

Relish Running Races

Cheddar Gorge Road Race Event Information

Saturday 16th September 2023. Various Start Times and Locations.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to the second edition of the Cheddar Gorge Road Races. We have different meeting points, start points and start times for each distance. Please check the event information below for your distance.

Half Marathon - Running up the gorge and then back down again

Parking Address: [Cliff Street Car Park](#), 8 Cliff Street, Cheddar, BS27 3PS. Standard parking charges apply. What3Words: /// [coins.tested.trombone](#)

Event Opens: Car Park is a public car park and does not have opening / closing times. We suggest to arrive around 08:00. Number collection opens at 08:30 and closes at 09:30.

Start Line: Approx 1km from the Car Park, please follow Pink To The Start or Orange To Registration arrows.

Numbers: Collect your number AND timing chip (separate item) from the Start / Finish Line area at the bottom of the gorge. Please look up your number ahead of time.

Start Time: The Half Marathon starts at 09:30

On the days: We have guaranteed places on the day. Half Marathon places on the day are £45 - CASH ONLY as there is no signal to process card payments deep in the gorge.

Toilets: There are public toilets at the car park and we have portaloos at the event registration area.

Refreshments: There are no coffee vans at the Half Marathon start line but you will pass lots of cafes in the village on your way from the car park to the start line.

Bag Drop: There is a small bag drop at the finish line.

Spectators: Your best place to watch is at the Half Marathon Start / Finish Line which is the same place.



Buses: The Half Marathon route does not involve a shuttle bus.

Event Close: The roads reopen at 14:00 at the latest. The event closes at this time, or earlier should the roads reopen before 14:00. Please be aware cars could return to the route from 13:30

5km and 10km – Running down the gorge

Address: Warren Farm, Charterhouse, Somerset, BS40 7XR. Parking is £2/car.

What3Words: <https://what3words.com/reworked.masking.trade>

Event Opens: Number collection and car park opens at 08:15 and **access to the car park closes at 09:15**

Numbers: Collect your number AND timing chip (separate item) from Warren Farm. Please look up your number ahead of time. Number collection is alphabetical by surname.

Bus Ticket: If you are taking the shuttle bus back to the start line then you will need to collect a red wrist band when you collect your race number and timing chip. If you missed this off your booking (see our Start Lists to see if you added this when you registered) you can purchase your bus ticket / wrist band for £5 on the day.

Start Time: The 10km will start at 10:00, the 5km will start shortly after, around 10:10, though you will be called to your start line at 09:50 so you can cheer the 10km runners as they go past.

On the days: We have guaranteed places on the day; 5km places are £30. 10km places will be £35. Optional bus tickets back to the start are £5.

Toilets: Portaloos in place

Refreshments: Coffee and hot drinks from 08:15

Static Bag Drop: We have a small bag drop for runners who have walked or cycled to the event.

Moveable Bag Drop: We would appreciate it if runners to run with their essentials; phone, car key, bank card if possible. We will have a van to move bags down to the finish line.

Spectators: There is no route for spectators to get to the finish ahead of the race if they remain at Warren Farm. We would suggest dropping your runner off at the designated drop off point outside the farm and then driving on to Cheddar. We suggest [Cliff Street Car Park](#), 8 Cliff Street, Cheddar, BS27 3PS. Standard parking charges apply at this public carpark. What3Words: /// [coins.tested.trombone](#) Follow signs labelled to The Start / to The Finish which is about 1km from the car park.



Buses: Follow the Relish Bus Stop signs from the Finish Line to the bus stop which is about 1km away at the bottom of the gorge. The bus service is called Relish Running and will be displayed on the electronic display at the top of the bus. The W3W location for the bus stop is /// [potato.baseline.villager](https://www.what3words.com/potato.baseline.villager)

You will need to have your red wrist band to board the bus. It will not be possible to purchase tickets on the bus itself, they need to be purchased in advance at Number Collection if you did not add it to your original booking.

Shuttle buses run every 20mins from 11:00 – 13:20 inclusive. The bus journey will take approximately 30mins. There is plenty of time to catch the bus so we would encourage you to take your time, explore the gorge, shops and cafes.

Event Close: The last bus will leave for Warren Farm at 13:20. The event closes at Warren Farm at 14:00

Finish Line - All Runners and Spectators

Location: About 500m beyond the final building on The Cliffs road which runs up the gorge.

What3Words: <https://what3words.com/jousting.racetrack.fallback>

Finish Line opens: The road closure comes into place at 08:30, the route will become traffic free at ~08:45, the finish line (Half Marathon Start Line) will be up and running by 09:00. Please be aware there may be traffic on the roads up until 09:00.

