

ANNUAL MEETING AND  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AHO 2026  
(ALLIANCE OF HISTORICAL OBSERVATORIES)

PIC DU MIDI AND ITS OBSERVATORY, FRANCE

AUGUST 13–16, 2026

Preliminary program





### FOUNDING OBSERVATORIES



Griffith Observatory

est. 1935



Lick Observatory

est. 1888



Lowell Observatory

est. 1894



Mt. Wilson Observatory

est. 1904



Palomar Observatory

est. 1948



Vatican Observatory

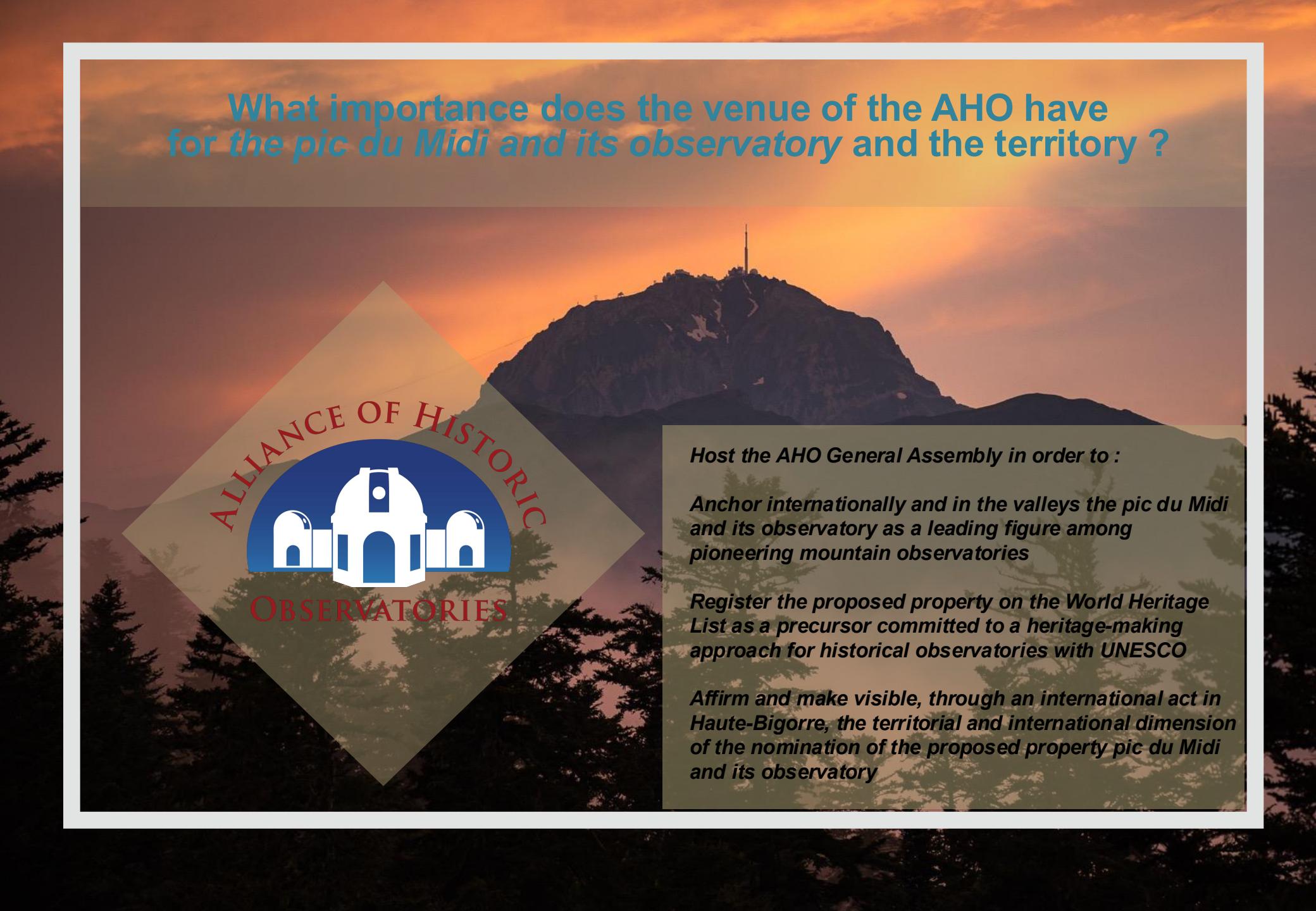
est. 1577



Yerkes Observatory

est. 1892





# What importance does the venue of the AHO have for the *pic du Midi and its observatory* and the territory ?

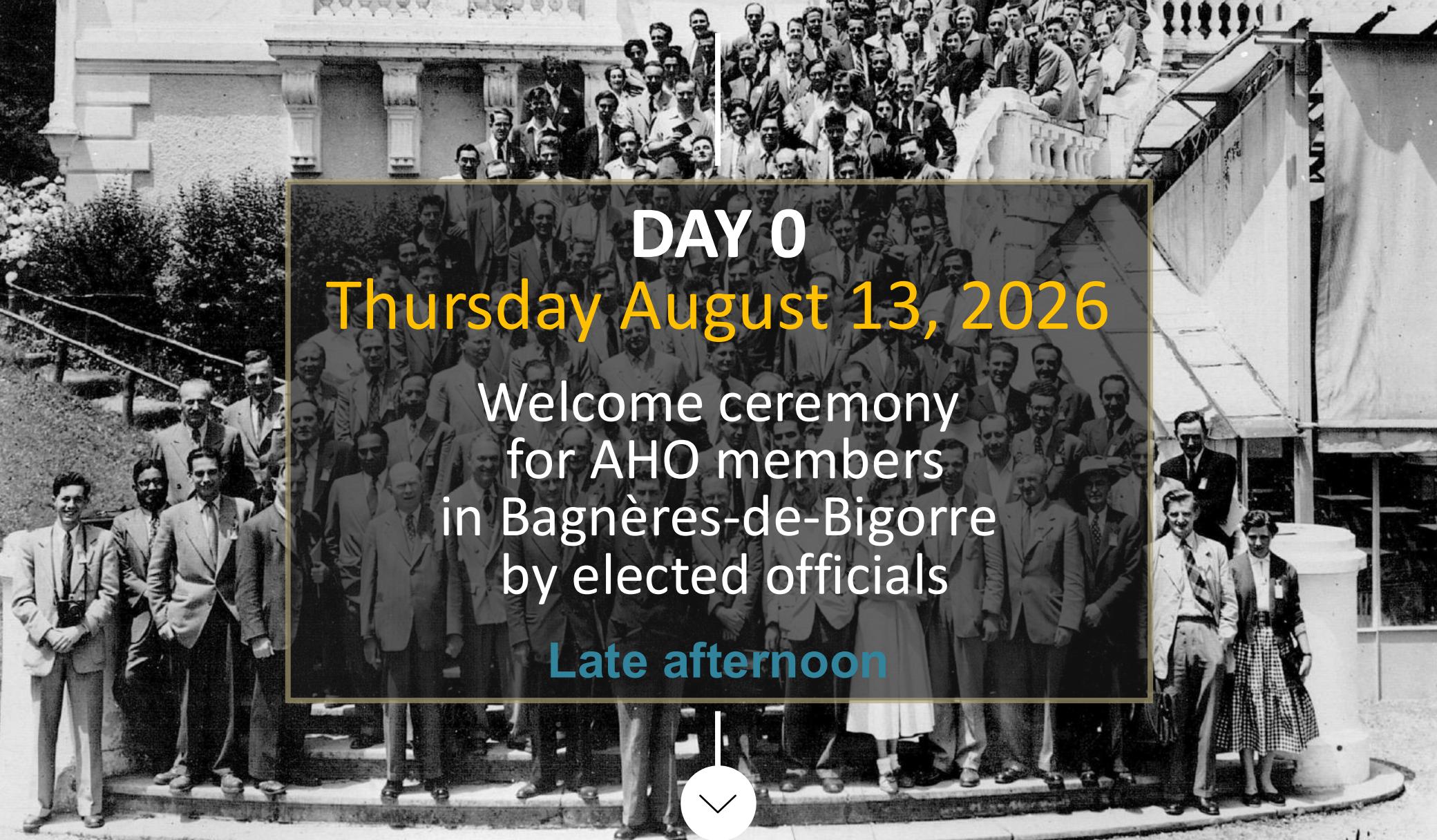


***Host the AHO General Assembly in order to :***

***Anchor internationally and in the valleys the pic du Midi and its observatory as a leading figure among pioneering mountain observatories***

