

2024 CANOE FREESTYLE

European Championships

GRAZ



BULLETIN #3 - AUGUST



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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, 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 - K1M, K1W, C1M, C1W
Thursday August 29 th 2024	Competition Day 2 Prelims - K1JM, K1JW Quarterfinals - K1W
Friday August 30 th 2024	Competition Day 3 Quarterfinals - K1M Semifinals - C1M, C1W, K1JM, K1JW
Saturday August 31 st 2024	Competition Day 4 Semifinal - K1M, K1W Finals – C1M, C1W, K1JM, K1JW, K1M, K1W Closing Ceremony & Party

Please note that event schedule can change due to changes in number of participants.

2.4. Judges

Chief Judge

Charlie Brackpool

Judges

Nina Csonkova
James Ibbotson
Theo Baker
Tamsyn McConchie
Roman Glasman
Miquel Viladomat

2.5. Venue Names/Address

Muglwave, Graz
(47.04321864713517, 15.43856146927827)

Closest address:

Am Innovationspark 10
8020 Graz
AUSTRIA

2.6. Key Contacts

Main Organizers

info@canoefreestyle-graz.com

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

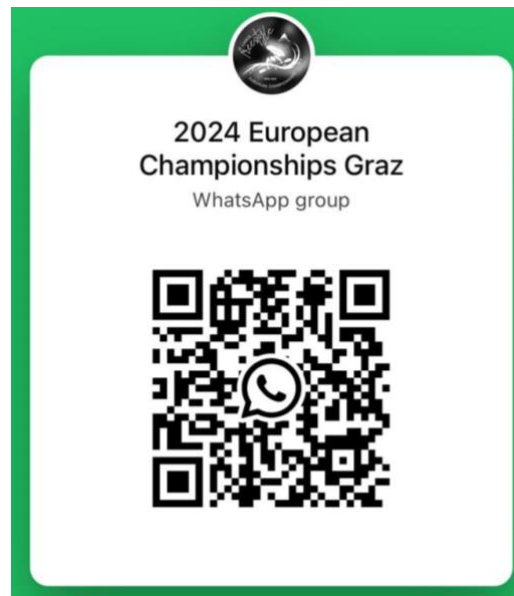
2.7. Event Whatsapp Group

Following the success of using a one-way WhatsApp group to disseminate information at ICF events, an event WhatsApp group will be used by the event organizers as well as ECA officials to provide information in advance and during the European Championships 2024.

To register for the WhatsApp group please use the following link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Je4hBMALHxZCSEI9B1iZTY>

or scan the QR code:



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.

Flixbus

The company Flixbus offers cheap transportation by bus from Vienna Airport to Graz. See <https://global.flixbus.com>

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).
- **Kunsthau 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 armoury 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.

3.5. Public Transport

Graz, the second-largest city in Austria, has a well-developed and efficient public transport system that makes it easy for athletes to navigate the city. Here's an overview of what you can expect:

- **Trams (Straßenbahn):** Graz has an extensive tram network with eight main lines (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, and 26) that cover the city and its surrounding areas. The trams operate from early morning until around midnight, with night trams available on weekends and public holidays.
- **Buses:** In addition to trams, Graz has a large bus network that serves areas not covered by the tram system. Buses are numbered and cover a wide range of routes, including suburban areas. Night buses operate on weekends and during the night hours, ensuring 24-hour public transport coverage.
- **S-Bahn (Suburban Trains):** Graz is connected to the surrounding region by the S-Bahn network, which consists of several lines linking the city with nearby towns and villages.

Tickets: Graz offers various ticket options, including single tickets, day passes, weekly passes, and group tickets. Tickets can be purchased at ticket machines, via mobile apps (e.g.

Graz Mobil), or directly from bus and tram drivers. A single ticket is valid for one hour across all modes of transport within the city zone.

Navigation: We recommend the app “BusBahnBim” to navigate through the city. It is available in several languages and helps navigating between the different modes of transportation.



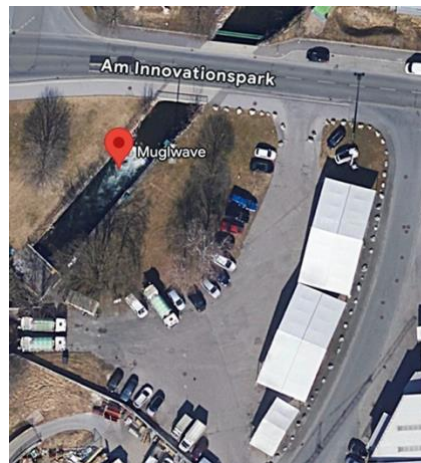
4) Venue

4.1. 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 from two emergency eddies on river right after the bridge. 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.

IMPORTANT: Please **do not** exit the channel **on river left** but **only on river right** after the bridge. The area on river left is private property and can lead to charges.



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.
- **Official Team Trainings:** The feature may be closed during official team trainings (see event schedule)

4.2. Parking at the venue

Parking is allowed at the private carpark next to the feature until the **9th of August**.

Note: Some areas of the carpark are rented to different companies and cannot be used (marked in red). Usable areas are marked in green.

