

Philmont Trail Race



Runners Guide

August 1, 2026



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The Philmont Trail Race supports Philmont Scout Ranch and Scouting America in providing its mission to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Proceeds from the race benefit Philmont Scout Ranch.

Philmont Scout Ranch is a 140,000 acre high adventure camp owned and operated by Scouting America with over 300 miles of trails. Philmont's main program is challenging and educating scouts ages 13 to 21 years of age through 12-, 9-, and 7-day backpacking treks. Crews of 8-12 individuals additionally have the opportunity to participate in programs such as climbing, shooting, biking, living history, fishing and much more. Learn more about Philmont Scout Ranch and its mission at www.philmontscoutranch.org

Courses and Registration Requirements

50 Mile – Required to have run a trail marathon race or equivalent 2 years prior of the start of the 50 Mile Philmont Trail Race, it will be asked at registration to share proof of race results or GPS data of similar efforts. All runners must have a headlamp, water carrying capacity, and a rain shell with them on the course.

[Click Here](#) For the 50 Mile Trail Guide

Marathon – Required to have run a heavy half trail race or equivalent 2 years prior of the start of the Marathon Trail Race, it will be asked at registration to share proof of race results or GPS data of similar efforts. All runners must have water carrying capacity and a rain shell with them on the course.

[Click Here](#) For the Marathon Trail Guide

Heavy Half (18 mile) – Strong recommendation to be comfortable running Half Marathons before running in this race. All runners must have water carrying capacity and a rain shell with them on the course.

[Click Here](#) For the Heavy Half Trail Guide

Tooth Ridge Sprint (8 Mile) – Strong recommendation to be comfortable running 10k races before running this race.

[Click Here](#) for the Tooth Ridge Sprint Trail Guide



2026 Race Schedule at a Glance

7/31/2026

- 2:00pm - Packet Pick up OPEN @ Philmont Welcome Center
- TBD – Troop 68 Pasta Dinner Fundraiser in Cimarron
- 6:00pm - Packet Pick up CLOSES

8/1/2026

- 4:30am – Bus to 50 Mile start line departs Welcome Center
- 5:00am – 50 Mile Race Starts
- 5:30am – Bus to Marathon start line departs Welcome Center
- 6:00am – Marathon Starts
- 6:30am – Bus to Heavy Half start line departs Welcome Center
- 7:00am – Heavy Half Starts
- 7:30am – Bus to Tooth Ridge Sprint start line departs Welcome Center
- 8:00am – Tooth Ridge Sprint Starts
- 9:00am – Finish Line Opens @ Silver Sage Staff Activity Center
- 12:15-12:45pm - Lunch @ Dining Hall (racers only)
- 5:45-6:15pm - Dinner @ Dining Hall (racers only)
- 11:00pm – Finish Line Closes

8/2/2026

- 10:00am – Tent Check out

Check-in & Packet Pick-up

Packets will be prepackaged with everything that a runner needs for the race, including your race number/timing chip, safety pins, and race swag.

Pack-it pick up times:

Friday July 31, 2026 2-6pm
Saturday August 1, 2026 5-7 AM (Must
pick up packet 1 hour before start
time)

Packet pick-up will be located at the Philmont Scout Ranch's Welcome Center

Bus Times

Buses will transport all the runners from the Philmont Welcome Center to the Start Lines of each race 30 minutes before the start of the race.

Bus Departure Times:

50 Mile – 4:30am
Marathon – 5:30am
Heavy Half (18 Mile) – 6:30am
Tooth Ridge Sprint (8 Mile) – 7:30am



Race Start Times*

50 Mile - - 5:00am
Marathon - - 6:00am
Heavy Half (18 Mile) - - 7:00am
Tooth Ridge Sprint (8 Mile) - - 8:00am

Pre-Race Briefing

A pre-race briefing will happen before the start of each race at the Philmont Welcome Center before boarding the bus to the start line.

Accommodations

All race participants will be provided with a tent in Tent City in Philmont Base Camp for the Friday (7/31/26) and Saturday (8/1/26) nights of the Race Weekend. The tents are 7'x9' canvas wall tents with 2 cots without bedding and **no access to electricity**. Race participants will have access to the bathrooms and shower houses in Tent City. Tents will be assigned when checking in for the race.

Runners will receive their tent assignment during Packet Pick up on Friday July 31st. All racers must be out of their tent by 10am on August 2nd.

A tenting form will be sent out to all runners to fill out in June, to help us plan tent assignments, request tents mates. Please fill out that form to help us prepare for the event.

