

2024 CANOE FREESTYLE

European Championships

GRAZ



BULLETIN #1 - MARCH



Contents

1) Welcome	3
2) General Info	5
2.1. Event Title	5
2.2. Event Dates	5
2.3. Outline Schedule	5
2.4. Venue Names/Address	6
2.5. Key Contacts.....	6
3) Location	7
3.2. Weather in August	7
3.3. Currency.....	7
3.4 Local Attractions and places to visit.....	8
5) Venue	10
5.1. Feature Venue and Access	10
6) European Championship Events	11
7) Training	12
7.1. Official Training	12
7.2. Unofficial Training	12
7.3. Water Safety	12
8) Accommodation	13
8.1. Camping	13
8.2. Hotels:.....	14
8.3. Apartments: (4-6 people)	14
8.4. Hostel.....	14
9) ENTRY	15
9.1. Entry Process & Deadlines	15
9.2. Participation Fee	15

1) Welcome



Dear Canoe Freestyle Athletes,

on behalf of the Austrian Canoe Federation, it is my distinct honor and privilege to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as you prepare to participate in the Canoe Freestyle European Championships 2024 at Muglwave in Graz, Austria.

This prestigious event marks a significant milestone in the world of canoe freestyle, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to host it in the picturesque city of Graz. Muglwave, with its dynamic water features and constant water levels, provides the perfect stage for showcasing your incredible skills and talents.

As athletes, you are the heart and soul of this competition, and we commend your dedication, passion, and perseverance in pursuing excellence in your sport. Your presence in Graz not only elevates the level of competition but also fosters a spirit of community and friendship among participants from across Europe.

We understand that the journey to this moment has been filled with challenges and sacrifices. However, your resilience and determination inspire us all, and we are honored to host you in Graz as you compete for the title of European Champions. Throughout your time here, we are committed to ensuring your safety, comfort, and enjoyment. The Organizers team has worked tirelessly to organize a world-class event that will provide you with an unforgettable experience, both on and off the water.

We encourage you to immerse yourselves in the vibrant culture and hospitality of Graz, explore its charming streets, and savor its culinary delights. May your time here be filled with memorable moments, new friendships, and extraordinary achievements.

On behalf of the Austrian Canoe Federation, I extend my sincerest best wishes to each of you for a successful and thrilling competition. May you paddle with passion, determination, and joy, and may the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play guide you throughout your journey.

Welcome to Graz, welcome to Muglwave, and welcome to the Canoe Freestyle European Championships!

Warm regards,

Günther Briedl
President of the Austrian Canoe Federation

Welcome to the Canoe Freestyle European Championships 2024!

Graz Freestyle is back – only bigger! We're excited to welcome athletes from across Europe in Graz for an action-packed European Champs, from August 27th to 31st 2024!

We are a dedicated team of freestyle enthusiasts who have been hosting the Graz Freestyle event for over five years. Now, we are eager to take the event to the next level, committed to fill the shoes by hosting an exceptional European Championships in Freestyle Kayaking. With less than a year to prepare, we still aim to create an unforgettable experience for everyone, while putting the athletes' needs first. Competing in Graz has always been about the sport, the atmosphere and the community – and we opt to keep it that way.

Take a look through the bulletin. There's a lot of useful information about Graz, the competition venue and how things will run. Additionally, there are a ton of suggestions on how to spend your free time off the water and enjoy Graz and Austria to the fullest, including activities that involve the whole family!

This event is the place to be for all fans of canoe freestyle, where you can witness top-notch performances and fierce competition. Whether you're a competitor yourself or just love watching the sport, come join us in cheering on these talented athletes as they showcase their skills.

We are ready to be inspired, captivated, and swept away by the spirit of competition and friendship. Join us as we celebrate the thrill of the sport and cheer on the athletes pushing the boundaries of excellence.

If you need any help, please do drop us an email. As always, we are happy to help you with any questions/issues that may arise. The addresses are in the bulletin.



