



**Bid for:**

**1st FAI WORLD JUNIOR PARAGLIDING  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Tolmin, Slovenia**



Tolmin, Slovenia  
18<sup>th</sup> till 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 2024



Annex A

## **BID INFORMATION**

Organisers:

NAC / AeroClub: Letalska zveza Slovenije

Local Organizers: Igor Eržen, Klub letalcev Triglav

Name of championship: 1<sup>st</sup> FAI World Junior Paragliding Championships

Proposed dates of Championships: 18 – 31, August, 2024

Registration and training task: 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

Mandatory Safety meeting: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

Team leader briefing at the HQ: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

Opening ceremony: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

First competition briefing: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

Contest flying days: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> till Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

Prize-giving, closing ceremony: Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2024

Location of championship: Tolmin , Slovenia

### **1. SCOPE**

We decided to put this bid forward and to present you, one of the best possible venues to host 2024 World Junior Paragliding Championships.

Please find here in all details regarding this event in Tolmin, Slovenia.

Intended dates are: **18<sup>th</sup> of August till 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2024.**

**Proposed dates for the test event: 27<sup>th</sup> of August till 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023**

Regarding typical services requested from the organizers in order to meet FAI/CIVL standards, I sincerely believe that myself as well as my team, can meet them and provide competitive, safe and fair environment for a high profile paragliding event. We were already tested in different events and proved that we are capable of handling such a task with responsibility and confidence needed.

Also, site itself, with it's very predictable and reliable weather, friendly and easily understandable meteorology and topology and not to be overseen, with it's blend of folklore and tradition, is providing unique experience that may last for a lifetime.

Some of the members of the organizational team are linked with this place for life, knowing how to fly it, how to live it, how to make others use its potential to the maximum.

Other members of the team, coming from the international high level competition scene, are widely recognized experts in their specific domain like: event management, live tracking and associated activities, scoring and related software development, filming and media.

This team possess all of the organizational and communication skills needed to make this event sportively excellent and in the same time pleasurable experience.

Slovenia is considered like cradle of culture but it is also good to know that proposed competition site Tolmin, might be considered as paragliding cradle of Vol Libre (among handful of other sites worldwide). With a lot of competitions history, some of world

records and all experience gained in meantime will be at your disposal if you accept this bid.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

General info on the region:

- Official name: Slovenia
- Capital: Ljubljana
- Area: total: 20,273 sq. km water: 0,7%
- Climate: The climate is also influenced by the variety of relief, and the influence of the Alps and the Adriatic Sea. In the Northeast, the continental climate type with greatest difference between winter and summer temperatures prevails. In the coastal region, there is sub-Mediterranean climate. The effect of the sea on the temperature rates is visible also up the Soča valley, while a severe Alpine climate is present in the high mountain regions.
- Location: Middle Europe
- Geographic coordinates: 46 00 N, 14 00 E
- Border countries: Italy 25 km, Austria 70 km, Croatia 140 km, Hungary 330 km



- Terrain: Soča Valley is an active nature amateur's paradise. Steep mountain slopes and unforgettable panoramic views offers top flying opportunities and long cross-country flying above the Julian Alps. With its setting of high Julian Alps peaks, Stol near Kobarid is a paragliding pilot's paradise. Kobala is a popular paragliding and hang gliding take-off, as well as an excellent starting point for long cross-country flights on the southern crest of the Julian Alps and a well-known competition site.
- Elevation extremes: Lowest point: Tolmin 200m, Highest point: Triglav 2864m
- Name of the Competition site: Tolmin
- Name of the main flying arena: Soča Valley



### 3. THE VENUE

#### 3.1. Flying area

- **Local Area info:**

The competition area is in the North-Western part of the country. Surrounded by Alps, The Triglav National Park is one of the oldest European parks and the only national park in Slovenia. The park is located in the Julian Alps, in the three-border area between Slovenia, Austria and Italy. The highest point of the park is the summit of Triglav (2,864 m), whilst the lowest point lies in the basins of the Tolminka river (180 m).



