



3 Zinnen Ski-Marathon | 49th edition | 11-12.01.2025 | South Tyrol

CLASSIC RACE AND PRATO PIAZZA MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

The 49th edition of the 3 Zinnen Ski-Marathons takes place on 11 and 12 January 2025. It will be a weekend dedicated to cross-country skiing, not only for professional athletes but also for hundreds of recreational skiers and children. Since last year, the traditional event has been presented under the new name "3 Zinnen Ski-Marathon" – a tribute to the Three Peaks, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which dominates the whole Dolomites area and offers the participants some unique views along the course.

On Saturday, 11 January, the large field of recreational skiers will chase the big names of Ski Classics over 62 km in classic technique from the icy Val Fiscalina in Sesto to the finish in Villabassa. It is the third event of the long and famous Pro Tour season. After the departure and descent to Sesto and San Candido, the route leads through the Nordic Arena, the venue for the opening of the Tour de Ski 2024/2025, and then past Lake Dobbiaco, the war cemetery, the Three Peaks View and Lake Landro up towards 'Cimabanche'. At the highest point 'Val Fonda' (1515m), important climb points are awarded, before the route then continues mostly slightly downhill to the finish in Villabassa. There is also a short 30 km course starting at the Nordic Arena in Dobbiaco for those who are not yet ready for the long distance. This route has been in the program for several years now and is becoming more and more popular.

Finally, on Sunday 12 January, it is the turn of the legendary 'Prato Piazza Mountain Challenge' - a challenge in name and in fact, able to involve both top cross-country skiers and amateurs of all ages. The 30 km free-style race starts in Villabassa and finishes on the fantastic high plateau of Prato Piazza at over 2,000 metres in the middle of the Fanes-Sennes-Braies Nature Park. After a relatively easy start, the 'funny part' finally comes to an end in 'Carbonin'. This is where the heroic final climb begins, with around 800 metres of altitude difference to overcome, which corresponds to an average gradient of around 10%. Even 13-time world champion Petter Northug (NOR) skied up these steep ramps last year, reaching the finish at the highest point of the race exhausted but extremely impressed by the beauty of the landscape. The Prato Piazza Mountain Challenge is just perfect for all those who want to challenge the time, their competitors or simply themselves on the narrow skies.

The organising committee is already working hard on the preparations for the 49th edition of the event, whose course is one of the most impressive and beautiful in the entire cross-country skiing circus. This is confirmed by the second place in the 'Event of the Season' ranking, which is based on a survey of athletes, teams and staff members of the Ski Classics Pro Tour. The spectacle will start on Friday, 10 January with the 3 Zinnen Mini Ski-Marathon, an initiative of the organising committee for children and young skiers born between 2009 and 2020 in the cross-country stadium Nordic Arena Toblach, the venue for numerous World Cup and Tour de Ski stages.

On the threshold of its 50th edition, the 3 Zinnen Ski-Marathon is once again preparing to enchant its audience.

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