

Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike

Von Kurz Platz 6 // Piazza Von Kurz 6
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23rd EDITION
08.07.2017

23rd Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike

Villabassa / Niederdorf (South Tyrol/Italy)

08 July 2017

PRESS FOLDER

Opening hours Media Centre:

Friday 07.07.2017 02:00 pm – 07:00 pm
Sturday 08.07.2017 06:30 am – 06:00 pm

Contacts:

Christine Karadar (M: +39 349 5426802)
Gernot Mussner (M: +39 328 68 54 619)

Program Friday:

05.30 pm: Team Managers Meeting / 3rd floor Municipality Hall
06.30:pm Press Talk (Stage on the Main Square)



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Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike on 08 July 2017: 4,500 registered participants from 32 nations

The legend lives on! The Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike is sold out again with 4,500 athletes from 32 nations registered in this year's 23rd edition. South Tyrol's oldest mountain bike marathon, that gathers more participants than any other mountain bike marathon in Italy, is going to take place on Saturday, 08 July 2017 at 7.30 a.m. with start and finish in Villabassa.

Participants have the possibility to choose between two tracks: the long classic distance of 133 km/ 3,357 m of difference in altitude or the shorter one of 60 km/ 1,785 m of difference in altitude. Athletes will cycle through the five municipalities of Alta Pusteria/ Pustertal: Villabassa/Niederdorf, Dobbiaco/Toblach, Sesten/Sesto, San Candido/Innichen and Prags/Braies, all part of the Dolomites UNESCO World Heritage.

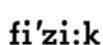
Several top athletes will compete for the Dolomiti Superbike trophy! Among which also Alban Lakata (AUT), Kristian Hynek (CZE), Thiago Ferreira (POR), Hector Leonardo Páez León (COL), Periklis Ilias (GRE), Roel Paulissen (BEL) and Massimo Debortolis (ITA), as well as Katrin Schwing (GER) and Sosna Katazina (LTU) in the female category..

The long distance is characterised by two mountain classifications: the Sextner Dolomiten mountain trophy for the winner of the mountain classification on Monte Elmo/ Helm and the Apparthotel Germania mountain trophy for the winner of the mountain classification on the ascent to Prato Piazza/ Plätzwiese. Moreover, there is a sprint classification for the short distance, which is taken at the Nordic Arena in Toblach/Dobbiaco.

The overall prize money pool equals 25,000 Euro. The winners receive 2,500 Euro each, whereas the rest is distributed among the top 15 finishers in the male and top 10 finishers in the female category on the long distance, as well as the top five male and female finishers on the short distance. The top three of all the other categories will be rewarded with gifts.

The major sports event in Villabassa starts already on the Thursday before race day. The mountain bike scene gets together on the historic town square in occasion of the Bike-Expo that offers everything mountain bike lovers could wish for. On Friday 6.30 p.m. the public press conference with all the top athletes is going to take place on the main stage, the same place where on Saturday at approx. 4 p.m. winners will be awarded in the victory ceremony.

On race day, the top athletes' performance can be followed on two major screens installed in the start/finish area or via a GPS system. On Sunday, the focus is set on the youngest among all the athletes with the Junior Trophy taking place at 10 a.m. During the entire weekend various music performances will ensure a good atmosphere.



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Revenge for World Championship in Villabassa: Marathon-World Champion, Vice World Champion and many other star athletes to start at the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike

Current World Champion Alban Lakata (AUT) and Vice World Champion Tiago Ferreira (POR) – both will start on Saturday in Villabassa. We should be prepared for a breath-taking competition, especially considering that on 25 June Alban Lakata, the experienced Austrian athlete, had beaten Tiago Ferreira, the defending champion from Portugal, for only 1 second in an incredible finish.

Alban Lakata from Lienz (Austria), three times Marathon World Champion and twice European Champion, won the Dolomiti Superbike in 2012, whereas Tiago Ferreira finished first in 2015. In 2016, he won the gold medal at the MTB Marathon World Championship in Laissac, France. After Rui Costa (road racing) he is the second Portuguese World Champion in cycling. At the World Championship in Singen the two athletes finished after 98 km and more than 3 hours almost simultaneously, parted only by a second.