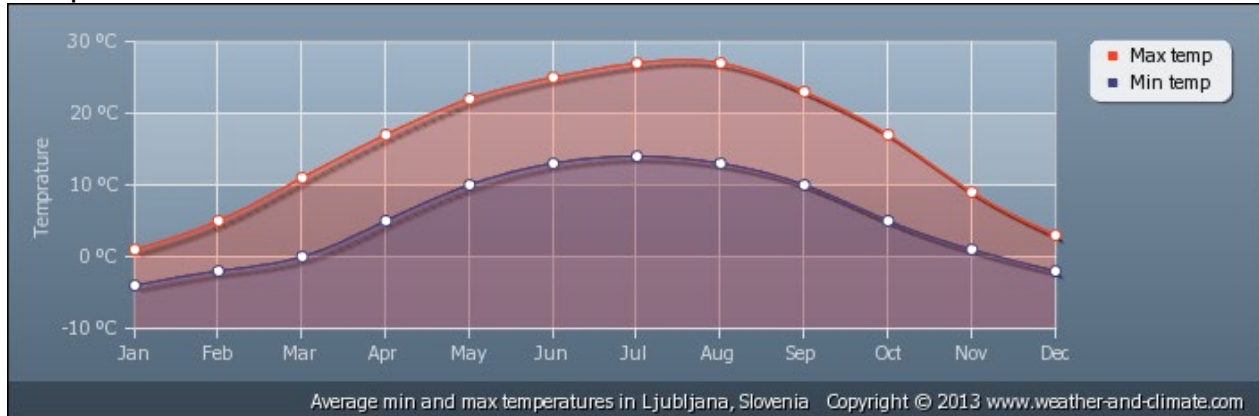
#### Wider region topographic:



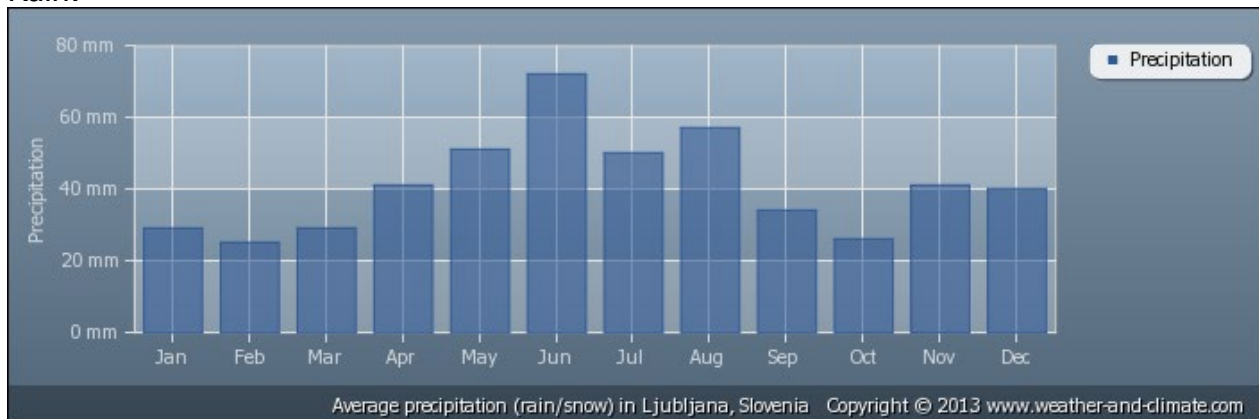
There are three climatic influences that meet in the country. A harsh Alpine climate prevails in the mountains, the coast has a sub-Mediterranean climate, and the north-east lowlands have a continental climate. The average temperature is above 20°C in July. End of July is the period of the year with highest temperature and most suitable weather for top class competition.