***Register the proposed property on the World Heritage List as a precursor committed to a heritage-making approach for historical observatories with UNESCO***

***Affirm and make visible, through an international act in Haute-Bigorre, the territorial and international dimension of the nomination of the proposed property pic du Midi and its observatory***



**DAY 0**  
**Thursday August 13, 2026**

Welcome ceremony  
for AHO members  
in Bagnères-de-Bigorre  
by elected officials

**Late afternoon**

**IN CONTINUITY WITH THE MAJOR CONGRESSES HOSTED ON THE PIC DU MIDI TERRITORY**

**CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL SUR LE RAYONNEMENT COSMIQUE**  
**BAGNÈRES-DE-BIGORRE, 6-12 Juillet 1953**

Photo ALIX

# Thursday August 13



Program

17 h30  
in Bagnères

Welcome Ceremony for  
AHO members by elected  
officials  
and partners

Collective outdoor photo,  
at the town hall or  
in front of Casino-Aquensis



Transportation - Catering



10h-16h

Collective transfer OMP – AHO  
members (with different vans)  
from Zaragoza (solar eclipse)

*Participants contribute to the  
costs*

18H30

Cocktail reception in  
Bagnères  
(elected officials and  
partners)



Accommodation

Where

La Mongie : Voie Lactée /  
Mer & golf

*Participants pay for their  
accommodation*

*Check-in at 20h*

# DAY 1

Friday August 14, 2026

AHO sessions at the summit:  
: **daytime**

17H : Declaration on Science  
*at the summit of the Pic*

Public Star Party in Payolle  
*organized by astronomy associations :*  
**evening**

Overnight stays for 20 people  
at Dauzère (pic summit)



# Friday August 14



## Program

### Morning & Afternoon

AHO sessions in the Grande Ourse room (at the pic summit)

17H

Public AHO Declaration for Science at the summit of the Pic du Midi

*Aroud 100 people*



## Transportation - Catering

1 cable-car ascent

at 8h30

Cold buffet lunch at Dauzère – Cassiopée

*SMVTPM service*

*1 cable-car ascent after 16:00*

*2 cable-car descents*

20h

Transport by vans – OMP round trip to Payolle for the Star Party



## Accommodation

### Where

**La Mongie : Voie Lactée / Mer & golf /**

*Participants pay for their accommodation*

**Overnight stays at the summit: OMP-Dauzère for 25 people (15 AHO members and family)**



# DAY 2

## Saturday August 15, 2026

AHO sessions at the summit  
: **daytime**

Dinner & AHO Star Party at the  
Tourmalet  
**evening**



# Saturday August 15



## Program

### Morning & Afternoon

AHO sessions in the Grande Ourse room (at the pic summit)



## Transportation - Catering



1 cable-car ascent  
at 8h30

Cold buffet lunch at Dauzère –  
Cassiopée  
*SMVTPM service*

1 cable-car descent

18H30

Transfer to Col du Tourmalet by vans –  
OMP

Starry evening at the Maison du  
Tourmalet  
*SMVTPM & Instants sciences*

AHO dinner for 50 people: Étape du



## Accommodation

### Où

**La Mongie : Voie Lactée /  
Mer & golf**

*Participants pay for their  
accommodation*



DAY 3  
Sunday August 16, 2026  
AHO General Assembly  
morning

Lunch for 40–50 people

—  
Restaurant 2877 (pic summit)

Overnight stays for 25 people  
at Dauzère (pic summit)

# Sunday August 16



Program

Morning

**AHO General Assembly  
at the summit of the Pic**

for 25-30 members

*Bow window room*



Transportation - Catering



**1 cable-car ascent  
at 8h30**

**Lunch at  
restaurant 2877**

*for 40-50 people of AHO  
SMVTPM service*

**1 cable-car descent**

**Transport by vans – OMP to  
stations and airports**



Accommodation

Where

**La Mongie : Voie Lactée /  
Mer & golf**

*Participants pay for their  
accommodation*

**Overnight stays at the pic  
summit (Dauzere)**

*for 25 people (15 AHO  
members and family)*