



THE 2026 HERO SÜDTIROL DOLOMITES – ONE MONTH TO GO. THE FINAL PROGRAMME OF THE ICONIC DOLOMITES' MARATHON HAS JUST BEEN CONFIRMED

The HERO Südtirol Dolomites is ready to celebrate its sixteenth edition. One of the season's most awaited international mountain bike events will take place on Saturday, 13 June, in Selva Val Gardena. The race will double as round four of the 2026 HERO UCI Cross-country Marathon World Cup and welcome athletes from all continents, who will compete on the iconic 86 km, 71 km, and 60 km trails. The HERO also features the HERO Bike Festival with its jam-packed agenda of side events, including the HERO Charity Night and events for younger cyclists. This edition will celebrate resilience, a core HERO value, setting out to be, yet again, an unmissable event in the 2026 calendar.

Hashtag: #HERO #HEROUCIMarathonWorldCup #GripyourDestiny

The countdown to the **sixteenth edition of the HERO Südtirol Dolomites** has started! It will take place along the trails of Val Gardena, set against the unique backdrop of the **Dolomites**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Just **one month** to go until the **fourth round of the 2026 HERO UCI Cross-country Marathon World Cup** which will start on **Saturday, 13 June in Selva Val Gardena** – one of the most awaited for events on the international calendar.

The HERO Südtirol Dolomites cements its role as a key event of the season, ready to welcome cyclists from all over the world on its breathtaking yet taxing trails. The **86-km track boasting 4,500 hm** is what makes the HERO the toughest and most breathtaking marathon in the world. The cyclists can also choose the 60-km trail with its 3,200 hm, and the "medium" alternative with its **71 km and 4,100 hm** which skips the gruelling Ornella climb. Trails which will truly test the will and body of whoever attempts them, pushing the cyclists' stamina, energy management, and technical skills – proving a challenge even to the more seasoned cyclists.

To qualify for the 2026 HERO UCI Cross-country Marathon World Cup ranking, the Men's Elite and Master category will race on the 86-km trail, while the Women will race on the 60-km trail.

The race, part of the HERO UCI Cross-country Marathon World Cup, will welcome **cyclists from 54 countries**, confirming the event's international reach.

The official programme will kick off with the event's beating heart for cyclists and fans alike, the **HERO/ZERO Village, running between Thursday, 11 and Friday, 12 June from 10:00 to 20:00**. The Village will once again host the **Südtirol Sustainability Lounge**, shining the spotlight on the event's sustainability and environmental initiatives. It will open on **Thursday, 11 June from 14:00 to 18:00** and on **Friday and Saturday between 10:00 and 18:00**.

As is traditional now, the **HERO Charity Night presented by Generali-Cattolica** will mark the official beginning of the **HERO Bike Festival's four days** on **Thursday, 11 June**, representing the start of the 2026 HERO Südtirol Dolomites. The edition's *leitmotif* will be **resilience**: facing challenges, getting back up after falling down, and transforming challenges into growth opportunities – a value which is deeply entrenched in the mountains and lived by the cyclists competing here.

The evening will get off to a start with the live performance by **Gruppo Katakò**: the world-renowned contemporary dance, acrobatics, aerial stunts and physical theatre group will create a strongly emotional show following the theme of the edition. Besides dancing, the event will give space to an extraordinary story of resilience. **Fabio Radrizzani** will share how he completed the 2025 HERO Südtirol Dolomites with only one leg – a true symbol of determination and resilience.

In the run-up to the main race, the Festival will welcome the younger generations to the **HERO KIDS**, scheduled for **Friday, 12 June at 15:00**. The event was developed for younger cyclists to take their first 'steps' in the world of mountain biking, and instil in them values of sport and a passion for nature. On the same day, the **HERO Race Talk** will take place at **16:00**: top-level athletes will share their impressions, expectations, and feelings on the eve of the race.

Finally, on **Saturday 13 June**, the **Elite Men** will kick off from the main road in Selva Val Gardena at **7:10**, followed by the Elite Women, Master, and amateurs. Amateurs can choose from the **long trail boasting 86 km and 4,500 hm**, the **medium option with 71 km and 4,100** or the **60-km alternative and its 3,200 hm**.

The first among the Elite Men should cross the finish line **around 10:45**, followed by the Elite Women and Master. The last finisher will have to make it by **19:15**. The **Flower Ceremony** is

planned for **12:15** to celebrate the winners of the HERO Südtirol Dolomites. But there's more – because the party continues during **The Great Finale! at 21:00** to once again celebrate the stars of the 2026 edition.

Organising Committee

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