Christina, Clemens, Philipp, Peter and Denise

Event Organizers

2) General Info

2.1. Event Title

Freestyle European Championships Graz 2024, Austria

2.2. Event Dates

Official training period - Friday 23rd to Monday 26th August 2024

Competition - Wednesday 28th August to Saturday 31st August 2024

2.3. Outline Schedule

Saturday August 24 th 2024	Official Training
Sunday August 25 th 2024	Official Training
Monday August 26 th 2024	Official Training Team Leaders Meeting
Tuesday August 27 th 2024	Open Training Opening Ceremony
Wednesday August 28 th 2024	Competition Day 1 Prelims
Thursday August 29 th 2024	Competition Day 2 Prelims (Quarterfinals)
Friday August 30 th 2024	Competition Day 3 Semifinals - Semi Finals – Men's C1, Women's K1, Men's K1, Junior Women's K1, Junior Men's K1 Finals - Women's C1, Men's C1
Saturday August 31 st 2024	Competition Day 4 Finals - Junior Women's K1, Junior Men's K1, Women's K1, Men's K1 Closing Ceremony & Party

2.4. Venue Names/Address

Muglwave, Graz
(47.04321864713517, 15.43856146927827)

Closest address:

Am Innovationspark 10
8020 Graz
AUSTRIA

2.5. Key Contacts

Main Organizers	info@canoefreestyle-graz.at
Austrian Freestyle representative	denise.rebnegger@kanuverband.at
Austrian Canoe Federation	+43 6642402536 office@kanuverband.at
Event Website	https://canoefreestyle-graz.com
Event Instagram Page	@canoe_freestyle_euros2024

3) Location

The venue of the competition feature is called “Muglwave” and located within the industrial district of Graz (47.04321864713517, 15.43856146927827). The venue can be easily found by putting “Muglwave” into Google Maps.

3.1. Location of Airports, rail network, roads to venue/city

Being the second biggest city of the country, Graz offers excellent transport links via road, rail and air.

By air and railway

Location	Travel time	Distance
Graz Airport	10 min	5,6km
Vienna Airport	2:16h	205km
Graz Central Train Station	11min	4,5km

By tram

The nearest tram station “Lauzilgasse” is closer than 800m to the competition venue and can be reached by tram line 5.

By Bus:

The nearest bus station “Am Innovationspark” is closer than 100m to the competition venue and can be reached by bus lines 650 and 671.

3.2. Weather in August

Mean Temperature 20° C (average ranges 14° C to 26° C)

Average rainy days/month: 7

Average rainfall/month: 131mm

3.3. Currency

The currency used in Austria is the Euros which has the international abbreviation EUR €.

Major credit and debit cards are accepted widely. Some businesses may only accept cash.

3.4 Local Attractions and places to visit

here is a list of popular sights and attractions in **Graz, Austria**, along with their approximate distance to Muglwave Graz:

- **Schlossberg (Graz Castle)** - A historic castle and park offering panoramic views of the city. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (8km).
- **Graz Old Town (Altstadt)** - A UNESCO World Heritage Site with narrow streets, historic buildings, and charming squares. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (7km).
- **Graz Clock Tower (Uhrturm)** - An iconic clock tower located on Schlossberg hill. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (8km).
- **Kunsthaus Graz** - A contemporary art museum known for its futuristic architecture. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (6km).
- **Murinsel** - A floating platform in the middle of the Mur River designed by artist Vito Acconci. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (7km).
- **Graz Opera House (Oper Graz)** - A historic opera house known for its diverse performances. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (6km).
- **Styrian Armoury (Landeszeughaus)** - The world's largest historic armory with an extensive collection of weapons and armor. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (7km).
- **Graz Cathedral (Grazer Dom)** - A Roman Catholic cathedral with a stunning interior. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (6km).
- **Botanical Garden of Graz University (Botanischer Garten der Universität Graz)** - A lush botanical garden with a wide variety of plant species. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (6km).
- **Eggenberg Palace (Schloss Eggenberg)** - A Baroque palace with beautiful gardens and a richly decorated interior. Distance to Muglwave Graz: (10km).