**You may find some statistics below:**

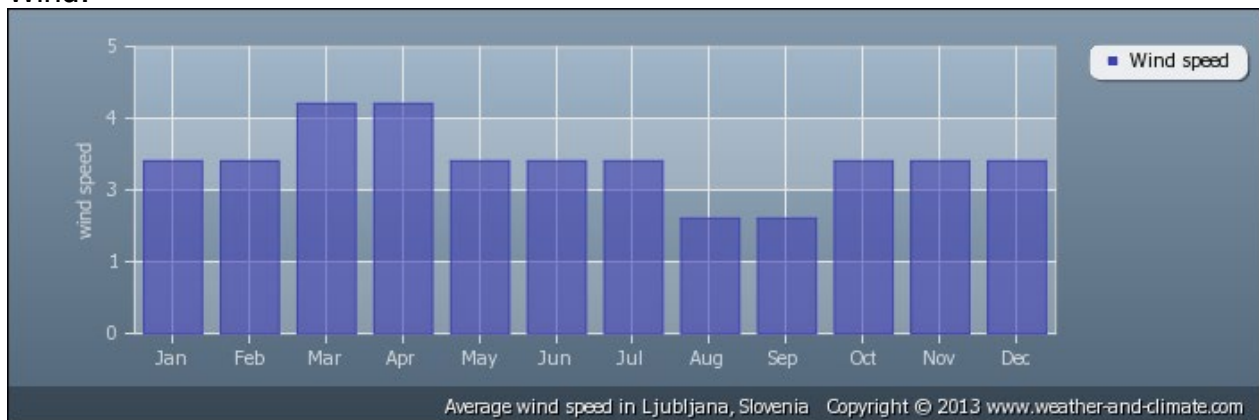
Temperatures:



Rain:



Wind:



All strong winds in Slovenia are related to cyclones, the strongest winds are linked to the passing of fronts and with Mediterranean cyclones. The periods of intensive weather processes and strong winds are short. Periods of anticyclone weather are of a longer duration than periods of cyclonic weather. In summer, at the end of winter and at the



beginning of spring there is very often permanent anticyclonic weather.

The winds in Slovenia are weak compared to those in Western Europe. The winds in Slovenia depend very strongly on the Alps. Slovenia is on the calm side of the Alps when western to northern winds blow. These situations are very frequent and winds in Slovenia are much weaker than those on the western side of the Alps. Less frequent are winds from the east to southwest. The Alps are no wind obstacle in these situations.

- **Flight Area:**

**Kobala :**

Kobala is an excellent starting point for long cross-country flights on the southern crest of the Julian Alps and a well-known competition site.



Covering W, SW, SE and E wind directions, elevation 1080 m asl, asphalt access road, last 1km macadam road. Green grass, generally clean, without any kind of obstacles, surrounded with nearby woods with heavy shadow for briefing. It is characterized with highly defined thermals making beginning of the task as well as start pylon waiting quite easy. It sits high in mountain with broad view so it is easy for MD to monitor beginning of the task, possible overcrowding or another safety risks.

We are using this take off in the 90% of the flying days.

**Kobariški stol**

With its setting of high Julian Alps peaks, Kobariski Stol is a paragliding pilot's paradise. Its over 20 km long panoramic ridge tops provide extraordinary opportunities for long cross-country flights and large-scale competitions.



As the highest takeoff in the Soca Valley, Stol (Kobariski) is often the only take-off above the inversion layer, providing opportunities for thermal flying.

Covering SW, S, SE wind directions, elevation 1405 m asl, conditions. It is on the top of the mountain also with broad view so it is easy for MD monitor beginning of the task, possible overcrowding or another safety risks. First 10km Asphalt road after that another 10km macadam road through the forest. Green grass, generally clean, without any

kind of obstacles.

We managed to run very successful competitions from this T.O.

- **Other take offs in the area:**

There are several other less popular take-offs in the Soča Valley area: Mangartsko sedlo above Log pod Mangartom, Kanin, and Planja above the town of Bovec, Srednji vrh – Matajur and Kuk - Livek above the town of Kobarid.

## **Lijak**

Lijak is also one of the most favorite take-off places in Slovenia. Its special location offers an extraordinary number of flying days throughout the year. Even when in the nearby Vipava valley blows strong bora, Lijak is quite well protected. This great take-off place is situated above a karstic spring of the brook Lijak, on a sharp edge of the Trnovo landscape rising over the characteristic, funnel-shaped steep slope – hence the name; Lijak is a Slovenian word for funnel.



Covering S, SE wind directions, elevation 571 m asl, very useful take off in case of predicated thunder storms in the Alps, or strong bora wind. Asphalt road to the parking lot, last 500m downhill walk through the forest. Green grass, generally clean, without any kind of obstacles, surrounded with nearby woods with heavy shadow for briefing.

- **Landings:**

In general landing fields are not an issue, with wide valleys we can organize official landings almost everywhere. There are five landings mostly in use. Almost all of the are big green grass fields with no or very little obstacles in vicinity with easy road acces and infrastructure on site.