„The parcours in Alta Pusteria is ideal for both athletes“, says Kurt Ploner, President of the Organization Committee. „Compared to the track at the World Championship, in the Dolomiti Superbike athletes need to face 557 more meters of difference in altitude. Moreover, the track is 15 km longer.“ Ferreira is nine years younger than Lakata, who on the other hand is much more experienced. “Both athletes have an extremely strong endurance, which will help them in the ascents, as well as in the plain parts of the marathon. It’s going to be incredibly exciting!“ affirms Ploner, who expects a rather high racing pace.

Other competitors in the Dolomiti Superbike are Kristian Hynek (CZE), Hector Leonardo Páez León (COL), Periklis Ilias (GRE), Roel Paulissen (BEL) and Massimo Debortolis (ITA). Except for Hynek, all of them have won at least once in their career a World Championship (2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016 und 2017).

Among the contenders for victory in the female category Sosna Katazina from Lithuania, the German Katrin Schwing and Maria Cristina Nisi from Italy must be mentioned. Katazina, who finished in 9th position at the World Championship, won the bronze medal at the Dolomiti Superbike twice, in 2015 and 2016. Schwing won the Dolomiti Superbike in 2009, whereas Nisi, one of the strongest Italian marathon specialists and 13th at this year’s World Championship, has still no podium finish at the Dolomiti Superbike.

There are eight winners of former editions to start at this year’s Dolomiti Superbike, who together achieved 9 gold medals on the long distance.



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Kristian Hynek won the Dolomiti Superbike in 2013, one year after his team mate Lakata. The European Champion of 2012 and Cape Epic Winner of 2014 has an impressive physical strength, a characteristic that emerges especially on the long ascents and tough plain parts of the track.

Hector Leonardo Páez León is very experienced in marathon races. The 35-year-old athlete won in Villabassa twice, in 2006 and 2016. He was also successful at the various World Championships, winning the silver medal in 2006 and the bronze medal twice in 2013 and 2015. The multiple winner of the South America Cup, who participated also in Olympic Games, goes for the hattrick in this year's edition of the Dolomiti Superbike.

Periklis Ilias from Greece is also part of the Dolomiti Superbike history, finishing first in 2014 and third in 2012. In the same year the multiple State Champion from Greece won also the World Championship in Omans (FRA). In Singen he finished on the 13th place, after he had lost precious time due to technical problems at the front wheel.

Roel Paulissen (BEL) is one of the most experienced marathon specialists in the world. The Belgian athlete, who lives most of the time in South Tyrol, won the gold medal at the World Championship in Val Pusteria in 2008. One year later at the World Championship in Graz/Stategg he was victorious again. At the Dolomiti Superbike his best result was a first place on the short distance in 2005.

The long list of Italian participants is headed by Juri Ragnoli. The 28-year-old from Brescia, who got married only a few days ago, is the current Italian Marathon Champion and the winner of the HERO Südtirol Dolomites which took place three weeks ago. He finished in 22nd position at this year's World Championship, whereas Tony Longo on the other hand won the KitzAlpBike a week ago. His team captain Massimo Debertolis was the winner on the long distance in Villabassa in 2007 and 2009, whereas on the short distance he was victorious three times between 2001 and 2003. With his 42 years the World Champion of 2004 is definitely one of the most experienced world class athletes.

Other top athletes are Johnny Cattaneo (ITA), Christoph Soukup (AUT) and Aaron Watts (AUS).

The classic marathon track with its 113 kilometres and 3.357 metres of difference in altitude will lead the athletes clockwise through the five municipalities in Alta Pusteria/ Hochpustertal: Villabassa/Niederdorf, Dobbiaco/Toblach, Sesto/Sexten, San Candido/Innichen and Braies/Prags. The race will start at 7.30 a.m., whereas the first arrivals are expected for approx. 12 a.m.