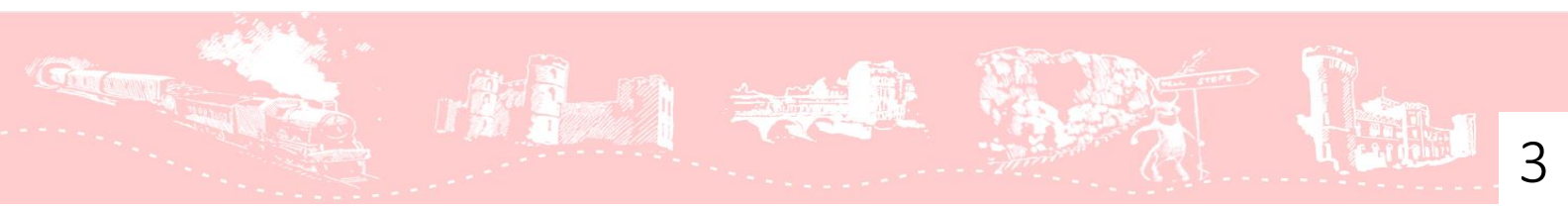
Toilets: There are portaloos for the runners available at the finish line

Timing Chip: Your timing chip needs to be returned after the race, please drop it in the containers after the finish line. Any missing timing chips will be invoiced by the timing company at £75 per chip.

Refreshments: The event does not have drinks at the finish line, but there are plenty of local businesses in Cheddar who would love your trade.

Moveable Baggage Collection: Bags from Warren Farm will be available to collect at the Finish line.

Event Close: The roads reopen at 14:00 at the latest, though likely this will be a bit earlier. Please be aware traffic can return to the roads from 13:00.



Start Lines

Each distance has its own start line and each race will be a mass start of all runners taking part in that distance.

The Half Marathon starts at 09:30

The 10km starts at 10:00

The 5km starts at 10:10. Runners will leave for the 5km start line at 09:45.

5km & 10km runners – please give the Half Marathon runners big cheers as you go by as they will be on the 7.5km uphill stretch of the race!!

Please stick to the left hand side of the road so event vehicles can easily move about the course. The Half Marathon runners are coming up the gorge initially, so we need to make sure the 5km and 10km runners don't cut onto the right hand side of the road to avoid the risk of collision.

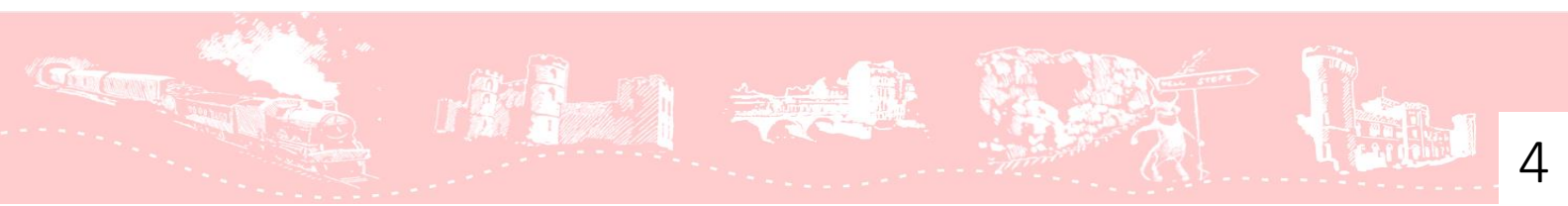
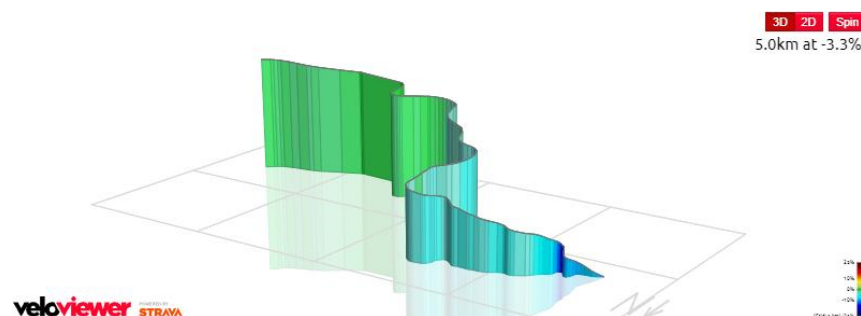
Whilst this is a fully closed roads race, the event team will be out on the course, so please do bear this in mind. There are also goats in the gorge, who are often found wandering on the road, so keep an eye for them too! 🐐 🐐