A very limited number of RV Spots are available that do not have any hookups - - to reserve an RV spot on a first come first serve basis contact Austin St. George at Austin.st.george@scouting.org

Alcohol is not permitted on Philmont Scout Ranch property.

Tenting is provided for race participants only - - Others coming to the race to spectate need to find other accommodations. A good option for them would be with the Philmont Training Center's Overnight Accommodations at the Ranch, where individuals can book tents or roofed accommodations at Philmont. You can find more details and book your accommodations at:
<https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc>

Showers

Runners can take showers in Base Camp's Trail Bound Tent City where runners will also be assigned tents. There are 4 Shower Houses each designated Youth (Under 18) Male, Adult (18+) Male, Youth (Under 18) Female, Adult (18+) Female. Please use the correct shower house.

Crewless Race

Due the remote access of the Philmont Trail Race Aid Stations, there will be no access for runners to meet crew at any of the aid station so this will be a complete crewless race.





Crew members will not be allowed on the race course or any of the aid stations.

Pacers

No pacers are allowed for the Philmont Trail Race.

Spectators

Spectators are allowed to watch at the Race Finish Line at the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center. It is recommended that any spectators bring a chair to cheer on all the runners as they cross the Finish Line.

To get to the Finish Line, park at the Camper Participant Parking Lot near the Welcome Center and walk across Base Camp to the Finish Line located near the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center. The Finish Line will be open from 9am to 11pm on Race Day. A map of Philmont's Base Camp is on the last page of this Guide.

Drop Bags

The 50 Mile race will have drop bag service at 2 of the Aid Stations.

Clear Creek ~ mile 25

Clark's Fork ~ mile 40

Drop Bags will be returned to the Finish Line after the Aid Station Closes - - expected time for Drop Bags to arrive at the Finish Line is: Clear Creek bags 4pm, Clarks Fork bags 7:30pm. Bags can be picked up at the Finish Line until it closes at 11pm or the next day at the Welcome Center.

The Marathon, Heavy Half, and Tooth Ridge Sprint will not have Drop Bags service.

Mandatory Equipment

- Minimum Water Supply (1 Liter) – If looking like a warmer weather for Race Day would increase to 2 liters.
- Whistle
- Food Reserve - - Recommend having 2 extra gels or chews.
- Jacket with Hood - - For bad weather in the mountains. The jacket must be made of a waterproof and breathable membrane.
- Headlamp - - (50 Mile runners only, encourage to have spare batteries with them in their Clarks Fork Drop Bag)

Recommended Equipment:

- Poles
- Spare warm clothing – essential in case of cold and rainy day, a long-sleeved wind proof jacket.
- Sunscreen



Environment & Weather

The Philmont Trail Race is in the Sangre De Cristo Mountains which is mountainous terrain, with remote areas (no roads or cell service). Weather conditions can change very quickly, often in August can see rain, hail, fog, heat (90 degrees), cold (30 degrees) and/or violent wind. It is recommended to review the Trail Guide for your race to get a detailed look at the course.

Course Emergency Phone Number

575-376-2281

Before the start of the race, don't forget to add this emergency number in your mobile phone. This is the Philmont switchboard phone number to call in case of emergency on the course. If you don't have cell service report the emergency at the nearest Aid Station.

Course Cutoff Times

The cut-off times are calculated to enable participants to reach the finish in the maximum time allowed. Runners must leave the Aid Station before the Cutoff Time. No runners will be allowed to leave an aid station behind the sweepers. If a runner does not leave an aid station by the time it closes, then they will be pulled from the race and transported back to Base Camp by vehicle.

50 Mile Cutoff Times:

Abreu – 7:30am
Fish Camp – 9:20am
Apache Springs – 10:00am
Buck Creek Dropoff – 12:00pm
Clear Creek – 1:15pm
Cyphers Mine – 4:00pm
Hunting Lodge – 5:30pm
Clark's Fork – 6:15pm
Finish Line – 11:00pm

Marathon Cutoff Times:

Abreu – 7:30am
Urraca – 10:00am
Crater Lake – 2:00pm
Miners Park – 4:00pm
Finish Line – 11:00pm

Heavy Half Cutoff Times:

Miners Park – 4:00pm
Finish Line – 11:00pm

Tooth Ridge Sprint Cutoff Time:

Finish Line – 11:00pm



Dropping out of the Race

Unless you are injured you must drop out of a race at one of the Aid Stations, you must notify the Aid Station staff who will arrange transportation from the aid station back to the race finish line at Base Camp.