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Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike: a competition dominated by marathon specialists from Italy and Switzerland

The Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike gave rise to several World Champions, World Cup Winners and top athletes, with Italy clearly leading the nation ranking.

Numbers give a clear picture: the roll of honour of the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike shows a total of 13 Italian victories, nine in the male and four in the female category. The last Italian victories were conquered by Massimo Debertolis (2009) and Elena Giacomuzzi (2008). Italy is followed by Switzerland with nine and Germany with five victories respectively. The Austrian and British marathon specialists won the race four times each. Columbia conquered the gold medal twice, whereas athletes from Belgium, Norway, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Portugal and Greece finished on the first place one time each.

In the male category, the Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike is clearly dominated by Italian top stars. The team of the „Azzurri“ heads the ranking with a total of 9 victories. Far behind follow Switzerland with three, as well as Austria and Columbia with two gold medals each. German, Belgian, French, Czech and Portuguese athletes gained one victory each. The Italian athlete Mauro Bettin is still the most successful participant on the long distance, finishing on the first place three times in a row between 2000 and 2002. He is closely followed by Massimo Debertolis from Italy (2008, 2009), Urs Huber from Switzerland (2008, 2009) and Leonardo Hector Paez (2006, 2016) from Columbia with two victories each.

In the female category, the Swiss athletes are leading by far with a total of six victories. Athletes from Italy, Germany and Great Britain could win the competition four times each. Sally Bigham from Great Britain is holding the absolute record with four victories. Two other ladies were able to conclude the race at the first place twice: Maria Canins (ITA) in the first two editions of the Dolomiti Superbike in 1995 and 1996, as well as Esther Süss (SUI) in 2006 and 2007.

The organization committee from Villabassa has carried out 22 races since 1995, of which the one in 2004 had to be interrupted and cancelled due to rain and snowfall. Another breath-taking moment was the finish at the World Championship in 2008 between Roel Paulissen from Belgium and the incumbent Swiss World Champion Christoph Sauser. Paulissen won the gold medal, after Sauser was set back on the second place for obstructing the athlete from Belgium on the last metres. Urs Huber from Switzerland won the bronze medal on that day and the gold medal on the classic marathon distance the day after. In the female category, the Norwegian Olympic Champion Gunn-Rita Dahle became the new World Champion, followed by Sabine Spitz from Germany on the second place and Pia Sundstedt from Finland on the third place.

The three Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike editions in 2006, 2007 and 2013 were carried out officially as UCI-Marathon-World Cup races.



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Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike: the major sports event starts on Thursday, 06 July 2017

It is less than ten days until the start of the 23rd edition of the Dolomiti Superbike. During the entire weekend Villabassa becomes the meeting point for the international mountain bike scene with 4,500 athletes representing 32 nations. Several appealing side events will offer entertainment also to all the other guests and visitors.

The first event takes place in Villabassa **on Thursday 06 July** at 4 p.m. with the opening ceremony of the Expo & Tech Area. The historic town square turns into a popular market place – a meeting point for exhibitors, athletes and guests from all over the world. Exhibitors present the latest products and accessories of the mountain bike industry and participants and experts get the chance to exchange experiences in a casual atmosphere. It is also the perfect occasion for athletes to meet up, as many have not seen each other since last year's edition.

On Friday, 07 July, the exhibition area is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Athletes can collect their starter package from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. The Team Manager Meeting is scheduled for 5.30 p.m., whereas at 6.30 p.m. the public press conference is going to take place on the main stage. Afterwards on the same stage a concert is going to take place.

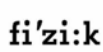
Saturday, 08 July, is race day. From 6 until 7 a.m. the last starter packages can be collected at the sports hall in Villabassa. This year's edition foresees a new starting mode. Athletes who face the long distance are to start at 7.30 a.m. in 4 starting blocks with an interval of 9 minutes between each block, whereas the start for the shorter distance is scheduled for 8.45 a.m.

The fastest on the short distance are expected to finish at 10.40 a.m. Immediately afterwards the Flower Ceremony is going to take place. 10.30 a.m. is also the beginning of the Pasta-Party. The winners on the 113 km are going to finish around 12 a.m.