There is a number of parking spots on the main road (Am Innovationspark) available.

From the **10th of August** until the end of competition, all participants as well as visitors must park at the campsite (see 7.1). Only organizers, officials, judges and volunteers are allowed to park on site.



5) 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

6) Training

6.1. 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 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.

6.2. 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 free of charge (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.

6.3. 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. Please make sure to wear your personal safety equipment while being on the water!

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.

6.4. Water Levels

Water levels are expected to be constant throughout the year as well as during the competition. However, levels may change unexpectedly due to flooding of the main river or acute maintenance of small hydropower plants along the channel.

6.5. Water Quality

It is not advised to bathe in the Mur River.

7) Accommodation

7.1. Camping

Camping at venue (10th of August – 2nd of September): Around two weeks prior to team trainings, camping is prohibited at the competition area. Instead, paddlers can camp at a camping area about two minutes walking distance from the feature (see picture). The same rules for camping apply.



Figure 1: Feature and Camping Area

The camping area will provide toilet and shower facilities as well as access to fresh water. Additionally, electrical outlets will be available to charge phones, tablets or cameras. Please note that the camping is not supervised. The organizers of the Euros Graz 2024 are not liable for personal belongings. Boats can be stored in a supervised area at the competition feature.

The camping area/parking lot 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:

- **Don't leave any trash lying on the ground (rats!)**
- **No open fires.**
- **Use the toilet facilities exclusively.**

The costs for the camping are **120€ for the full period of time** (10th of August – 2nd of September) or **9€ per night** per person. Every person who wishes to stay at the campsite needs to register under the following link: <https://forms.gle/nX42aCGFEasDqG237>

The camping fee is to be paid in cash at the accreditation office (see opening times below)

- **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

7.2. 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

7.3. 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

7.4. Hostel

- **a&o Graz Hauptbahnhof**
Distance from Muglwave: 4,3 km
Price: 17pprox.. €25,- for a dorm bed

8) ENTRY

8.1. Entry Process & Deadlines

Entries and accreditation requests must be made by the National Federation using the ICF's online entries system (SDP): <https://icf.mev.atos.net/icf/main.jsp>

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

Any questions or issues relating to entries or accreditation should be sent to sdp@canoeicf.com prior to the respective deadline.

Numerical Entries

- Numerical entries close: **30th of June 2024**
- You must submit through SDP the number of athletes you will enter into each event.
- Please also give indicative numbers for the overall number of athletes and team personnel who will attend the event with your delegation.

Nominal Entries

- Nominal entries close: **10th of August 2024**
- Each athlete competing must be entered by name.
- Team personnel must also be submitted for accreditation at this time. These entries will be used to produce the accreditation cards for all teams.

Entries or accreditation requests sent directly to the committee, or the event organizer will NOT be accepted.

8.2. 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. Athletes that compete in two categories (e.g. K1W and C1W) will only have to pay the participation fee once.

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

Please note that athletes to each NF will be charged with a judges fee of 40€ and is to be paid at the accreditation office when collecting bibs.

8.3. Bank Details

The participation fees must be paid by bank transfer before the arrival at the competition, no other payment method is available.

Bank	Steiermärkische Sparkasse
Account Name	Kanu Club Graz
IBAN	IBAN: AT86 2081 5000 4135 3665
SWIFT/BIC	STSPAT2GXXX

When making payments please quote "Entry Fee ECG +" followed by your country code.

Payments must be made in EUR €. Bank and currency charges must be paid by NFs in addition to the accreditation fee.

If you require an invoice, please contact kassier@kajakgraz.com

9) Doping Control

Doping control will be performed in accordance to the ICF Anti-doping requirements and WADA standards. All athletes that have not done so in the past must complete the Anti-Doping-Educational program before the competition starts. More information can be found here: <https://www.canoeicf.com/anti-doping-education>

10) Bibs and Accreditation Office

Bibs and accreditations can be collected at the accreditation office which be found under the following address:

ASVÖ Steiermark
[Herrgottwiesgasse 260,](#)
[8055 Graz](#)

The opening times of the accreditation office are as follows:

Friday 23 rd of August	8-13 o'clock
Saturday 24 th of August	10-12 o'clock

Additionally, bibs can be collected at the **team leaders meeting on Monday at 6 pm.**

Bibs must be worn during team trainings and throughout the competition. A deposit of 20€ for each bib must be paid in cash at the accreditation office.

11) Opening Ceremony

Time: Tuesday, 27th of August, 4:00 pm

Location: Karmeliterplatz 1, 8010 Graz (47.07396, 15.44026)

The opening ceremony will be a march through various streets of the city centre and ends at the famous "Murinsel" (Island of the Mur River).

Public transport **will not be stopped** for the opening ceremony. The march will cross the tram lines twice and participants are asked to let the trams pass before they continue walking. All athletes and team officials should attend in their team clothing.

How to get to the opening ceremony from the feature:

Sarting at Muglwave, walk to the tram station "Lauzilgasse" (47.04716, 15.43308) and take **line 5** towards Andritz. Get off at "Hauptplatz" and walk up the "Sporgasse" until you reach the square "Karmeliterplatz".

12) Event Partners

