
PRESS RELEASE

Marathons de Mer

Gruissan - FR - Jan 2018



1800 PARTICIPANTS
1400 WINDSURFERS+400 KITEBOARDERS
13-72 YERAS OLD
3500 ACTORS
50 EXHIBITORS
40 COUNTRIES
250 ORGANIZATORS
50.000 VISITORS

Kitesurf & Windsurf: 1800 riders in Gruissan from may 4 to 13th 2018!

In early May, the world of watersports will have its eyes riveted on the charming village of Gruissan (France). The Defi Wind and the Defi Kite will bring together 1,800 riders from around 40 nationalities for two global events gathered in one from May 4th to 13th. Between extreme sports challenge on a marathon course, crazy images and festival atmosphere, this unique event in the world and particularly expected in Gruissan is not to be missed. So, do not wait any longer and save the dates for a breathtaking weekend !!!

Bringing together pros and amateurs on the same starting line to get away with a marathon run and share a common passion for gliding, here is the foundation of this event born in 2001. On the first edition, a hundred windsurfers were on the starting line. Since then, the craze has grown steadily to position the Defi Wind as the biggest windsurfing event in the world with more than 1000 participants since 2010. In 2013, the Defi Kite has followed in its footsteps. By confronting hundreds of participants of all ages from 13 to 72 at the legendary 40km marathon course, the Defi Kite has already made history. The powerful wind conditions offered by the famous Tramontana and the legendary start line gathering all the participants add to the legend. It is for this wind, this extraordinary course, this mythical start line and this special atmosphere that the best specialists in the world and the mass of amateurs come to Gruissan. From all over the world, the «riders» come together to share their passion.

For the champions, such as Antoine Albeau (24 x World Champion), Alexandre Caizergues (Speed World Record), Nicolas Parlier (World Champion Kitefoil 17), Pierre Mortefon (Vice World Champion 17) or Björn Dunkerbeck (42 x world champion), this is clearly an event to be featured in their achievements. What is more beautiful in terms of emotion than to cross a finish line in front of hundreds of competitors after having exceeded its own limits? Everyone at his level must take up the challenge of a simple but difficult course, either by competition or by the force of the wind and often for both.

Beyond the participants, a whole territory is mobilized to properly accommodate the 50 exhibitors, 3500 actors, 250 organizers and 50 000 visitors who generate local economic benefits estimated at more than 1.5 million euros on this season start period. For a week, Gruissan and its surroundings breathe to the rhythm of the slide and the images radiate around the world. Who has already tasted the atmosphere of the «Woodstock» of watersports will understand why participants will cross the planet to meet at Gruissan from May 4 to 13th. They will have their arms tired, but also live an once in a lifetime experience. So if you also want to experience this feelings, book your weekend and join us!

For the riders in the Defi Wind, the first step of a successful participation is for very soon with the opening of registrations on February 1st on www.defiwind.com (March 1st for the Défikite).

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EACH YEAR THE «RIDERS» (modern sailors) FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD meet in Gruissan - Aude- (11) - With more than 1000 participants, Defi Wind is the biggest Windsurf event in the world.



WHEN SMALL DÉFI BECOMES BIG

In the same line as its big brother the Défi Wind, one of the challenges of the Défi Kite is to push the limits of sport, to offer the new racing formats of tomorrow.

With an increasing and steady increase, the event is already considered as unavoidable by passionated french kitesurfers, and was elected event of the year 2015 & 2016 at the Kitenews Awards

2017, our images generated more than 6 million views

For this 6th edition, 400 kitesurfers are expected.

The DEFIS are a very specials events whose workings are simple. It's first of all a great idea, a singular race that all professional competitors dream of adding to their palmares. It is also a personal adventure for the many amateurs who came here to compete against the Tramontane, the strongest wind in the world !

The format of the event is simple and much more accessible and comprehensible than the traditional competitions, part of its success is indeed there!

There is a starting line, a buoy 10 km away ... and a return to Gruissan.

The start is given in the manner of the old car races, and this choice makes for an extremely strong moment.



HERE OUR KIT MEDIA

Présentation, Photos, Vidéos, Visuels, Logos, CP.

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