The victory ceremony, with trophies and gifts for the winners of the various categories, is scheduled for 4 p.m. The beginning of the big party on the main square will be at 8 p.m.

There are scheduled several music live acts in the big party tent from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m., as well as in the evenings after 8 p.m. On race day, the top athletes' performance can be followed on two major screens installed in the start/finish area.

On Sunday, 09 July, the focus is set on the youngest among all the athletes. The Dolomiti Superbike Junior-Trophy for children from 2 -14 years of age is going to take place in the centre of Villabassa starting at 10 a.m. The victory ceremony is schedule for 1 p.m.



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News

Statistics on participation – With more than 4,500 registrations the Dolomiti Superbike can be considered the biggest mountain bike Marathon in Italy in terms of participation. 88% of the participants are coming from Italy, followed by Germany (5,4%), Austria (1,5%), Switzerland and Belgium (1% each). The Italian participants are mainly from South Tyrol (10%/ 466), followed by the provinces of Rome (5,7%), Treviso (3,9%) Reggio Emilia and Padova (3,7%). 94% of the participants (Austria), whereas the oldest female participant is Mara Loreti (born in 1952, Gualdo Tadino/Perugia). The ones born in 1969 and 1973 are the most numerous with 206 participants (4,5%).

Prize money – The overall prize money pool equals 25,000 Euros and is divided between the top 15 male and top ten female participants of the long distance and the top five male and female athletes of the short distance. The winners of both categories take home 2,500 Euros. Additionally, there will be awarded the winners of the three mountain classifications (Prato Piazza/Plätzwiese, Monte Elmo/Helm and Baranci/Haunold), as well as the winner of the sprint classification (Dobbiaco/Toblach). The top three of all other categories will be rewarded with gifts.

Nature and environment – Environmental protection and sustainability are essential values and also of great importance for the Dolomiti Superbike: throwing away any kind of rubbish outside the refreshment stations leads to disqualification; leaving the track is prohibited; all printed materials are made of recycled paper. For the catering mainly local products are used, as well as recyclable plates, wooden cutlery and paper cups. Waste separation has been carried out successfully already for many years. In 2009 the Dolomites were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This award requires responsibility and attention to retain the uniqueness of the Dolomites, which need to be protected and preserved for future generations.

About the Dolomiti Superbike – The race was first carried out in 1995 and leads through five villages in Alta Pusteria/Hochpustertal (Villabassa/Niederdorf, Dobbiaco/Toblach, San Candido/Innichen, Sesto/Sexten and Braies/Prags), as well as smaller administrative districts (Santa Maria, San Silvestro, Versciaco, Prato alla Drava and Sesto/ Moso). In 2008 the UCI Mountain Bike Marathon World Championship took place in Villabassa and in 2006, 2007 and 2013 the Dolomiti Superbike was part of the MTB World Cup. In 2004 the race was interrupted due to snowfall. The participants may choose between two routes, which vary depending on the fact, if approached clockwise or anticlockwise. Clockwise the long distance measures 113 km/ 3,357 m difference in altitude and anticlockwise 119km/ 3,822 m difference in altitude, whereas for the short distance the athletes need to handle 60 km/1,785 m difference in altitude clockwise and 60km/ 1,688 m difference in altitude anticlockwise. Approximately 1,000 volunteers from various associations and clubs in Alta Pusteria are working at the Dolomiti Superbike.



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ROLL OF HONOUR | 1995-2016 | MEN

