



65th CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL DE GENÈVE

9th to 13th DECEMBER 2026

PRESS RELEASE

MAKING IT A CENTENARY TO REMEMBER: FIVE SPECIAL EVENTS AND A HOST OF AMAZING ATTRACTIONS

Geneva, 9 July 2026 – The CHI Geneva (Concours Hippique International de Genève) turns 100 this year, and the best is yet to come. To celebrate the event's century of existence, the organising committee has put together an outstanding programme that will bring the past and the present together over five days of festivities. Alongside the competitions that have shaped the global reputation of the CHIG over the years, among them the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final and the Rolex Grand Prix, a number of iconic competitions will be making their return to Palexpo as well as new ones designed to bring the public even closer to the event. It all kicks off with the Centenary Parade, led by the Compagnie 1602, the official starting point of this year's celebrations.

The centenary edition of the CHI Geneva will take spectators through the landmark moments that have shaped the event's long and illustrious history. Setting the tone as early as Wednesday will be the legendary Six-Barres, a gravity-defying challenge that returns to the programme after a nine-year absence and marks the start of a week of excitement and nods to the past. Before the riders even take to the stage, however, falconry, dog dancing and dressage displays will create a festival atmosphere on day one at Palexpo, while Switzerland's homegrown talents will also have their moment in the spotlight earlier in the morning. Bringing the opening day to a close will be two major competitions, including the Prix des Communes Genevoises, a qualifier for Sunday's Rolex Grand Prix.

The Centenary Parade, featuring the Compagnie 1602

Late on Thursday morning, the Swiss riders will make way for their international counterparts and the first of the U-25 CSI competitions. The Centenary Parade will then provide one of the symbolic high points of this year's celebrations. Led by the Compagnie 1602, which is also celebrating its centenary, it will pay tribute to the event's Genevan roots. Out in the arena, a sidesaddle rider representing the figure depicted in the very first CHI Geneva poster in 1926 will hand an invitation to this year's event to a young, modern-day rider, symbolising the desire to connect one generation to another. That handover will be followed by two high-profile events: the Grande Chasse, where the bank and water obstacle will put horses and riders to the test; and the Trophée de Genève, another qualifying event for Sunday's Rolex Grand Prix.

While the centenary celebrates the past, it also puts the spotlight on the cream of world jumping today, with the Rolex IJRC Top 10 Final – to be held for the 21st time in Geneva – celebrating its 25th birthday on Friday. Firmly established as one of the high points of the CHIG, it will be contested by the ten best riders on the planet. Also taking place on Friday evening is the Prix des Familles, a special centenary event featuring several major dynasties from the world of international jumping, some of them big names from the CHIG's history, with each team comprising talented riders from two different generations. The evening's



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entertainment will begin with the indoor cross, presented by La Tribune de Genève. With its technical layout, two arenas and natural, cross-country-style fences, it is one of the most electrifying competitions of the week.

Throwbacks to the past

Saturday's card is an eclectic mix that includes the CSI U25 Grand Prix, the qualifying event for the Geneva round of the FEI Driving World Cup (four-in-hand), and another show featuring falconry, dogs and horses. There are also two exciting jumping events: the Geneva Challenge and the Coupe de Genève, a combinations event won five times by Steve Guerdat, in 2008, 2019, 2022, 2024 and 2025.

The entertainment continues in the evening with the return of the Bareback Challenge, presented by Cheval Liberté, a testing event in which international stars, riding bareback, take on young riders on ponies with saddles. Providing the high point of the day is the Challenge of the Century, presented by UBS. Inspired by the Challenge of Champions, the competition sees ten riders who are Olympic, world or continental champions and among the most decorated on the planet go head to head with another ten selected from the first three days of CHIG 2026, all over classic 20th-century-style fences.

Breakfast in the world's largest indoor arena

The centenary edition of the CHIG reaches its grand finale on Sunday, which begins with something entirely new: the Breakfast of the Century. From 8.00am to 10.00am, spectators in possession of a specific ticket to go with their standard ticket will be able to step into the world's biggest indoor arena and enjoy a unique and exclusive experience in a setting usually reserved for the sport's great champions. The arena will then be readied in preparation for the Geneva round of the FEI Driving World Cup, presented by Radio Télévision Suisse, which will be followed by two outstanding shows.

Then comes the eagerly awaited Rolex Grand Prix, one of the four majors of the Rolex Grand Slam of Show Jumping. Last year, US rider and Rolex Testimonee Kent Farrington and the fabulous *Greya* ruled the roost at Palexpo. Things have changed on the Grand Slam scene since then, however. On board his stallion *United Touch S*, Germany's Richard Vogel, himself a Rolex Testimonee, won the Dutch Masters in 's-Hertogenbosch and then took victory in Aachen. Should he do likewise at the CSIO Spruce Meadows "Masters" in Calgary in September, the German will become the second rider to claim the Rolex Grand Slam of Show Jumping, after Great Britain's Scott Brash, who achieved the feat when the Grand Slam comprised just three events. Vogel would then have a shot at becoming the first rider to win all four.

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Information for the media

Please contact our press officer, Corinne Druey, on 0041 21 312 82 22.



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