

MATTERHORN FACTSHEET

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name	Matterhorn / Mont Cervin / Monte Cervino
Height above sea level	4,478 m
Countries	Switzerland / Italy
First ascent	14 July 1865
High season	Beginning of June – middle of September
Number of ascents / year	2,500-3,000
Mountaineers' nationalities	International, mostly Swiss



FIRST ASCENTS

Event	Mountaineer	Date
First ascent	Edward Whymper, Reverend Charles Hudson, Douglas Robert Hadow, Lord Francis Douglas, Michel Auguste Croz, Peter Taugwalder (father), Peter Taugwalder (son)	14 July 1865
First ascent from Italy	Jean-Antoine Carrel, Jean-Baptiste Bich	17 July 1865
First woman to reach the summit	Lucy Walker	22 July 1871
First solo ascent	Willhelm Paulcke	1898
First winter ascent	Charles F. Meade, Josef Lochmatter, Josef Pollinger	31 January 1911
First North face ascent	Franz and Toni Schmid	31 July / 1 August 1931

ROUTES

Route	Starting point	Time / Duration
Hörnli Ridge	Hörnli Hut	approx. 5-6 hrs
Zmutt Ridge	Hörnli Hut	approx. 6-7 hrs
Furggen Ridge	Bivacco Bossi	approx. 7 hrs
Lion Ridge	Refuge Jean-Antoine Carrel	approx. 4.5 hrs
East Face	Hörnli Hut	approx. 14 hrs
North Face	Hörnli Hut	approx. 12-14 hrs
West Face	Schönbiel Hut	approx. 12 hrs
South Face	Refuge Duca degli Abruzzi all'Oriondé	approx. 15 hrs



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MOST POPULAR ROUTE – HÖRNLI RIDGE

Locations on the Hörnli Ridge	Altitude	
Hörnli Hut – starting point	3,260 m	
Ascent starting point	3,275 m	Rope sections start
First couloir	3,340 m	
Second couloir	3,400 m	
Japanese couloir	3,420 m	
On the ridge	3,475 m	
Steinschlag couloir	3,540 m	
Bohrlöcher	3,680 m	
Faules Eck	3,820 m	
Gebiss	3,860 m	
Solvay Hut	4,003 m	As a rough guide, it should take about 2 hours to reach this point
Shoulder	4,160 m	
Shoulder Ridge	4,220 m	
Dach	4,390 m	
Summit	4,478 m	

70% of mountaineers choose this route to reach the summit.

RESCUES & DEATHS

Rescues per summer (average)	Approx. 40 missions
Deaths per year (average)	6 deaths
Total deaths (since 1864)	Nearly 600 people

Most fatal accidents are caused by falls and rockfalls.



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RECORDS

In 1995, Italian Bruno Brunod completed the ascent in 2 hours and 12 minutes.

In 2013, Spaniard Killian Jornet broke this record and climbed the mountain from the Italian side in 1 hour and 53 minutes. His total time including the descent was 2 hours and 52 minutes.

On 22 April 2015, Swiss climber Dani Arnold broke this record by a full 7 minutes. He completed the fastest solo ascent of the Matterhorn North Face in 1 hour and 46 minutes.

Zermatt mountain guide Richard Andenmatten has climbed the Matterhorn more than 850 times.

Zermatt mountain guide Ulrich Inderbinen climbed the Matterhorn 371 times, the last time at the age of 89.

The youngest climber to reach the summit is Kevin Lauber, son of Kurt Lauber. He climbed the Matterhorn when he was 8 years old.

Zermatter Andreas Steindl and Italian Francois Cazzanelli succeeded in climbing all four ridges of the Matterhorn in 16 hours and 4 minutes. They were the first to do this since Hans Kammerlander (ITA) and Diego Wellig (CH), who achieved the same feat in 1992 in 23.5 hours.

On 27 August 2018, Andy Steindl set a new record on the Matterhorn. It took him 3 hours, 59 minutes and 52 seconds to climb from Kirchplatz in Zermatt to the summit of the Matterhorn and back.

VIPS / CELEBRITIES ON THE SUMMIT

Celebrity		Date / year
Theodore Roosevelt (US)	President	1881
Archille Ratti (IT)	Pope Pius XI	1889
Reinhold Messner (IT)	Extreme mountaineer	1988
Claude Nicollier (CH)	Astronaut	1992
Linda Föh (CH)	Pop singer and former Miss Switzerland	2012
Pippa Middleton (GB)	Sister of Kate, Duchess of Cambridge	2016
Adolf Ogi (CH)	President of the Federal Council	
Isamu Tatsuno (JP)	Businessman	1969 / 2019

When did the commercialisation of the Matterhorn begin? Is the Matterhorn a registered trademark? What is advertised using the Matterhorn?

Even before the first ascent, Alexander Seiler used the Matterhorn to try and attract mountaineers to Zermatt. This was during the golden age of alpinism (1830-1870). The Matterhorn itself is not a registered trademark, as a mountain cannot be trademarked. What can be trademarked, however, are words and images. The wordmarks "Matterhorn", "Cervin" and "Cervino" and Zermatt – Matterhorn design marks are active, registered trademarks with international protection. Any other images of the Matterhorn, however, are not. This means that anyone can use an image of the Matterhorn in advertising, and they very often do. (More on this topic: www.zermatt.ch/en/Media/News/Exhibitions/The-Matterhorn-as-an-Enticement)