

EQUITA

LYON WESTERN HORSE SHOW

LYON
EUREXPO
29TH OCTOBER
2ND NOVEMBER
2025

Lyon, Rhône
25th September 2025

THE EQUITA LYON WESTERN HORSE SHOW, THE SHOWCASE OF INTERNATIONAL REINING TICKETS FOR SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER ARE ON SALE NOW!

Immerse yourself in the world of Western riding in the heart of the Western Area, at Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval de Lyon, and watch Europe's biggest reining competition. Cheer on Europe's best reining riders in the Oklahoma arena on Saturday 1st November at 5pm, as they compete in the NRHA European Derby and qualify for The Run For A Million, one of the competitions with the biggest amount of prize money in the world! Top-level sport and a lively atmosphere are guaranteed.

While Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval de Lyon, has established itself as a European benchmark for equestrian events, its Western Area, and the Equita Lyon Western Horse Show, also stand out on the international scene by hosting the most prestigious competitions in Europe. Since 2017, the Lyon exhibition has had the honour of hosting the NRHA European Derby, and continues to develop its influence throughout the world. The best reining riders, regulars at the Lyon event, will once again be aiming for a place among Europe's leading riders at this major event.

Lyon will be hosting the only qualifying event outside the USA for the unmissable The Run For A Million* for the third year in a row! The impressive victory of Arnaud Girinon, who qualified last year in Lyon and won the Million Dollar Competition this summer in Las Vegas, will definitely further boost the hopes of European reining riders!

Don't miss this major sporting event, which brings together two of the world's most renowned competitions. A very exciting evening awaits you, which will appeal to reining enthusiasts and the general public alike. Because in addition to sport, a true American-style show will be organised, with entertainment and an entirely American atmosphere throughout Equita Lyon's Western Area.

Tickets for the NRHA Open European Derby Final and The Run For A Million qualifier are on sale now!

TICKET SALES ARE OPEN NOW!

Saturday 1st November from 5pm**

The NRHA European Derby Final and The Run For A Million 2026 Qualifier

Full price: €50 incl. tax

*Access to the exhibition on Saturday 1st November from 8 am** is included with this ticket.*

***Times subject to change, please consult the equitalyon.com website*



GL events
Equestrian
Sport

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THE RUN FOR A MILLION: THE CHALLENGE WHERE ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Five hundred thousand dollars! That's the incredible amount of prize money that France's Arnaud Girinon, the overall winner of The Run For A Million Final won in August 2025 in Las Vegas. One of the biggest amounts of prize money in the history of reining! And the competition appeals to all riders, because they don't have to be a professional to qualify, as it is open to amateurs! But before you arrive in Las Vegas, you'll have to give it your all, because only the sixteen best riders are selected at the end of the qualifiers held in the United States... and in Lyon.

WHAT IS REINING?

It is definitely the most popular Western riding discipline. Reining highlights the precision of the horse's dressage, its calm temperament and its responsiveness. Turning, speeding up, slowing down, and moving off again... The horse and rider combination must perform a series of standard figures: rollbacks, spectacular sliding stops and 360-degree spins. The aim is to perform each manoeuvre perfectly, with loose reins in one hand and aids that are as discreet as possible. Reining is the Western riding equivalent of classical dressage. The main difference is that there is a very special atmosphere at reining competitions: while the horse and rider are calm in the ring, the stands come alive with the spectators' cheers and 'yeehaws', creating a unique atmosphere!

THE OTHER WESTERN RIDING COMPETITIONS

At Equita's Western Area, reining takes centre stage, but it is not the only discipline on offer. During the five days of the exhibition, competitions take place in the Equita Lyon Western Horse Show's three arenas. The event will be interspersed by international, national and regional classes. Here is a short glossary to help you better understand the other disciplines that originated in the United States:

The European Barrel Racing Cup and Pole Bending

Pole Bending and Barrel Racing are two speed classes. In the first one, the horse must zigzag around six poles. In the second, it must go round three barrels using a cloverleaf pattern. Two classes where speed goes hand in hand with agility.

