



# Ötztaler Cycle Marathon 2019.

**Waiting has never ended.**

**Ready, steady, good luck in the draw! From 01 February onwards, amateur athletes from all over the world have four weeks to register for the 39<sup>th</sup> edition of the ultimate Ötztaler Cycle Marathon during the online registration phase. The deadline ends on 28 February. This year the mythic "Ötztaler" will take place on 01 September, and it is under the sign of the Marmot.**

While winter still reigns in the northern Alps and also in Ötztal, thousands of cycling aficionados already count the days until the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. Time flies as always and the curtain rises for 238 km and 5500 altitude meters waiting to be conquered. All those who want to be there in 2019, must decide until 28 February. The question is: want to be there or have to be there? The online registration portal on [www.oetztaler-radmarathon.com](http://www.oetztaler-radmarathon.com) is available only until this deadline. In the first half of March lots are drawn and some 4000 cyclists can look forward to it with a thrill of anticipation. Oliver Schwarz, Managing Director of Ötztal Tourismus, expects more than 15,000 registrations.

## **Under the sign of the Marmot.**

Last year's Ibex will be replaced by the Marmot in 2019. Currently, this year's testimonial hibernates through the winter. But until the race weekend in early September, our friends living in the wild are well recovered and some of the hobby cyclists will probably hear them whistle frenetically on their way up to Timmelsjoch Pass. "Marmots live above the tree line as they have learned to survive there. That's exactly what distinguishes them. Similar to all those who will participate in the cycle marathon. They also have to conserve their energy sensibly in the barren high altitude area beyond 2000 meters. And I assume that the cyclists have already finished their hibernation and now already recharge their batteries and stamina for the exhausting ride over the four famous Alpine passes on the Ötztaler Cycle Marathon route". André Stadler, Director of Innsbruck's Alpine Zoo, knows what he is talking about.

## **Even better in 2019.**

"If we succeed in maintaining the high quality of the event this year again, we have achieved our goal. Of course there will be a few adaptations, especially when it comes to general rules, regulations and conditions of participation. In any case we will organize the Bike 4 Help Prologue on Friday. On the race day we would like to deliver as many live pictures from the race track as possible straight to the finish area and the fans at home by captivating them with unique images - we really hope that we can trust in our technical equipment." Dominic Kuen, Head of OC, and his expert team are already in "Ötzi mode" by fully focusing on the event.

**Marathon track:**

Start in Sölden. Rather downhill towards Oetz (800 m). Then uphill to Kühtai (2020 m). Downhill stretch to Kematen and further on towards Innsbruck (600 m). Take a deep breath before you cycle up to Brenner Pass (1377 m). Downhill to Sterzing (960 m). Keep to the right, cycling uphill constantly to Jaufen Pass (2090 m). Take care on the downhill section to St. Leonhard in Passeier (700 m), followed by the big final climb to Timmelsjoch Pass (2509). The undisputed dream destination: Sölden (1377 m).

**Mountain passages:**

Warmup / Oetz – Kühtai: 18.5 km; 1200 altitude meters; Refreshment station at KM 51;  
Conserving energy / Innsbruck – Brenner: 39 km; 777 altitude meters; Refreshment station at KM 127;

Cautious approach / Sterzing – Jaufen Pass: 15.5 km; 1130 altitude meters; Refreshment station at KM 161;

Mountain of fate / St. Leonhard – Timmelsjoch: 28.7 km; 1759 altitude meters; Refreshment stations at KM 201 and 209.

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