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PRESS RELEASE

International Alphorn Festival of Nendaz : a symphony of traditions and passion

The 23rd edition of the International Alphorn Festival of Nendaz will, from the 27th to the 28th of July 2024, plunge the public into a world of traditions. It promises several highlights such as the official competition, numerous folkloric performances, a Grand Parade and the ensemble pieces that will bring together, in the heart of the Alps, a hundred or so players from different countries.

An official competition where the jury judge blind

The official competition brings together the top Alphorn players in Switzerland and abroad. The procedure is unique with the members of the jury judging blind without seeing or knowing the identity of the participant. In parallel with the official competition, an OFF competition is also held. With its rules offering more freedom to players and composers, it allows even the most experienced players to break away from the conventional path and opens the door to contemporary pieces in several different keys. It is also an opportunity for the public to discover this ancestral instrument in a more modern context.

A moment when time stands still

For the public, another rendezvous of the weekend not to be missed is without a doubt the 'ensemble pieces' which are to be played on the plaine des Ecluses in Haute-Nendaz. The Alphorns will once again find their natural element, the mountains, thanks to a hundred or so players joining forces to make their music resonate in the heart of the Alps. Thrills and chills guaranteed!

A wealth of traditions

More than just a simple gathering of Alphorn enthusiasts, the International Alphorn Festival is a great celebration of Swiss traditions. A wide choice of folkloric performances, with dancers, yodelers, bell ringers, flag throwers and accordion players from Schwytz will punctuate these two days of festivities. The Grand Parade with floats and cattle as well as the arts & crafts market with over 20 stalls are also very popular.

Easily accessible and free

This 23rd edition is to take place entirely in the resort of Nendaz. It is easily accessible, by car of course, but also by public transport, as the event takes place at 30 minutes by bus from Sion railway station. Entrance to the International Alphorn Festival is free, making this popular festival accessible to as many people as possible.

Media resources

- Full programme : on the page below
- Internet site :
 - www.nendaz.ch/fr/P76465/festival-international-de-cor-des-alpes
 - www.nendazcordesalpes.ch
- Photos : www.swisstransfer.com/d/b91afa70-4cdc-432a-b992-d42ea9cc5089
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Programme*

SATURDAY 27TH OF JULY 2024 - NENDAZ RESORT

- 09h15-11h30 : Official Alphorn competition before a blind jury
- 11h15-22h00 : Entertainment by various folk groups and arts & crafts market
- 11h30-13h30 : OFF Alphorn competition before a blind jury
- 13h30-18h00 : Official Alphorn competition (part 2) before a blind jury
- 17h30 : Religious service with the St-Michel choir at the church in Haute-Nendaz
- 19h00 : Grand Parade with floats and cattle
- 20h00 : Grand folkloric evening with the bell ringers from Ormonts, an Alphorn group and 'la Société des costumes et du Patois' from Savièse
- 21h30 : Concert by the Trio St. Jakob
- 22h15 : Dance with the Magic Men

SUNDAY 28TH OF JULY 2024 - NENDAZ RESORT

- 08h30-17h00 : A day full of traditions on the Plaine des Ecluses
Musical and folkloric entertainment, arts & crafts market, Alphorn making workshop with Mr Olivier Morisod, flag throwing demonstration
- 10h30 : Ensemble pieces, official speeches
- 11h30 : Grand final of the Alphorn competition
- 14h30 : Performance by the categories "Juniors" and OFF
- 15h00 : Ensemble pieces, results and prize giving ceremony, closing of the festival by Mr Baptiste Constantin, Chairman of the organizing committee
- 16h00 : Musical performance by the group Le Moulin à vent

* subject to change

Media contact

Baptiste Constantin, Chairman of the organizing committee : 079 303 41 10 – baptiste.constantin@nendaz.ch