Performance and Super Horse classes

Performance classes are making a comeback at Equita Lyon in 2025! This year two American associations, the NSBA (National Snaffle Bit Association) and IRHA (International Ranch Horse Association) are once again organising various classes to test the horses' agility and technique, highlighting the qualities of the horses, their calm nature and their skill. Quarter horses, Paint horses and Appaloosas will be competing. So, horses with coloured coats will be to the fore in the Wyoming arena! The programme will also include a Super Horse competition, which combines several Western riding disciplines: Ranch Trail, Reining, Ranch Riding and Western Riding. As a result, the horses taking part are really versatile.



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The Equita Greatest Ranch Horse

Ranch disciplines are attracting more and more interest because they are safe, yet technical, and suitable for all types of horses and riders. The classes are also very interesting to watch as they highlight the physical and mental qualities of American horses. The Equita Greatest Ranch Horse, a unique challenge, is back for the third time in Lyon! Ranch riding, ranch trail, ranch reining... and for the first time this year, a ranch rail class has been added. This is a ranch version of a Western Pleasure class. Fans of American horse breeds will be delighted, as the three main breeds will be represented once again.

THE EQUITA LYON WESTERN HORSE SHOW AND THE NRHA US: RENEWED TRUST

Since it hosted its first NRHA European Derby Final in 2017, the Equita Lyon Western Horse Show has gone from strength to strength, establishing itself as a must-attend event for Western riding in Europe, with the continent's most talented riders competing with their best five, six, seven and eight-year-old horses in Lyon. Buoyed by these years of successful collaboration and perfect understanding, a strong partnership has been forged between the teams in Lyon and the NRHA US, which governs reining at world level. In 2024, the NRHA US renewed its trust in the Equita Western Horse Show's teams by allowing them to organise the Euro Derby in Lyon for the next five years. This will be an opportunity for the steadily growing audience to continue to enjoy the incredible performances of the discipline's elite in the ring in Lyon.

PRESS CONTACTS

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About GL events Equestrian Sport

GL events Equestrian Sport, the GL events Group's equestrian department, is renowned for its expertise throughout the world. The GL events Group has been involved in all the Olympic and Paralympic equestrian events since 1992.

Since it was created, GL events Equestrian Sport has actively supported equestrian sports, while always prioritising equine welfare. Its team has a long-term involvement in the international promotion of equestrian disciplines, organising and installing the facilities of top-class events.

- GL events Equestrian Sport is the organiser of Equita Lyon and Longines Equita Lyon CHI,
- The creator of Le Printemps des Sports Équestres in Fontainebleau,
- The provider and partner of the Saut Hermès at the Grand Palais for the House of Hermès,
- Works in collaboration with the French Equestrian Federation for the Masters Pro Championships,
- And the Fédération Équestre Internationale, for the 2014 and 2018 World Cup Finals.

GL events Equestrian Sport has also used all its expertise to contribute to the success of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, in particular for the equestrian and para-dressage competitions in the magical setting of the Gardens of the Palace of Versailles.



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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

EXHIBITION OPENING TIMES*

- From Wednesday 29th to Friday 31st October from 8 am to 8.30 pm
- On Saturday 1st November from 8 am to 10.30 pm (*late night opening*)
- On Sunday 2nd November from 8 am to 7 pm

EXHIBITION TICKETS

- Free for children under 6-years-old and disabled people 1,3
- Full price: €25
- Reduced rates: French Equestrian Federation (FFE) licence holders, students and holders of Pass Région cards, groups of 15 people and more, € 21 1
- Children from 6 to 12-years-old: €16
- 5 day-pass: €75
- Family pass (2 adults and 2 children under 16-years-old): €65 (only sold onsite)

"SPORT AND SHOW" EVENING TICKETS

- On Friday 31st October, at 7.30pm*, show jumping: from €402
- The Longines Grand Prix followed by the equestrian show
- On Saturday 1st November, at 8 pm*, show jumping: from €40 2
- The Equita Masters presented by Hermès Sellier, followed by the equestrian show
- On Sunday 2nd November, at 3 pm*, show jumping,
- The Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ leg: from €402

INTERNATIONAL REINING TICKET SALES

- On Saturday 1st November, at 5 pm**, The NRHA European Derby Open Final Section 2: €50

**Times likely to be modified*

1 Reservations are required for group prices: no group prices will be granted at the entrance of the exhibition. FFE licence holders, students and disabled people must present their card at the entrance of the exhibition.

2 Subject to availability.

3 To facilitate access to the site for disabled people, numbered seats in the stands can be reserved at the following e-mail address btoblive@fnac.com



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