claim another victory. However, Silvano Wolf and Christof Hochenwarter are expected to make it a close race. In the women's tour, Linda Wilhelmstätter has a strong chance of defending her title, competing against Kati Schmuck (both AUT).

Attack Fan Program

For spectators, companions, and fans, there is a comprehensive program. After the spectacular start, you can take the Schattberg X-press gondola to the mid-station or the summit to cheer on the participants and be part of the action up close. Our tip: This ride is absolutely worth it. At the village square in Saalbach, a large LED wall will display all race details, moderated by Marina Herzmayer and Marco Tscharnig, accompanied by DJ music. The Attack Clubbing event kicks off at 11:00 PM at Saalbach's "Castello."

The Mountain Attack Races: 4 Different Events

Schattberg Race:

This is a pure vertical race (uphill race), where participants must conquer 1,017 vertical meters to reach the finish at the summit of the Schattberg.

Tour:

This is an individual race (multiple ascents and descents). Participants must conquer five summits, totaling 2,036 vertical meters in ascents and descents. The course includes: Schattberg – West Summit – descent to Hinterglemm – through the village – ascent to Hasenauer Köpfl – Reiterkogel – descent to Wetterkreuz – Bernkogel – descent to Saalbach.

Marathon:

Also an individual race, requiring participants to conquer 3,010 vertical meters. The course is identical to the Tour up to Hinterglemm. However, participants must also complete the Zwölferkogel ascent, the north descent to Hochalm, and the ascent from Hochalm toward Hasenauer Köpfl. In total, athletes will conquer six summits!

Marathon Relay:

A team of three must complete the marathon distance. The first runner handles the ascent to Schattberg – West Summit – descent to Hinterglemm. There, the second runner takes over: ascent to Zwölferkogel – descent to Hochalm. The third runner handles: ascent to Hasenauer Köpfl – descent to the finish in Saalbach. **Target group:** Mountain enthusiasts, sports friends, company teams.

RACE SCHEDULE

- **4:00 PM:** Start of Marathon, Tour, Category +45, Schattberg Race, and Marathon Relay
- **Approx. 4:40 PM:** First expected arrivals at Schattberg (all categories)
- **Approx. 4:55 PM:** First expected arrivals in Hinterglemm
- **Approx. 5:35 PM:** First expected finishers in Saalbach (Tour)
- **Approx. 6:15 PM:** First finishers in Saalbach (Marathon)
- **10:00 PM:** Award ceremony at Schattberg Arena, Saalbach

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