

From Record to Record! Mathéo Jacquemoud and Samuel Equy shave 2 minutes off the clock Mont Blanc round-trip on skis in 4h 41m 24s

For the second time in a month, Mathéo found himself at daybreak in front of the Chamonix church (1,030 m). This time, he was accompanied by Samuel Equy, winner of the 2026 Patrouille des Glaciers alongside Xavier Gachet and William Bon Mardion.

Teammates on the French national team and 2022 World Team Champions in ski mountaineering, the two men set off this Saturday, April 25, at 6:56 AM, heading for the summit of Mont Blanc (4,806 m). The objective: beat the ski round-trip record from Chamonix, established on May 31, 2025, in 4h 43m 24s by the Italian William Boffelli. Just twenty days earlier, on April 5, Mathéo and that same William had set off together from this very square to set a new reference time for the Chamonix-Zermatt crossing in 13h 27m 49s.



A challenging record given the glacial conditions

During reconnaissance trips in the preceding days, the observation was clear: conditions were tough. The main difficulty lay at "La Jonction," a high-mountain glacial zone. A key sector of the route—heavily crevassed and particularly active—it changes significantly throughout the season. This year, a wide fracture line formed a literal trench, cutting the zone in two and complicating progression. Last year, during William Boffelli's record, conditions were far more favorable thanks to a snow bridge that allowed for a more direct crossing.

Samuel reached the summit in 3h 41m and Mathéo in 3h 42m.

On the descent, both ski-runners delivered a remarkable performance, clocking in at 1h 00m 40s despite hard, wind-blown snow—relatively classic conditions that posed no major difficulty given their excellent technical level. Lower down, several serac falls had littered the plateau at the foot of the North Face with ice blocks, requiring increased vigilance. Finally, snow cover, which extended lower than in 2025, allowed them to stay on skis longer.

William Boffelli's record was thus beaten by 2 minutes!



Following his 20-day Alpine crossing, the Chamonix-Zermatt record, and now the Mont Blanc record, Mathéo continues to write the history of ski mountaineering.

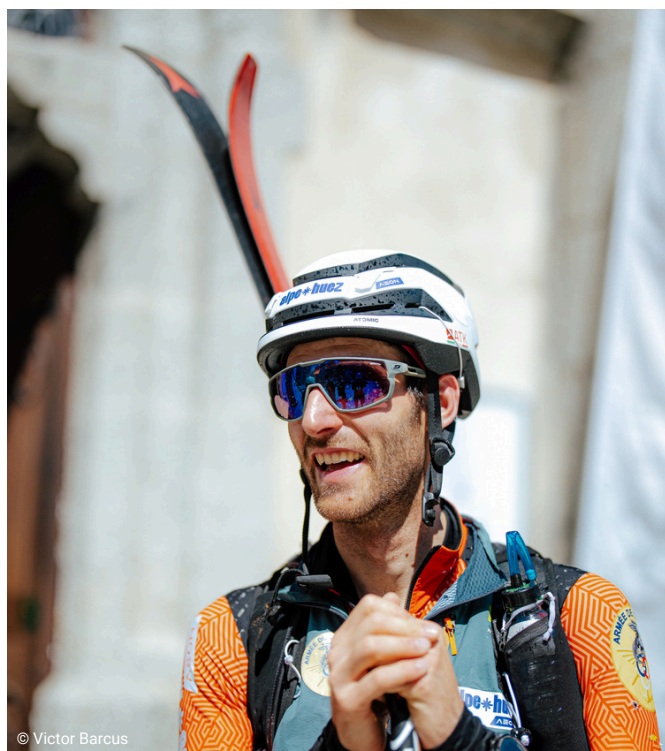
Quotes from the Finish Line

"I'm still not quite sure why I attempted this record. I'd been thinking about it less lately, maybe not at all... but doing it with Sam was undoubtedly the main motivation. We've shared many days on skis together. It was hard. On the climb, Sam was always ahead. I had to put on crampons and then place a screw in the upper Jonction passage—I figured it was better to play it safe to ensure we'd make it back. At one point, I even thought I wouldn't reach the summit in time and that I'd just help Sam for the descent. Then I hit the turbo. At the summit, I was only 1 minute 30 seconds behind him. I think my good acclimatization—I've done four Mont Blancs recently—really helped. I'll always remember the descent. I started very fast on the ice, fully in control, and caught up to Sam quickly. Then, I could finally let loose, with about ten minutes of pure pleasure on good snow. But lower down, we lost more time due to a serac fall: we had to stay very alert. I'm really happy to end my season on this success... 13 years after my first record, and with Sam."

Mathéo Jacquemoud



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"I'm very happy with this morning, and especially to share this time with Mathéo. He had just beaten my Chamonix–Zermatt time, so we wanted to try this together. Conditions are never perfect; there are always variables. You just have to go for it. Throughout the climb, I was in the lead. I felt a bit bad about it, but I was confident: I knew Mathéo would close the gap at the top. And that's exactly what happened—at the summit, he was right behind me. There were 40 to 50 km/h winds at the peak, so I didn't linger. I was on the verge of cramping, so I started the descent carefully through ice chunks, and Mathéo joined me very quickly. It wasn't a given. I was checking my watch constantly during the descent, keeping the timing in mind... but what a joy to finish together and to have succeeded. It was also powerful to see friends, family, and even William Boffelli, the previous record holder, encouraging us at Vallot. That's what ski-alpinism is about. Breaking this record as a duo is probably a bit harder, but we managed to optimize. The satisfaction is even greater because I love that team spirit, that sharing. I'm also happy the record is back in France."

Samuel Equy

Mathéo and Mont Blanc

In 2013, at just 22 years old, Mathéo set a record ski time of 5h 06m for the Chamonix – Mont Blanc round trip. This benchmark performance stood for 11 years until it was beaten in 2024 by Jack Kuenzle in 4h 59m.

More recently, during his "Alpine Integral" (a 20-day journey from Vienna to Nice from March 7 to 26), his route for the Alpine Crossing took him over Mont Blanc via the normal route—solo, in winter conditions, with high winds and blue ice. A truly grueling feat.

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Mathéo is a member of Team Avant-Garde Simond. He co-developed specific gear for these ski records with the brand, including the Sprint Tour 17L backpack (260g), currently in the testing phase before its release in the coming months, as well as the Sprint helmet, Sprint harness, and a custom-designed Simond apparel kit.

This project is also supported by Therm-ic, Julbo, Atomic, and Coros.



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About DECATHLON

A global, multi-specialist sports brand catering to everyone from beginners to high-level athletes, DECATHLON is an innovative designer of sporting goods for all skill levels. With 101,100 teammates and 1,817 stores worldwide, DECATHLON and its teams have been working since 1976 toward one continuous ambition: making the benefits of sport truly accessible to all.

About Simond

Born in Chamonix in 1860, Simond is an iconic brand in the field of mountain equipment. Specializing in mountaineering, climbing, trekking, and ski touring, Simond possesses historical expertise in metalwork. In 2008, Simond joined the DECATHLON Group. The brand continues to design and manufacture all of its metal products (ice axes, crampons, carabiners) at its Chamonix-based factory. Our design teams channel their expertise into equipment durability, ensuring technical and secure products for the most demanding practitioners.



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