

LONGINES EQUITA LYON

CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL

LYON
EUREXPO
30 OCTOBRE
3 NOVEMBRE
2024

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LYON, RHÔNE,
December 2024
Press Release

EQUITA LYON, THE SALON DU CHEVAL DE LYON

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR: ALMOST 200,000 PEOPLE CAME TO CELEBRATE THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LYON-BASED EVENT!

You could sense it as you wandered through the exhibition's aisles, among the throngs of visitors who had come to celebrate horses, cheer on the champions, admire the artists and discover the exhibitors' latest trends...In 2024, Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval de Lyon, came close to the symbolic milestone of 200,000 visitors over five days, further strengthening its position as Europe's leading equestrian event.

A THIRTY-YEAR-OLD EVENT WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE!

The Salon du Cheval de Lyon has kept pace with an ever-changing world, over the past 30 years. The small exhibition which covered 32 566m², played host to 550 horses, 200 exhibitors and 42,000 visitors in 1995, has been on the highest rung of the ladder of European equestrian events for several years now. In 2024, over 800 exhibitors and breeders played host to nearly 200,000 visitors. The programme of events in the 11 arenas has continually evolved over the years with equestrian cabarets, breed parades, demonstrations, clinics and competitions at all levels in no fewer than twelve disciplines (show jumping, dressage, driving, pony-games, hunter, horse ball, Equifeel, reining, barrel racing, pole bending, ranch riding and ranch trail). In Lyon, riders and drivers from all over the world come together under the watchful gaze of both enthusiasts and those who are just curious! *'Every year, we try to attract a wide variety of visitors by working on the exhibition, sporting and show programme. This amazing combination of sport, entertainment, amateur, pony and top-level classes is our hallmark that we have developed over the past three decades and we are proud to see how keen everyone is to meet up here every year,'* said Sylvie Robert, the Chairman of GL events Equestrian Sport at the end of the exhibition. After twelve intense months, marked by the organisation of two editions of Equita Lyon, setting up and running the Saut Hermès at the Grand Palais, the third edition of Le Printemps des Sports Équestres and the organisation of the equestrian competitions for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Versailles, the teams are now looking to the future. *'My team and I strive to offer all our visitors new features, improvements and surprises every year and we don't intend on resting on our laurels. It's in our lifeblood.'*



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As we're all passionate about horses and equestrian sports, we listen to the industry's key players on a daily basis. We're committed to helping the industry evolve over the years, and we intend to continue to do so with just as much passion!

THE HISTORY OF EQUESTRIAN SPORTS HAS BEEN WRITTEN IN LYON

Since 2018, Longines Equita, Lyon Concours Hippique International has been hosting the FEI Dressage and Driving World Cup legs, the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup leg and the FEI Jumping Ponies' Trophy... It is the only event in the world to bring together so many of the Fédération Équestre Internationale's circuits! Once again in 2024, the historic sporting performances ensured visitors experienced some incredible emotions.

In the FEI Dressage World Cup leg, 'Queen' Isabell Werth, riding DSP Quantaz, won the leg in Lyon for the seventh time. France's Pauline Basquin, with her Olympic horse Sertorius de Rima Z, did the French team proud once again, beating her personal best in the Grand Prix (74.761%) and then the Grand Prix Freestyle (81.915%) finishing third in both competitions. *'Such a high level of performance, an amazing podium and a very enthusiastic audience are exceptional for world dressage. The discipline is constantly evolving in the right direction,'* said Raphaël Saleh, president of the jury of this FEI World Cup leg in Lyon.

The FEI Driving World Cup leg the day after was won by the young Belgian driver Dries Degrieck and a French driver had a historic performance. Benjamin Aillaud, the driver of Laiterie de Montaigu, the competition's partner, finished second after a fantastic final round against the clock. He achieved France's first FEI World Cup podium in nine years, in front of 7,000 very enthusiastic spectators, with his four horses, which started competing in the same ring in Lyon in 2022!

Lastly, after the victories of Luxembourg's Victor Bettendorf in the Longines Grand Prix on Friday evening, and of the reigning Olympic team champion Ben Maher (GBR) in the Equita Masters presented by Hermès Sellier on Saturday evening, Germany's Richard Vogel won the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup Grand Prix on Sunday 3 November. He was competing at Longines Equita Lyon, Concours Hippique International for the first time, and was victorious after a jump-off with ten combinations, half of which finished in the same second!



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As for the Equita Lyon Western Horse Show, it brought together the best reining riders and horses in the NRHA European Derby and the only European qualifying leg for the reining event with the biggest prize purse in the world: The Run For A Million. French rider Arnaud Girinon, who was present in Lyon for the first time, won his ticket to Las Vegas on Saturday 2 November in the evening, after a very close competition!

'We have had a remarkable week in terms of sport once again this year! The horses and riders were incredible, as were our fantastic spectators. I would like to thank the Fédération Équestre Internationale and all our partners for the trust they have placed in us. The competition was sold out for every session for over a month. Now we'll have to find a way of offering more grandstand seats in the international arena!' smiled Sylvie Robert before adding, 'This anniversary edition, and more generally the last twelve months, have been incredible for GL events Equestrian Sport. I would like to thank all the teams for their commitment and professionalism. We will continue to do everything possible every year to improve this exhibition, that has become a European benchmark and to maintain the wonderful harmony between the different visitors and participants which make this event so unique and us so proud!'

It's all systems go for the Lyon event, both in terms of the exhibition and sport. Equita Lyon and its Longines Equita Lyon, Concours Hippique International, still have decades of passion to offer and share!

In 2025, the GL events Equestrian Sport team looks forward to seeing you from 21 to 27 April, at the Grand Parquet de Fontainebleau, for the fourth edition of Le Printemps des Sports Équestres, and from 29 October to 2 November, at Eurexpo Lyon, for Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval de Lyon and Longines Equita Lyon, Concours Hippique International.

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