



PIOLETS D'OR

2026

SAINT CHRISTOPHE EN OISANS • LA BÉRARDE

21 • 25 OCTOBRE 2026

Oil painting © Cristina Medha

Press
release

September 2026

Awarded ascents & Special Mention for Female Mountaineering 2026

The International Jury of the Piolets d'Or has selected **four outstanding ascents completed in 2025** to receive this year's main awards. They are presented below in no particular order.

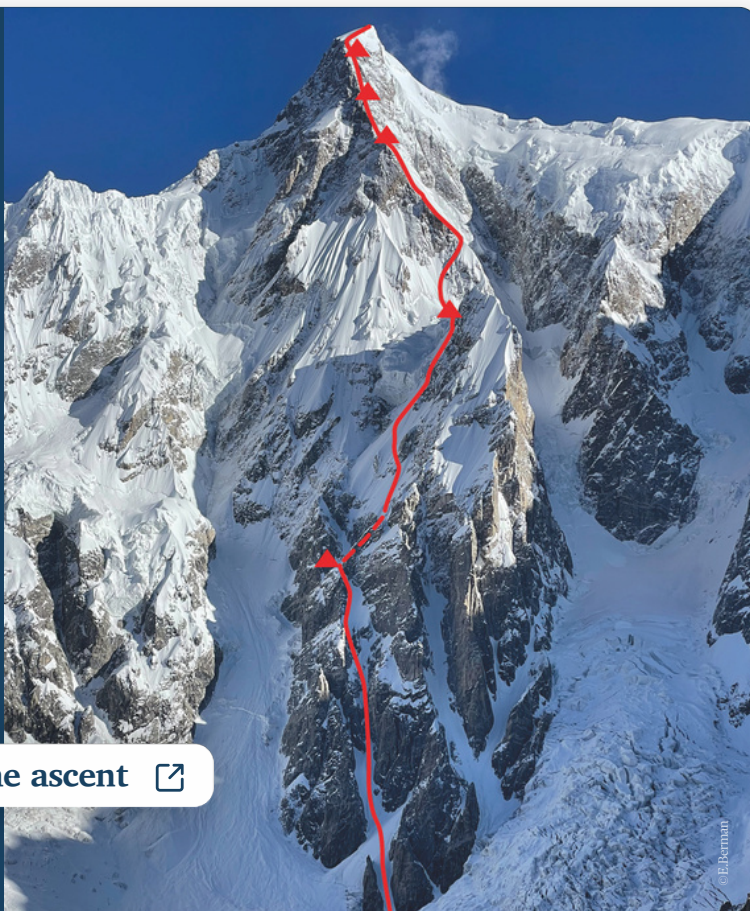
The Piolets d'Or also aims to promote women's alpinism through a **Special Mention**, which may recognise an **all-female expedition** completing a significant ascent in the Greater Ranges, women taking a leading role in a significant mixed-team ascent, or an individual woman for an outstanding body of mountaineering achievements over the years. In 2026 the mention is for a single female - **Tiphaine Dupérier** from France.

The Piolets d'Or return to the Oisans region of France and will be based in Saint-Christophe-en-Oisans - La Bérarde from 21 to 25 October 2026.

Ultrar Sar (7,388m), Pakistan Karakoram

The first ascent of the southeast pillar of Ultrar Sar, Batura Muztagh, via Shooting the Moon (3,100m, M5 WI4), June 6-11.

The climbers descended the same route, reaching the base of the mountain on the 13th.



[Read more about the ascent](#)



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Aikache Chhok (6,673m), Pakistan Karakoram

The first ascent of the northwest face of Aikache Chhok, Batura Muztagh, via Secrets, Shepherds, Sex and Serendipity (3,000m, M7 A2+ AI5), October 12-20.

The climbers traversed the mountain, descending unclimbed ground to the west and then north to regain base camp on the 21st.

[Read more about the ascent](#) 



Yerupajá Grande (6,634m), Peruvian Andes

The first complete ascent of the east spur and east ridge via The Essence of Commitment (1,400m, 6c+ M6+ 95°) to the main summit of Yerupajá, Cordillera Huayhuash, followed by a traverse to Yerupajá Sur and descent of the southeast face (1,000m at an average angle of 65°).

August 4-8 for the full traverse.

[Read more about the ascent](#) 





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Jannu East (7,460m), Nepal Himalaya

The first ascent of Jannu East, Kangchenjunga Himal, via Le Sommet des Pieux (2,300m, M6 WI5) on the north face and east ridge, October 12-15.

The climbers rappelled and downclimbed the route to reach the base of the mountain on the 16th.

[Read more about the ascent](#)



Special Mention for Female Mountaineering - Tiphaine Dupérier



In 2025, arguably one of the most significant ascents - and descents - at altitude by a female alpinist was the first alpine style ascent of the Schell Route on the Rupal flank of Nanga Parbat followed by the first ski descent from the 8,125m summit.

[Read more](#)



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