



ENGADIN
SKIMARATHON

PRESENTED BY **helvetia** 

ENGADIN SKIMARATHON

The story of the biggest cross-country event in
Switzerland

“Ladies only” in the Women’s Race of the Engadin Skimarathon

In 2000, the Engadin Women’s Race was carried out for the first time. It runs over 17 km from Samedan to S-chanf. The date of the event is always the 1st Sunday in the month of March, one week before the marathon. In its first edition the first Engadin Women’s Race was a complete success with 728 ranked participants. At the second Engadin Women’s Race 792 women were at the start. Because of too little snow on the original track, the start of the 3rd Engadin Women’s Race had to be relocated From Samedan to Maloja, and yet again to Sils in the early morning because a half-meter of fresh snow fell the night before the race, leading to the closing of the passes and the Sils – Maloja route. In spite of everything, 766 women entered the race, although significantly more were registered.

The number of women skiers increased again to 862 at the 4th Engadin Women’s Race. At the first minor anniversary run, the 5th Engadin Women’s Race in 2004, for the first time there were more than 1'000 registered participants. Of these, 925 reached the finished and were ranked. The goal of ranking over 1'000 participants was achieved in 2014. From 2010 to 2014, three blocks consisting of the different performance categories were started at intervals of 5 minutes each, before which time there were two starting blocks starting with a time interval between them from 2008 onwards. In 2015, there was another adjustment regarding starting blocks. The participant field was divided into 5 blocks and started with the box-start method as in the Engadin Skimarathon. In addition, the starting area was moved from the airfield to the Promulins Arena, a modern sports center. In 2016, the startup procedure was slightly optimized due to the experience gained the year before. The field of elite skiers now start in the sports arena. Additionally, there was an organizational adjustment in the finish area: For the first time, the award ceremony and the pasta party took place in the Marathon Festival Hall.

The 20th anniversary was celebrated in 2019. More than 1,300 people have registered for the anniversary - a record! Since 2018, the Engadin Women’s Race has been Switzerland’s second largest long-distance race.

Go 4 Women's Race: From 2013, the Engadin Women's Race is set on teamwork. 19 "women's teams" participated in the first edition. Meanwhile, the number has risen to around 45 teams.