Main one is just below the Kobala take off in close proximity to the town of Tolmin. Second one is close to the official Camp site Gabrje, third one just before entering town of Kobarid, fourth one in under Lijak take off and the last one is close to the town of Ajdovščina.

- **Tasks:**

Virtually any kind of task is possible within the flying area. And all of them have been tried. Different triangles combining mountain leg with flatland legs, pure flat land, along ridge fast out and return, square tasks along the valley borders, crossing valley or combination of previously mentioned ones. It is up to the quality and level of the task committee to choose the best possible task for the day.

Distances that are usually possible within the flyable period of the day are up to 130 km.

- **Task Map:**

Intended task map is of very high quality with all necessary layers implemented. Main and local roads as well as all villages are clearly visible and map itself is very useful for once on the ground orientation and navigation.

All turnpoints are checked multiple times, they are proven to be safe as well as all of the official landings. Names of the turnpoints are also printed on the side of the map for a reference.

Map will be printed on high quality paper in A3 format. Also, same map will be available in huge format at the tasks briefings for better visualization of the task for that particular day.

- **Airspace and Other Restrictions:**

G class airspace in the Alps is up to 9500 ft (cca 2900m QNA) and is sufficient to do any kind of task in the area. In the flats around Lijak take off we always get special permission to fly up to 6500 ft (cca 2000 m QNA) which is also sufficient to do any kind of tasks in the flats.

In close collaboration with the authorities, we manage to keep it this way for years. NOTAM will be issued for the site and the dates, so all masseurs will be taken to provide open and safe flight arena. We are also in daily contact with air traffic control, to give the detailed info on our plans for the day.

#### **4. ATTRACTIONS**

Major attractions, things to do, etc:

- **Tolmin Gorges**



The Tolmin gorges are Tolmin's most important sight of nature. The Tolmin gorges are the lowest and southernmost entry point into the Triglav National Park and Tolmin's most important sight of nature. The most prominent attractions are the wedged rock named Bear's Head and the Devil's Bridge, 60 metres high above the bluish Tolminka River.

- **Kozjak waterfalls**



One of Slovenia's most picturesque waterfalls - Veliki Kozjak.

The picturesque Kozjak waterfall is caught in a stony amphitheatre not far away from Kobarid. It can be reached by an easy walking path by the riverbed of the emerald Soča River.



- **Kobarid Museum**



Kobarid Museum has received the highest national award, was proclaimed Best European Museum, and won the Council of Europe Museum Prize in 1993.

Kobarid Museum displays exhibits on the events that occurred during World War I on the Soška fronta - Isonzo Front.

- **Javorca, memorial Church of the Holy Spirit**



High above the stream of the Tolminka rises a wooden shrine – the Memorial Church of the Holy Spirit in Javorca, dedicated to fallen Austro-Hungarian defenders of the Tolmin battlefield on the Soča (Isonzo) Front (1915–1917).

...and many many more...

## 5. ACCOMMODATION

Although Slovenia is full member of EU still most of the accommodation prices in the area may be considered as cheap, compared to some of the central EU countries.

- **Accommodation examples:**
- **Camp Gabrje:**

It is located about 3km from the town of Tolmin and HQ, but we will have a lot of activities during the competition in the camp, because we think a lot pilots will stay in the camp during the competition.

- **Hotel Krn Tolmin:**

Located in the middle of Tolmin in close proximity to the HQ

There is plenty of rooms in the area to accommodate all the pilots, team leaders, staff, etc...

We will provide all services needed in order to help to coordinate and accommodate all pilots. Person in charge will be announced with all necessary contacts on the dedicated web site of the comp.

## **6. TRANSPORTATION INFO:**

- **Airport Local Transfer:**

Local transfer from the Ljubljana airport (Letališče Jožeta Pučnika) to Tolmin will be organized on personal basis with each pilot that will need such a service. Buses and taxis will be used. Please note that early notice is expected in order to organize this service properly.

- **Local transfers:**

If more serious trips around Slovenia or neighbouring countries are part of the individual plan, we strongly recommend car rental to be arranged at Ljubljana Airport in advance, to avoid high prices that might be experienced if arranging on site. If assistance is needed we will be happy to assist.

- **Trips**

On non flyable days trips to surrounding sights will be organised free of charge for the pilots. Different tours can be organised, depending on the interest of the pilots.