2016	LEONARDO PAEZ (COL)	4:36.46	
2015	TIAGO FERREIRA (POR)	4:26.22	
2014	PERIKLIS ILIAS (GRE)	4:38.35	
2013	KRISTIAN HYNEK (CZE)	4:25.16	UCI Marathon World Series
2012	ALBAN LAKATA (AUT)	4:40.56	
2011	URS HUBER (SUI)	4:25.25	
2010	URS HUBER (SUI)	4:50.06	
2009	MASSIMO DEBERTOLIS (ITA)	4:34.02	
2008	URS HUBER (SUI)	4:57.25	
2008	ROEL PAULLISSEN (BEL)	4:46.56	UCI Marathon World Championships
2007	MASSIMO DEBERTOLIS (ITA)	4:49.18	UCI Marathon World Cup
2006	LEONARDO PAEZ (COL)	4:52.37	UCI Marathon World Cup
2005	MARZIO DEHO (ITA)	4:26.22	
2004	Cancelled (due to bad weather and snowfall)		
2003	THOMAS DIETSCH (FRA)	4:22.37	
2002	MAURO BETTIN (ITA)	4:28.33	
2001	MAURO BETTIN (ITA)	4:30.04	
2000	MAURO BETTIN (ITA)	4:38.18	
1999	YADER ZOLI (ITA)	4:41.52	
1998	MIRKO BRUSCHI (ITA)	4:42.12	
1997	DANIELE BRUSCHI (ITA)	4:59.39	
1996	JÖRG ARENZ (GER)	5:18.00	
1995	EKKEHARD DÖRRSCHLAG (AUT)	5:06.37	



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ROLL OF HONOUR | 1995-2016 | WOMEN

2016	SALLY BIGHAM (GBR)	5:33.26	
2015	CHRISTINA KOLLMANN (AUT)	5:27.04	
2014	SALLY BIGHAM (GBR)	5:41.39	
2013	SALLY BIGHAM (GBR)	3:46.31	UCI Marathon World Series
2012	SALLY BIGHAM (GBR)	5:39.38	
2011	BIRGIT SÖLLNER (GER)	5:32.51	
2010	ERIKA DICHT (SUI)	5:44.04	
2009	KATRIN SCHWING (GER)	5:40.04	
2008	ELENA GIACOMUZZI (ITA)	6:02.49	
2008	GUNN-RITA DAHLE FLESJA (NOR)	4:09.56	UCI Marathon World Championships
2007	ESTHER SÜSS (SUI)	5:43.01	UCI Marathon World Cup
2006	ESTHER SÜSS (SUI)	5:47.17	UCI Marathon World Cup
2005	PIA SUNDSTEDT (FIN)	5:18.37	
2004	Cancelled (due to bad weather and snowfall)		
2003	ANDREA HUSER (SUI)	5:18.52	
2002	ANITA STEINER (SUI)	5:27.14	
2001	SANDRA KLOSE (GER)	5:25.46	
2000	ALEXANDRA HOBER (ITA)	5:47.03	
1999	HILDEGARD EMBACHER (AUT)	6:05.21	
1998	ERIKA BEER (SUI)	6:21.56	
1997	SUSI DAHLMEIER (GER)	6:28.15	
1996	MARIA CANINS (ITA)	6:10.50	
1995	MARIA CANINS (ITA)	5:45.25	



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Results World Championships Marathon 25.06.2017

1	Alban LAKATA	AUT	38	3:17:24
2	Tiago FERREIRA	POR	29	3:17:25
3	Daniel GEISMAYR	AUT	28	3:17:25
4	Mathieu VAN DER POEL	NED	22	3:20:06
5	Jaroslav KULHAVÝ	CZE	32	3:20:06
6	Nicola ROHRBACH	SUI	31	3:20:06
7	Hans BECKING	NED	31	3:20:07
8	Hector Leonardo PAEZ LEON	COL	35	3:21:13
9	Matouš ULMAN	CZE	33	3:21:13
10	Hermann PERNSTEINER	AUT	27	3:21:13
11	Marcus KAUFMANN	GER	36	3:22:04
12	Marek RAUCHFUSS	CZE	27	3:22:20
13	Periklis ILIAS	GRE	31	3:22:20
14	Manuel FUMIC	GER	35	3:22:21
15	Peeter PRUUS	EST	28	3:22:22
16	Roel PAULISSEN	BEL	41	3:22:23
17	Frans CLAES	BEL	34	3:22:27
18	Sebastien CARABIN	BEL	28	3:22:34
19	Jochen KASS	GER	36	3:22:37
20	Tim BÖHME	GER	35	3:22:59
21	Adrian BRZOZKA	POL	30	3:23:17
22	Juri RAGNOLI	ITA	29	3:23:29
23	Jirí NOVÁK	CZE	32	3:23:58
24	Bartłomiej WAWAK	POL	24	3:24:14
25	Matthias LEISLING	GER	29	3:24:17
26	Lukas FLUECKIGER	SUI	33	3:24:18
27	Howard GROTTTS	USA	24	3:24:46
28	Pavel BOUDNÝ	CZE	35	3:25:13
29	Simon STIEBJAHN	GER	27	3:26:00
30	Henrique AVANCINI	BRA	28	3:26:03
31	Gustav LARSSON	SWE	37	3:26:04
32	Roberto BOU MARTIN	ESP	24	3:26:40
33	Julian SCHELB	GER	25	3:27:36
34	Markus BAUER	GER	28	3:27:37
35	Filip ADEL	CZE	27	3:27:37
36	Jasper OCKELOEN	NED	27	3:27:39
37	Ever Alejandro GOMEZ	BOL	26	3:27:44
38	Kristian HYNEK	CZE	37	3:28:49
39	Urs HUBER	SUI	32	3:29:47
40	José DIAS	POR	23	3:30:27



