

With the Swissalpine, the Swiss mountain running season will be launched in Davos over the last weekend in July.

There is nothing to stand in the way of the prime event – the K68.

On the 35th Swissalpine, a lot is new in Davos and a bit different due to the Corona crisis. The largest mountain running event in Graubünden this year takes place with a reduced programme over two days. The new prime event, the K68, and the tried and tested K23 will be held on 25th July. The next day, runners get the opportunity to participate on the classic mountain marathon K43 and the K10.

The organisers of the 35th Swissalpine will benefit from the latest easing of the Federal Council's Corona measures. Since the four competitions are assessed individually and are spread over two days with different start times, a maximum of 1000 participants can compete per run. Depending on the number of registrations, the Start takes place in blocks and not in the usual mass start manner. This measure ensures compliance with the social-distancing rules: time measurement is triggered individually on the Starting line by means of a chip that every runner carries anyway. The Organisation Committee generally attaches importance to compliance with the social-distancing rule, beginning with the Start number issue. Furthermore, the committee appeals to participants to be personally responsible for their actions. Contrary to established practice, cloakrooms / showers, exposition, day nursery, large screen and catering will be dispensed with in the Davos sports stadium this year.

The new K68 promises a top line-up

The focus of the 35th Swissalpine is the K68 with Start and Finish in Davos. The Start of the new supreme discipline prime event is expected to take place on the Saturday morning of 25th July in two blocks at 7.30 a.m. and 8 a.m. The K68 leads over four passes (Scalettapass, Sertigpass, Fanezfurgga, Äbirügg), the unique panoramic trail between Scalettapass and Sertigpass and through no less than eight valleys: Landwassertal, Dischmatal, Val Funtauna, Val Sartiv, Chüéalptal, Ducantal, Oberalptal and Sfertal. Start and Finish are in the middle of Davos. The varied and scenic route is 67.6 kilometres long. It involves a total of 2606 metres of altitude difference to be overcome. The Swissalpine gives most mountain running specialists the first opportunity to start after the Corona lockdown. Moreover, there is a pronounced line-up of top athletes from abroad. Fast Swiss orienteering runners have likewise already registered.

In addition to the new K68, the K23 will be the second competition on 25th July. It leads from Klosters over 24 kilometres to Davos with an ascent of 634 metres and a

descent of 235 meters. The K23 is an insider tip for connoisseurs. It follows the tracks of the earlier Walser. The route leads through a wildly romantic gorge to the Wolfgang Pass and then along Lake Davos to the destination.

K43 and K10 on Sunday

The K43 and K10 will be held on Sunday, 26th July. This classic mountain marathon traverses the first and the final phases of the K68. On the 42.7 kilometres, 1324 metres of altitude have to be mastered. The K43 leads through the Dischma Valley, then follows the former mule track up to the Scalettpass, further over the panorama trail to the Sertigpass and then via the Sertig Valley to the Finish in Davos.

Those who prefer a more relaxed atmosphere, yet still share the Swissalpine experience with the world elite, can take part on the K10 on 26th July. The 9.3 km long route with 163 m difference in altitude, leads to Clavadel and back to the Davos sports stadium.

Details regarding the Swissalpine programme, with routes and registration can be found online at www.swissalpine.ch