These distances are approximate and may vary depending on the specific location within Graz and the route taken.

Outside of Graz, there are several famous places worth visiting in the surrounding region of Styria, Austria. Here are some notable ones:

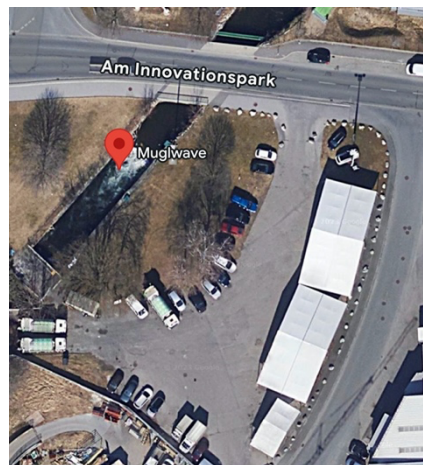
- **Herberstein Palace and Zoo** - Situated about 50 kilometers northeast of Graz, Herberstein Palace is a beautiful Renaissance castle surrounded by gardens. Adjacent to the palace is Herberstein Zoo, known for its diverse collection of animals and picturesque setting.
- **Riegersburg Castle** - About 45 kilometers southeast of Graz, Riegersburg Castle is a striking hilltop fortress with a long and storied history. Visitors can explore the castle grounds, museums, and enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.
- **Thalersee Lake** - Located about 10 kilometers west of Graz, Thalersee is a picturesque lake surrounded by lush greenery, offering opportunities for swimming, boating, and leisurely walks along its shores.
- **Schöckl Mountain** - Located just outside Graz, Schöckl is a popular recreational area offering hiking trails, mountain biking, and stunning panoramic views of the city and surrounding countryside from its summit.

5) Venue

5.1. Feature Venue and Access

The feature runs on a side channel of the Mur River and has, therefore, relatively constant water levels 24/7. Streetlights make it possible to train after sunset as well. The feature can be used every day and free of charge (exceptions below).

The channel itself can be accessed through a boat ramp and exited from an eddy 5m downstream of the feature on river left, as well as 20m down the feature from an emergency eddy on river right. Enter the parking lot by taking a right turn on the main road between the rocks. Paddlers are responsible for their own safety. We will not be held responsible or accept liability for any theft, damage or injury.



NOTE: The feature may not be used due to the following conditions:

- **Maintenance:** The channel is turned off by the city twice a year (March 5th – 9th/October) for a few days for maintenance. The channel may also be turned off due to heavy rainfall and floods of the main river.
- **Austrian Championships:** On April 20th, the Austrian Championships as well as selections are going to take place. The feature will be closed for international paddlers on that day.
- **Official Team Trainings:** The feature may be closed during official team trainings (see event schedule)

6) European Championship Events

Surface Boats

- MK1 Men's Kayak
- MK1J Men's Kayak Junior
- WK1 Women's Kayak
- WK1J Women's Kayak Junior
- MC1 Men's Canoe Decked
- WC1 Women's Decked Canoe

7) Training

7.1. Official Training

Official training will take place from Friday 24th to Monday 26th of August 2024.

There will be 1 training slot per day per nation. Exact timings will be determined after the numeric entries close. Additional open training opportunities will also be scheduled (which includes the 27th of August).

There will be no additional cost for paddling during Official Training or Competition times.

7.2. Unofficial Training

Should any athletes/teams wish to use Muglwave as a training base in the days, weeks or months prior to the European Championships, they are able to do so at all times (note that on rare occasions the course may be closed due to competitions or maintenance).

We ask that all athletes ensure that if travelling internationally they follow their government guidance and the Austrian guidelines.