## **7. GENERAL SAFETY**

### **7.1. First Aid and Medical Assistance:**

First aid will be provided by the team present on site. We will have dedicated mountain rescue with full equipment on site and medical crew with equipped ambulance car every morning available before activities start.

Mountain rescue is in direct contact with helicopter teams, which are stationed on Ljubljana Airport.

### **7.2. Hospital Assistance:**

In the region there are small hospitals in towns of Tolmin and Kobarid providing basic care, treating fractures, wounds and ordinary illnesses. More demanding patients are immediately transferred to the hospital in Nova Gorica or in case of helicopter transfer to the "Ljubljana klinični center".

Both hospitals are fully equipped and providing accommodation during the period of recovery. Although life threatening situation, helicopter rescued and transport, urgent matters etc. in Slovenia are free, we do recommend proper insurance in case where special services are needed.

### **7.3. Mountain Rescue**

The town of Tolmin has its own dedicated Mountain rescue team specially trained to work with paragliding accidents. They are licensed for such an activity and quite experienced with paragliding related incidents. Please note that their arrangement is to take care of the pilot himself. In case of complicated equipment rescuing that is time and effort demanding some fee may apply but in most cases they are happy to help and knowledgeable about equipment and how to handle with it.

#### **7.4. Helicopter Casualty Evacuation**

Helicopter rescue is available. In order to use their service, mountain rescue team is in direct contact with them and if needed helicopter shall be activated. Helicopter and the crew is based at the Ljubljana Airport, response time is approximately 30 min, depending on other activities going on at the moment. Crew is on 24/7 stand by mode.

At the main landing area in Tolmin there is also landing pad if assistance is needed there, but crews are fully trained to do mountain rescues from the most demanding places. On the tasks lines there are numerous suitable places for helicopter landings that are also adding responsiveness to the helicopter service.

#### **7.5. Liaison with police, military, public services:**

We are working very close with all subjects within civilian services domain at the local level. Full support to our activities will be demonstrated on their side in order to provide environment suitable for executing high profile sport event .

Daily regulation of the traffic (if needed) as well as physical surveillance and assistance from the police officers will be at hand for the pilots and officials.

#### **7.6. Incident logging:**

Slovenia is well known for its extremely low incident rate. We ran dozens of comps without a single incident.

### **8. PROPOSED PROGRAM**

#### **8.1. Daily Programme**

08:15 Team Leaders Briefing in the HQ

09:00 Informational Briefing in the HQ, results from the previous task

09:15 Start of transportation to the T.O.

10:00 Distribution of lunch packs and Live Trackers at T.O.

12:00 Task Briefing

13:00 Window opening

15:00 Downloading process, trackers recuperation

19:00 Last landing

21:00 Provisional Results

#### **8.2. Parties During the Comp**

As Tolmin is also known for its parties, parties will be organized to reflect folklore, traditional foods and drinks in collaboration with local people, restaurants and bars.

Timing of those parties will be defined according to the weather conditions and suitably announced on the task briefing well in advance.

#### **8.3. Prize Giving Party**

It will be organized on main city square in case of favourable weather or in the near by cinema if the weather conditions are not permitting outdoor event. Traditional dances and folklore will be performed. Presence of the Officials and press will be assured.

#### **8.4. Talks about interesting flying topics for Pilots**



We can use a cinema for such an events. From our side we can provide an extensive presentation on the local flying area, wind pattern, possible tasks, how to fly them and all related info.

Also, if anyone from the broader pilots – team leaders - officials field is willing to have his/her own session, we will be happy to assist in organizing it and support it with all means necessary.

## **9. COMPETITION**

### **9.1. Registration**

What is required from Pilot at registration?

- Valid Pilot and FAI Licence
- Appropriate Medical Insurance certificate
- Appropriate Third Party Liability Insurance certificate
- Signing a waiver of release of liability

### **9.2. Eligibility to compete**

- All Junior pilots that are ranked in WPRS

### **9.3. For the pilots**

- Pilots will receive T-Shirts
- Lunch Packs
- Water
- Maps with turn points
- Live trackers
- Local information and local maps
- Freebies, etc

### **9.4. Scoring**

Local scorers will be on site. They are all very well trained, scoring Slovenian league all year long, Slovenian nationals, and other events in the area.

