



BMW IBU WORLD CUP BIATHLON

# OTEPÄÄ

12.-15.03.2026



VIESMANN

DKB  
Das kann Bank

HÖRMANN



BAUHAUS

CONTACT  
Software  
CONRAD



# MEDIA GUIDE

Postimees  
Ametlik meediapartner

visit estonia

talvepealinn  
Otepää



EUROVISION  
SPORT  
OPERATED BY EBU

unfront



## Dear Biathlon Family

On behalf of the Estonian Biathlon Federation and the Otepää Organizing Committee, we warmly welcome you to the BMW IBU World Cup Biathlon 2026 in Otepää, Estonia. As the winter capital of Estonia, Otepää has a long-standing tradition in winter sports, and we are excited to once again host the world's best biathletes at Tehvandi Sports Centre.

We wish you a successful and memorable week in Otepää!

Aivar Nigol  
President of the Organizing Committee





## GENERAL INFORMATION

### VENUE

Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation  
Nüpli Village  
67408 Otepää  
ESTONIA

The stadium and range ————— 149 meters' elevation  
The lowest point ————— 147 meters' elevation on the course  
The highest point ————— 187 meters' elevation on the course

### OC ADDRESS

Estonian Biathlon Federation  
Valga mnt 12  
Nüpli Village  
67408 Otepää  
ESTONIA

Phone: + 372 506 4083  
e-mail: otepaa@biathlon.ee  
www.biathlonotepaa.com



### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

#### OC President

Aivar Nigol  
Phone: +372 506 4083  
e-mail: aivar.nigol@biathlon.ee

#### Competition Secretary

Piia Sikk  
Phone: +372 511 8260  
e-mail: piia.sikk@biathlon.ee

#### Chief of Competition

Hillar Zahkna  
Phone: +372 501 3568  
e-mail: hillar.zahkna@biathlon.ee

#### Chief of Media

Greta Külvet  
Phone: +372 519 62613  
e-mail: greta.kulvet@biathlon.ee

### IBU MEDIA & REPRESENTATIVES

#### IBU Communication Director

Christian Winkler  
Phone: +43 664 19 22 429  
e-mail: christian.winkler@ibu.at

#### IBU Photo Manager

Christian Manzoni  
Phone: +43 664 19 22 916  
e-mail: christian.manzoni@ibu.at

#### IBU World Cup Media Manager

Mariya Osolodkina  
Phone: +43 664 19 22 552  
e-mail: mariya.osolodkina@ibu.at

#### EBU TV Delegate

Bettina Vecchi  
Phone: +41 79 401 61 83  
e-mail: vecchi@eurovision.ne



## ACCREDITATION

The Accreditation Office is located at the Otepää Culture House.  
Virulombi 2  
67404 Otepää  
ESTONIA

### Contact person

Heleena Jõgi  
Chief of Accreditation  
Phone: +372 525 6650  
e-mail: accreditation@biathlon.ee

Dominik Collazuol  
SIWIDATA Accreditation  
Phone: +39 334 707 3532  
e-mail: dominik@siwidata.com

### Opening hours

Tuesday, 10.03.2026	09:00–16:00
Wednesday, 11.03.2026	09:00–15:00
Thursday, 12.03.2026	11:00–15:15
Friday, 13.03.2026	11:00–15:15
Saturday, 14.03.2026	09:00–13:45
Sunday, 15.03.2026	09:00–12:45

## ACCOMMODATION

Media hotels are located in the city of Tartu, a 35-minute drive from the venue in Otepää. Booking requests need to be submitted to the Chief of Accommodation via e-mail. Media Shuttle is provided between these hotels and the venue daily.

Hotel Vspa (city centre, near the bus station) [www.vspa.ee/en/](http://www.vspa.ee/en/)  
Hotel Tartu (city centre, next to the bus station) [www.tartuhotell.ee/en/welcome/](http://www.tartuhotell.ee/en/welcome/)  
Hotel Sophia (outskirts, next to a shopping centre) [www.sophia.tartuhotels.ee/en/](http://www.sophia.tartuhotels.ee/en/)

### Contact person

Merlin Müür  
Chief of Accommodation  
Phone: +372 515 7487  
e-mail: merlin@tehvandi.ee

## TRANSPORT

The closest airports are in Tartu (35 km from Otepää), Tallinn (215 km from Otepää) & Riga (215 km from Otepää). Tallinn can also be reached by ferries from Helsinki or Stockholm. Bus connection from Tallinn Airport to Tartu is very frequent (departures after every 30 minutes). This is a very convenient travel option as two of the media hotels in Tartu are located at the bus station.

### Tallink Travel Offer

Special 20% discount for BMW IBU World Cup Otepää participants and guests.  
Valid for booking 01.10.2025–15.03.2026 and travel 07.03–16.03.2026.  
Routes: All Tallink lines, including Tallinn–Helsinki.

Discount code: **BMWIBU26**

Book online at [www.tallink.ee](http://www.tallink.ee) or contact [booking@tallink.ee](mailto:booking@tallink.ee) / [grupid@tallink.ee](mailto:grupid@tallink.ee).