We ask all athletes to adhere to the sites' rules. The area/parking lot around Muglwave is private property. We are allowed to use it but please treat it with respect, so we can keep it that way.

7.3. Water Safety

Athletes must follow the venue protocols when training. Water safety is the responsibility of individuals with the use of a buddy system by water users supporting each other.

During competition two qualified Water Rescue personnel will be supervise water side throughout the competition - one at the feature and one downstream of the feature. At all other times, paddlers are responsible for their own safety. We will not be held responsible or accept liability for any theft, damage or injury.

8) Accommodation

8.1. Camping

- **Camping at venue (now – 9th of August):** If you want to come for a training camp, you can camp on the area next to the feature on river left for free until further notice. There is also a mobile toilet.

You can stay in a tent or in your car. Please **don't park your car on the grassy area.** The parking lot is rented by a company, so make sure you leave space for the vehicles (which will park like in the picture in section 5.1). It is possible to park the car on the road next to the channel for free.

The area/parking lot around Muglwave is private property. We are allowed to use it but please treat it with respect, so we can keep it that way. Please respect the following rules:

- Take all your trash with you.
 - Don't drive around on the grass.
 - No open fires.
 - Use the toilet facilities exclusively.
 - Don't block the parking lot for cars that have rented parking spots.
-
- **Camping at venue (10th of August – 3rd of September):** Around two weeks prior to team trainings, camping is prohibited at the competition area. Instead, paddlers can camp at another area close to the venue for a small fee. More information will be provided in future bulletins.



- **Mobile Camping:**
Reisemobil Stellplatz Graz
just for mobile homes, not for tents
It's possible to dispose of your waste and fill up your water tank for €5,- without staying there
Distance from Muglwave: 4,8 km
Price: approx. €26,- per person per night

8.2. Hotels:

- **Jufa Hotel Graz Süd**
Rooms with kitchen available
Distance from Muglwave: 850 m
Price: approx. €40,- per person per night
- **s Home Self-Check-in Hotel**
Rooms with kitchen are available
Price: approx. €50,- per person per night
Distance from Muglwave: 2,3 km
- **B&B HOTEL Graz City-Süd**
Distance from Muglwave: 1,9 km
Price: approx. €40,- per person per night
- **Hotel Green Rooms**
Distance from Muglwave: 1,4 km
Price: approx. €40-60,- per person per night

8.3. Apartments: (4-6 people)

- **City-Apartments Graz**
Distance from Muglwave: 4,6 km
Price: approx. €40,- per person per night
- **Appartements Alpha Graz**
Distance from Muglwave: 1,4 km
Price: approx. 30€,- per person per night
- **City Apartment Messe Graz Amelie**
Distance from Muglwave: 2,6 km
Price: approx. 26€,- per person per night

8.4. Hostel

- **a&o Graz Hauptbahnhof**
Distance from Muglwave: 4,3 km
Price: 14 approx.. €25,- for a dorm bed

9) ENTRY

9.1. Entry Process & Deadlines

Entries and accreditation requests must be made by the National Federation using the ICF's online entries system (SDP) that will open in the following weeks.

For detailed instructions on how to submit entries, please read the SDP user guide. SDP user guide http://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/nf_userguide_v2.2.pdf

Further information on the entry process will follow in future bulletins.

9.2. Participation Fee

A Participation Fee of EUR €200 will be charged for each accredited athlete and team official, to cover the duration of the Official Training and Competition phases of the Canoe Freestyle European Championships Graz 2024.

The participation fee will include the following services:

- Entry to the Canoe Freestyle European Championships Graz 2024 competition
- Access to the Opening Ceremony
- Access to Athlete/Team accredited areas
- Public wifi access on venue
- Free parking on site
- Emergency first aid during Official Training and Competition times
- Water safety during Competition
- Drinking water during official training and competition periods
- Ticket to the European Champions party
- Athlete welcome pack
- Supervised boat storage during Official Training and Competitions

Bank details will follow as soon as the entry process has started.