### **9.5. Transfer to Launch**

Transfers to the T.O. will be from the HQ where we have appropriate parking place for manipulating vehicles, gliders and other equipment. From there, transfer to the main T.O. is taking about 60 minutes and if necessary second group shall be then transferred to the T.O. It is usually efficient and well organized with zero stress, important for the day to start well.

### **9.6. Retrievals**

Transportation is organized on the 100 pilots calculation basis.

Buses are equipped with AC, drivers are familiar with typical pilots needs and behaviour and will have dedicated person to facilitate efficient pilots recuperating.

Helpers are English speaking, mobile phone, radio and gps on board. These set up is tried and tested and suitable to the place and road network in place.

- Radio usage is aloud within the comp and on allocated frequencies. It is strongly advised that each competitor use VHF hand-held radio on dedicated Safety and

retrieve frequency. As a reference we are usually working on 147.050 for safety and 147.800 for retrieve.

## **10. WHAT IS PROVIDED:**

- Registration procedure, uploading of turn points,
- Pilot info package including: Local guide to Slovenia and particularly Soča Valley area, T-Shirt of the competition in high quality materials, presents of the sponsors,
- All transportation, shuttle buses to the take off, all retrievals,
- Downloading of the track logs, calculating and displaying of the results,
- Live tracking,
- Lunch pack
- Parties for the pilots, including food and certain amount of free drinks in a previously arranged restaurant or a bar,
- All local fees to the NAC,
- Rescue team for mountain operations, equipped and licensed,
- Ambulance on the take off, fully equipped and mobile, moving in the direction of the landing for the particular task.

### **Optional:**

- Local transfer from the Ljubljana Airport to Tolmin will be organized on personal basis with each pilot that will need such a service.
- Lunch pack modification might be organized on personal basis with the pilots within the originally calculated price.
- Local visits to tourist destinations might be organized upon a fee.
- Additional parties or dinners might be organized for the teams, group of pilots or for the officials upon a fee.

## **11. REFERENCE COMPETITIONS**

### **Just a few major events in this area:**

- PWC 2001
- 7<sup>th</sup> FAI European Paragliding Championship 2002
- Pre-PWC 2005
- PWC 2006
- British Paragliding Open
- Czech Open
- Slovenian Open
- Soča Open Valley
- Serial Cup
- German Open
- Polish Open
- etc...

**and few more events from this team:**

- Ratitovec Open
- Pre-PWC Ratitovec 2009
- Slovenian Open Ratitovec
- etc..

**12. COST AND FINANCES**

**12.1. Sponsorship**

At the time of writing we only have confirmation from town of Tolmin and Letalska Zveza Slovenije (NAC) to support us financially, but no contract has been signed as we have not yet been nominated as official organizer from CIVL.

**13. SUMMARY**

Me and my team are really motivated to make this comp successful event, as that will be another proof that this team is up to the most serious tasks. Also, we would like to demonstrate once again, fantastic capabilities of Soča Valley flying area as a reference competition site.

Regards,  
Igor Eržen  
on behalf of Organizational Team



Annex B:  
**Provisional Budget (in EUR)**

***Incomes***

Pilot fees : 500€ (100 pilots)	50.000 €
Team leader fees : 200€ (15 team leaders)	3.000 €
Grant : Local/Municipality	10.000 € (to be confirmed after the bid)
NAC :	5.000 €
I Feel Slovenia turist organisation	10.000 € (to be confirmed after the bid)
Sponsorships	10.000 €
<b><i>Total Income</i></b>	<b><i>88.000 €</i></b>

***Expenses***

Launch Facilities	1.000 €
Travel Expenses: Organizers, volunteers	8.000 €
Administration: Mail, Bank, Stationery	2.000 €
Website: Setup & Maintenance	3.000 €
FAI fee	5.000 €
FAI Officials	10.000 €
Live Tracking	3.000 €
Regional Maps	500 €
Promotional Goods	1.000 €
T-shirts	3.000 €
Trophies	1.500 €
Medical: Doctor, Paramedic, Rescue Team	6.000 €
Transport	15.000 €
Packed lunches: Snacks, Water, Sandwich, Fruit	4.000 €
Personnel	20.000 €
Ceremonies & Social Events	2.000 €
HQ preparation	1.000 €
Film Communications/Press/Media	1.000 €
Contingency	1.000 €
<b><i>Total Expenses</i></b>	<b><i>88.000 €</i></b>