Food at Aid Stations

Here is the list of items that we are sourcing for the aid stations.

Peanut Butter and Jelly	Peanuts
Potato Chips	Trail Mix
Sandwich Cookies	Energy Bars
Apples	Energy Gummy
Oranges	Pop Tarts
Goldfish Pretzels	Bananas
Soda	Fruit Gummies
Tailwind – Endurance Fuel	Beef Stick



Aid Stations will only provide water and Tailwind for filling water bottles. All other drinks are to be consumed on site of the aid station only.

This race is supported by Tailwind Nutrition and will be at all aid stations but the Tooth Ridge Aid Station which will only have water. Tailwind is designed to be incredibly easy on the digestive system. The primary fuel source is dextrose which immediately converts into glucose once consumed. This approach to fueling has been the solution for many athletes, allowing them to avoid the dreaded gut bomb, cramping, bonking, and nausea that can come with more extended endurance events. Tailwind Endurance Fuel is vegan, gluten-free, and non-gmo. Find more about Tailwind at www.tailwindnutrition.com.



Cupless Race

This will be a Cupless race. Participants must carry a cup with them on the course to use at Aid stations. A Philmont Trail Race reusable cup will be provided to each runner at check-in.

Meals on Race Weekend

On Friday July 31st Troop 68 in Cimarron, NM will host a fundraiser Pasta Dinner that all runners and spectators are welcome to attend for a donation, more details will be promoted about the Pasta Dinner. There are also a couple different restaurants in Cimarron that will be open as well.



On race day, August 1st, the Camper Dining Hall in Base Camp will be open for all runners with their race bib, during the mealtimes.

- Breakfast: 7-7:30am
- Lunch: 12:15-12:45pm
- Dinner: 5:45-6:15pm

We will also have aid station type foods at the Welcome Center before the bus departure times and at the Finish Line.

Course Markings

All courses will be well marked and signed so the attentive runner stays on route. All sections are flagged either the days before or the day of the race.

All course markers are instructed to place 10 markers per mile and add confidence markers at all trail junctions.

Runners should review their respective course maps to be familiar with the route. Although the course will be adequately marked, runners are responsible for understanding the layout of the course. Please familiarize yourself with the course maps prior to race day.

Respect for the Environment

Fences – Certain routes cross through fenced pastures, please close any gates behind you.

Livestock – Philmont is an operating Cattle Ranch with cows and horses. If you approach any of these livestock pay particular attention to your behavior so as not to frighten the animals. Don't wave your arms or poles, don't shout and slow down.

Concentrated Impact – you are requested to stay on the trails to protect the nature around you.

Poles

Use of trekking poles is allowed at all times by all runners on course. It is recommended to have rubber tip covers on your poles.

Dogs

Dogs and other Pets are not allowed on the course or on Philmont property including at the Start and Finish areas in Base Camp.



Volunteers

This race would not be possible without an incredible team of volunteers. Come help the dreams and goals of our runners become a reality on race day by volunteering. To find out more about Volunteering for the Philmont Trail Race [click here](#).

We will need Volunteers for some of the following roles:

- Check-In/ Packet Pick-up
- Starting Line
- Course Marking
- Course Sweepers
- Hikers – for Tooth Ridge Aid Station
- Aid Station Volunteers
- Finish Line Volunteers



Some volunteer roles require a Task Password to sign up for. To get the password email Austin St. George at Austin.st.george@scouting.org

Things to Do at Philmont Base Camp

National Scout Museum – The National Scout Museum has played an important role in preserving and telling the rich story of Scouting America and the positive impact Scouting continues to have on youth and families for decades. The museum is committed to preserving the rich, 110-plus-year history of the Scouting movement by collecting, organizing, preserving, and displaying some of Scouting's greatest treasures, including more than 600,000 artifacts.

The National Scout Museum is open 7 days a week 8am – 5pm, find more information here www.philmontscoutranch.org/museums

Tooth of Time Traders – The Tooth of Time Traders (ToTT) is Philmont's retail store selling items from Philmont Souvenirs and Backpacking Gear to Snacks and Drinks at the Cantina. www.toothoftimetraders.org

Philmont Training Center – Have family that is coming to cheer you on for the race? The Philmont Training Center can provide accommodations for them with Overnight Accommodations, or you can look at joining in on Family Adventure Camps with full week and half week sessions of Family Adventure Camp both before and after the race. Find more information here www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc



