

Swiss Surfer: Rivan Rock Rosskopf

Rivan Rosskopf is a Swiss competitive Surfer. He has already won multiple Swiss Championships and has earned first place in the men and junior division of the Edelweiss Surf Tour. Growing up competing in Hawaii with the worlds best gave him a competitive edge in the surfing world. He competes in international competitions on a regular basis and is constantly working towards better results and performances.

2006 to 2013

Rivan Rock Rosskopf (2 April 2006) was born in Switzerland, a landlocked country, so he had a delayed start to surfing. At the age of 7, his parents decided to move to the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, where his dad (Jacob Rosskopf) was born and raised.

2014 to 2018

Rivan and his brothers (Gian Dean & Kilian Rosskopf) went to Sunset Beach Elementary School. Rivan was influenced from young surfers like Paumalu Malone and Isaiah Briley. He then started to make the transition from sand sliding on his boogie board to catching waves and standing up. On his 8th birthday, he received his first surfboard and from then on surfed daily after school. Being surrounded by the best surfers in the world, competition quickly came to mind.

In 2016 he competed in his first competition (T&C Grom Contest). 2 years later he won it. Rivan also became runner up in the Rell Sun Makaha Menehune Championships and 5th in the Haleiwa Menehune Surf Contest. Due to his good performances at just 12 years old, he earned his first sponsorship from "Luma Delikatessen".

2019 to 2021

In the summer of 2019, what was meant to be a vacation turned into being recognized as an upcoming Swiss surfer. Rivan and his brothers were surfing a river wave in Bremgarten, Switzerland, and the crowd was surprised by how well they surfed. Local surfer Martin Suter told Rivan there was an upcoming contest in Zurich. Rivan's parents signed him up for the City Wave Pro World Tour Stop in Zurich without him ever surfing a wave pool. With every round he surfed he got better and better, managing to stick 2 backside air reverses in the final. 13 year old Rivan placed 2nd in the U16 division.

With a little name in Switzerland, Rivan was motivated to keep it going. A short while later, back in Hawaii, he won the 12-13 HSA Maili contest and then placed 3rd in the U13 division of the Haleiwa International Open.

When Covid hit, competitions and tourism in Hawaii took a complete halt which meant lineups were empty and perfect to practice in. Rivan and his friends (Luke Tema, Nalu Deodato, Kaden Russi, etc.) took full advantage of this and started

surfing bigger and more dangerous waves like Pipeline. With less people in the water, it was easier and safer to learn how to get barreled.

2021 to 2022

In the summer of 2021, instead of just visiting Switzerland, Rivan's parents decided to move there permanently because of financial reasons. Rivan wasn't looking forward to being so far away from the ocean and his parents couldn't tell him when he could go back to Hawaii.

Rivan spent months without standing on a surfboard and was buckled down in school (Bezirkschule Engerfeld, Rheinfelden). During school breaks, short visits to the Atlantic Ocean were common but nothing compared to daily surfs in Hawaii. Over the winter, he had a 6 month period without even seeing the ocean. It was a rough year for Rivan, his surfing didn't improve but his Swiss German sure did.

2022 to 2023

In the summer of 2022 Swiss Surfing Association announced the Edelweiss Surf Tour covering 5 of Switzerland's best waves (Oana, Bremgarten, Urbansurf, Thun and Alaia Bay). Rivan took the overall Junior Tour win with a major lead. After a dominating performance "Dakine Europe" offered him a sponsorship deal. Shortly afterwards Rivan and his little brother Kilian got a segment of them surfing in the national sports television (SRF 2 Sport Panorama). Rivan's surf career was now somehow beginning to fire up again.

After graduating 9th grade (end of mandatory school in Switzerland), he attended Penn Foster, an online High School program which gave him the flexibility to study from wherever he was.

In November 2022, the long-awaited visit to Hawaii turned into reality. Rivan was now back with his longtime friends Luke Tema and Nalu Deodato who had been dominating the rankings in Hawaii. Even though Rivan was a bit rusty after so much time off it quickly came back to him. Rivan worked out a sponsorship deal with Schaper Hawaii (Surfboard Shaper) and at the end of his 4 month stay he was able to win the HSA 16-17 Sandy's Contest with a perfect 10 in the final.

2023 to 2025

After graduating High School a year early, Rivan enrolled in English College CH, where exams get written every Spring and Fall at the Huls School in Zurich. This gave him the opportunity to keep chasing his dreams while getting educated at the same time. He continued spending his winters in Hawaii and surfing competitions in Europe from May to November.

In 2023, at just 17 years old, Rivan won the Men Edelweiss Surf Tour. In 2024 he became U18 Swiss National Champion in Somo, Spain. Shortly afterwards he was able to sign his biggest contract yet with Peleven Engineering. His most recent accomplishment was his win at the Men Swiss Surfing Championship 2025, proving he was Switzerland's best surfer. Now, Rivan is fired up to climb the WSL ranks and continue following his dream of making it on the World Stage as a Swiss surfer.

The best way to figure out what else Rivan is up to is via his Social Media Channels.