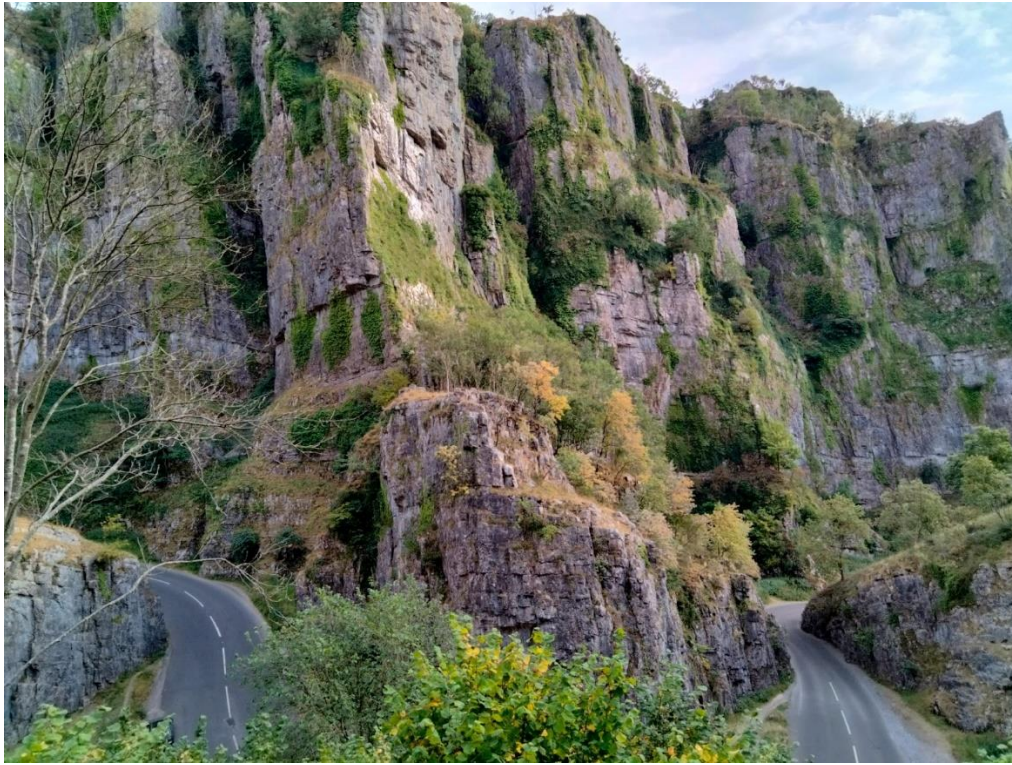
5km Course Description

At around 09:45 we will call 5km runners forward and walk you a short way along the course to the first cross roads with a member of the Relish Team. You can then cheer on all the 10km runners as they run past at 10:00. There is then a short walk of ~1km to your start line. It is an easy walk, at a pace which is comfortable for all. Your start time will be ~10:15

The route is 100% downhill. As you merge from the side road and onto the main gorge road, about 800m into your race, you will cross the running line of the Half Marathon as you move over to the left hand side of the road, please take care.

Once on the main road, you will recognise the gorge terrain and you will start to pick up pace!

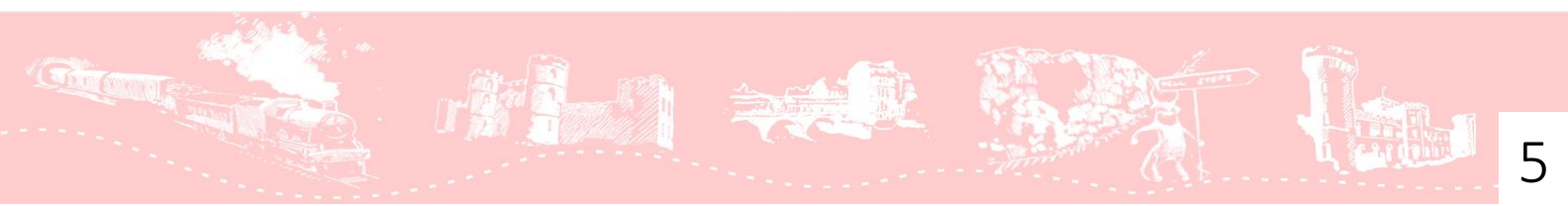




At about 4.5km you will be coming up the steepest part of the course, a lovely S bend, with a gradient of 16%. Please take it easy at this point, particularly if the route is wet.