## Media Shuttle

Media Shuttle service between media hotels and the venue will be provided. There are two departures on all official training and competition days. **NB! The bus departs at the indicated time from Hotel Tartu, Hotel Dorpat & Hotel VSpa. The departure from Hotel Sophia is always 10 min later than indicated in the schedule.**

## Timetable and registration:

**BMW IBU World Cup Biathlon Otepää MEDIA SHUTTLE**

<https://mediashuttle-817647741903.us-west1.run.app/>

Seats on the media shuttle must be booked at least 3 hours before departure. If no one has registered for a bus 3 hours before departure, it will not depart.

The bus stop for hotels Vspa, Dorpat & Tartu: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/cBa2yW83ynSqMHXMA>

The bus stop for hotel Sophia: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/3uVZ5uNEz91KJZDN7>

If you wish to change your booking, please contact Media Centre front desk or [media@biathlon.ee](mailto:media@biathlon.ee).

## Parking

Media parking is located near the TV compound and Mixed Zone. Parking permit requests should be registered via Membercenter. A drop-off stop is located near the Media Center for temporary parking in order to carry heavy equipment.

## MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center is located at the Tehvandi Hall Building. The Media Center is equipped with a printer, papers and a private wifi only for the press. There is also a very fast LAN connection for uploading big files. Fresh results and start lists will also be printed out in the Media Center.

## Contact person

Greta Külvet  
Chief of Media  
Phone: +372 519 62613  
e-mail: [greta.kulvet@biathlon.ee](mailto:greta.kulvet@biathlon.ee)

## Opening hours

Tuesday, 10.03.2026	11:00–20:00
Wednesday, 11.03.2026	11:00–20:00
Thursday, 12.03.2026	9:30–20:30
Friday, 13.03.2026	9:30–20:30
Saturday, 14.03.2026	9:30–20:30
Sunday, 15.03.2026	9:30–20:30

## Catering

On every training and competition day, lunch is provided for the press in the Media Cafe located in the Media Center. The lunch hours are 12:00–15:00. Drinks and snacks are available throughout the day in the Media Center.

## Ceremonies

The flower ceremonies will take place immediately after the end of each competition in the stadium. Athletes competing in Sprint and Pursuit that finish place 1-6 will attend the flower ceremonies. Athletes competing in Mixed Relay and Single Mixed Relay that finish place 1-3 will attend the flower ceremonies.



## INFORMATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Photographers must wear a photo bib to get access to the photo zones.

### Photo briefing

On Thursday, 12.03 two hours before the start of the competition, the main photo briefing will be held in the Media Center. The photo bibs will be issued at the meeting (deposit 20 euros).

**NB. Participation is mandatory!**

### Contact person

Christian Manzoni

IBU Photo Manager

Phone: +43 664 19 22 916

e-mail: christian.manzoni@ibu.at

### Wired connection

10 LAN connections (RJ45 sockets) are provided at the finish stand for moving media and at the photo priority position at the shooting range. Each order includes a personalized cable at both positions.

**Price:** €100 per event week

**Booking:** via e-mail [media@biathlon.ee](mailto:media@biathlon.ee), latest on March 10, 2026.

## MIXED ZONE

Interviews with the athletes can be conducted in the mixed zone located near the finish. This applies to both training and competition days.

Dedicated positions have been reserved for the Rights holding Broadcasters.

Press/Media/Non-rights Holders and broadcasters without a dedicated position are requested to use the Common Mixed Zone area.

**NB. Recording video interviews is only allowed for the HB and the RHBs!**

## I-ZONE

A request-based system will be in place for the I-Zone: athletes will come to the media center only when specifically requested and if cannot be interviewed in the mixed zone.

Media representatives will have the opportunity to request interviews with the athletes participating in the flower ceremonies (via the phone number stated in the event-dedicated group). The group will be used to share important news and competition updates. Please note that athletes may not always be available for interview requests inside, including to safeguard their health, and may prefer to speak in the mixed zone.



## COMPETITION PROGRAMME

Date	Competition	Zeroing	Training	Meeting deadlines	Other side event
Mon 9 Mar	Team arrivals, accommodation		15:00 - 18:00 Ski training		
Tue 10 Mar			13:00 - 15:00 Training women  16:00-18:00 Official training men	10:30 Team Captain's meeting	
Wed 11 Mar			13:00 - 15:00 Training men  16:00-18:00 Official Training women	10:15 Entries deadline Men 10km Sprint	
Thu 12 Mar	16:15 Men 10km Sprint	15:15-16:05	11:30 - 13:00 Training women	18:15 Entires deadline women 7.5km	17:45 Flower Ceremony
Fri 13 Mar	16:15 Women 7.5km Sprint	15:15 - 16:05	11:30 - 13:00 Training men	18:00 Deadline conditional mixed training 14 Mar 2026	17:40 Flower Ceremony
Sat 14 Mar	14:30 Men 12.5km Pursuit  17:00 Women 10km Pursuit	13:45 - 14:15  16:15 - 16:45	10:30 - 11:30 Training Mixed - only if confirmed	18:15 Entires deadline single mixed relay (W+M)  18:15 Entires deadline	15:25 Flower Ceremony  17:55 Flower Ceremony
Sun 15 Mar	13:35 Single mixed relay (M+W) relay  15:40 Mixed relay (M+W) relay	12:50 - 13:20  14:55 - 15:25			14:30 Flower Ceremony  17:00 Flower Ceremony











# Otepää

12.-15.03.2026

