

32. Inferno-Half Marathon 2025 & 28. Relay race

The weather god must be a supporter of the INFERNO Half Marathon – with these hellish temperatures, this year's edition of the 'devilish mountain run' truly lived up to its name. In the men's race, Switzerland sandwiched France: Jonathan Schmid from Adelboden had an 8-minute lead over France's Clément Durance, who narrowly overtook Switzerland's Lars Schnider. Nadin Wälti and Nadja Kessler from Switzerland stood on the women's podium, followed by Nicole Klingler from Liechtenstein.

Impressive winning time

Jonathan Schmid almost broke the two-hour mark. With a time of 2:00:20, he achieved the fastest time in 20 years! He expressed his surprise to our partner newspaper Plattform J. He said he didn't go full throttle from the last refreshment station onwards because he saw that no one was coming. This made it all the more satisfying for him to find out his finishing time. Schmid was able to extend his lead right from the start and ultimately finished a full 8 minutes ahead of the runners-up, who were battling it out for 2nd and 3rd place. Lars Schnider, Clément Durance and Arnold Aemisegger fought an exciting neck-and-neck race for these places. It is therefore not surprising that only a fraction of a second separated Clément Durance in second place with 2:08:18 and Lars Schnider in third place with 2:08:41.

Turning point Seewlifure in the women's competition

After 2:35:55, winner Nadin Wälti was relieved. The last part was really stressful, she told Plattform J. But since she didn't feel any pressure from her competitors at the very end, it was less tough than in other years. It is one of her favourite races, which is hardly surprising given the breathtaking scenery and her result. Not only did she beat the runner-up Nadja Kessler with a time of 2:37:56, she also beat her own time from last year of 2:41:10. Nicole Klingler was the third woman to cross the finish line on the Schilthorn with a time of 2:45:07. However, this order was not clear from the start. From Seewlifure onwards, Wälti Kessler was able to overtake and secure first place.

Staggered finish

Women

In the women's race, the local heroes of the «Mountain Chicks» relay team won by a solid margin ahead of the «Power Trio» and «Messerli Muki» relay teams. Yvonne Von Allmen laid the foundation for success with an impressive time of 55:54 on the first leg from Lauterbrunnen to Grütschalp (7.13 km, 690 m elevation gain), which Céline Gartwyl and Marie-Thérèse Zurbrügg confidently defended.

Men

The Swiss relay team «Foiftuusig» and the international relay team «Berner Bergziegen» battled it out for first and second place. The «Berner Bergziegen» were so impressed by the fresh grass that Ivan Haller, Nando Imfeld and Sebastian Koch from the «Foiftuusig» relay team crossed the finish line 15 minutes ahead of them.

Mixed

It appears that the «BergMix³» relay team was indeed the ideal mix for the mountain. Stefan Greder, Tim Bohren and Flurina Greder won the mixed relay in 3:07:45.

The relay team «Die flotten Coucousin-Runners» reduced the lead by 15 minutes in the third section from Höhenlücke to Schilthorn (6.475 km, 1,070 m elevation gain), overtaking the relay team «Yea flo!» from the USA.

Celebrating the award ceremony before the thunderstorm

The 354 athletes who took part in the gruelling mountain run braved the hot temperatures and, after completing the race successfully, were able to enjoy the award ceremony without any thunderstorms. They were lucky, as around two hours later, the mountain run of the triathlon from Mürren had to be abandoned due to a severe thunderstorm. It was also pleasing to see that many people decided spontaneously to take part in this breathtaking hellish ride, increasing the number of registrations by 10%.

Image caption

Image 1: Start Half Marathon, © by Damiano Moser

Image 2: Jonathan Schmid, © by Sarah Donatsch

Image 3: Clément Durance, © by Patricia Wyss

Image 4: Lars Schnider, © by Patricia Wyss

Image 5: Nadin Wälti, © by Sarah Donatsch

Image 6: Nadja Kessler, © by Sarah Donatsch

Image 7: Nicole Klingler, © by Sarah Donatsch