

# 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



# AHO

## International Alliance of Historical Observatories



ALLIANCE OF HISTORIC OBSERVATORIES

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[MEMBERSHIP](#)

[ORGANIZATION](#)

[RESOURCES](#)

[INTERNAL](#)

[CONTACT](#)

### 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

*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 Dautère (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

***Around 100 people***



## Transportation - Catering

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

**Cold buffet lunch at Dauzère –  
Cassiopee**

***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



Transportation - Catering



Accommodation

**Morning  
&  
Afternoon**

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

**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

**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)*