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FACTS & FIGURES

- **Event:** Südtirol Dolomiti Superbike
- **Edition:** 23rd
- **Date:** 08 July 2017
- **First Edition:** 1995
- **Venue:** Villabassa/Niederdorf, Alta Pusteria/Hochpustertal (South Tyrol, Italy)
- **Routes:**
 - Long distance: 113 km/3,357 m difference in altitude
 - Short Distance: 60 km/1,785 m difference in altitude
- **Starting time:** 07.30 a.m / 08.45 am (short distance).
- **Mountain Climb Sprint classification:**
 - Long Distance
 - Climb Monte Elmo: GPM Price Sexten Dolomites,
 - Climb Prato Piazza: GPM Price Apparthotel Germania
- **Sprint classification:**
 - Short distance: Sprint Nordic Arena Toblach – Sprint Price MARLENE (km 23)
- **Start / Finish:** Villabassa – 1,154 meters
- **Highest point:** Prato Piazza - 2,050 meters
- **Number of participants:** 4.500 (Kids race included)
- **Nations:** 32
- **Women:** 254
- **Men:** 4.231
- **Oldest male participant:** Born in 1943, Egmont Umlauf, Krems (AUT/Nr.5403)
- **Oldest female participant:** Born in 1952, Mara Loreti, Gualdo Tadino/(ITA/Nr.8038)
- **Municipalities:** Villabassa / Braies / Dobbiaco / Sesto / San Candido
- **Population:** 10,300
- **Volunteers:** 1,000
- **Clubs and associations:** 15
- **Medical support during the race:** Dr. Karin Weichert
- **Ambulance:** White Cross Innichen/S.Candido (55 employees)
- **Mountain Rescue:** Sesto/Sexten, San Candido/Innichen, Alta Pusteria/Hochpustertal , Soccorso Alpino Guardia di Finanza.
- **Police:** San Candido/Innichen, Brunico/Bruneck
- **Air Force (Areonautica Militare)** Dobbiaco
- **Carabinieri:** Braies/Prags, Villabassa/Niederdorf, Dobbiaco/Toblach, San Candido/Innichen, Sesto/Sexten
- **Volunteer Fire Departement:** Alta Pusteria/ Hochpustertal
- **Timekeeping:** Datasport (Switzerland)



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FACT SHEET CATERING

10	Refreshment Stations
1,200	kg bananas
1,600	kg watermelons
7,000	apples Marlene
10,000	litres Isotonic drinks
1,000	litres mineral water
4,000	litres Coca Cola
5,000	ENERVIT power bars
5,000	portions Energy Gel
17,000	portions of cake

	For the Pasta party after the race
1,000	kg Noodles (Macaroni)
7,000	Portions Macaroni (estimate)
5,000	Bottles of non-alcoholic Erdinger beer
20,000	Sandwiches
1,000	Volunteers



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CANYON



Raiffeisen



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