After another 500m you will be celebrating and crossing the finish line! 🏁

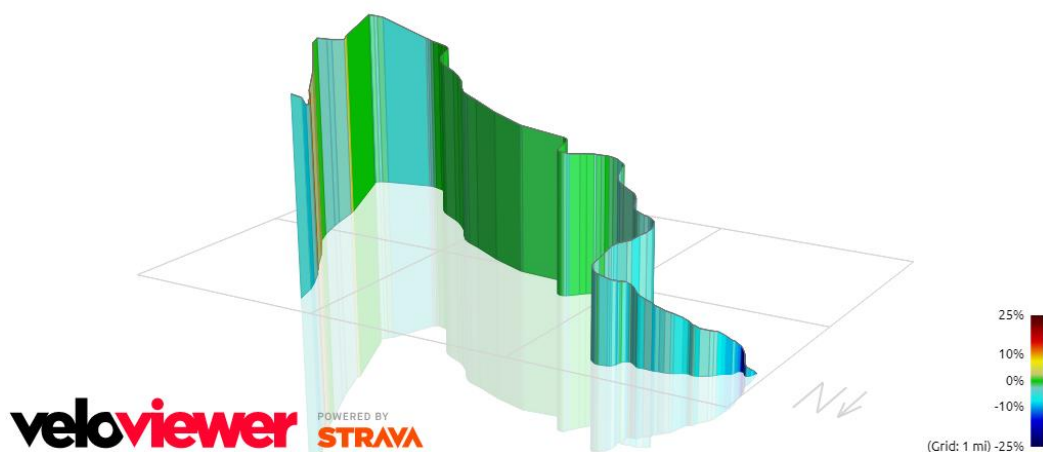


10km Course Description

Short version: Straight over the first cross roads, right at the T junction, run down the gorge

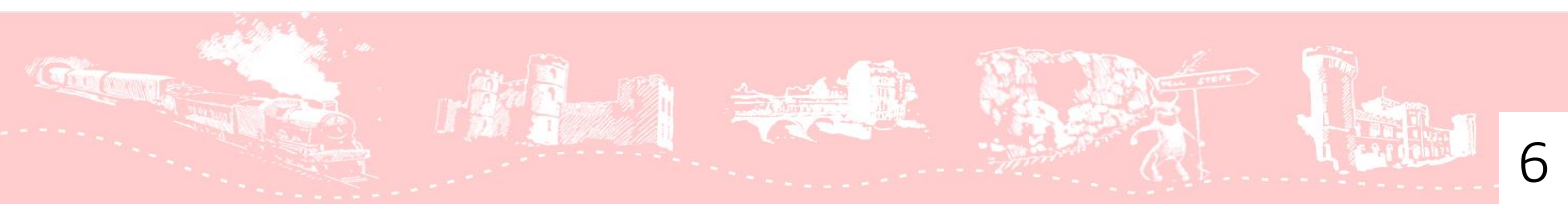
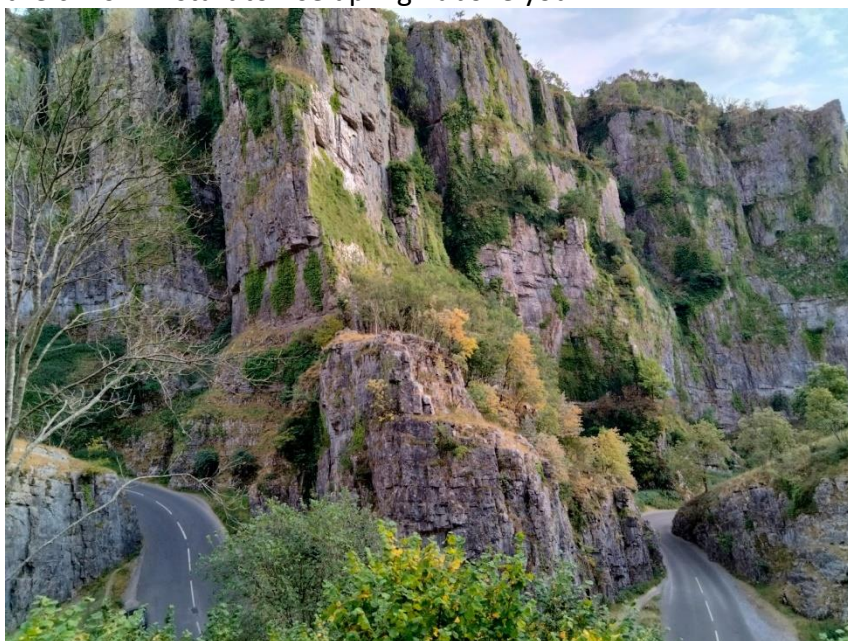


As those of you who have looked at our graphic and route description closely will have noticed, the first 2.5km have some little rises and falls 🏔️. The steepest of these comes around 500m into the run, so try not to go flat out from the gun as this little rise will find you out!

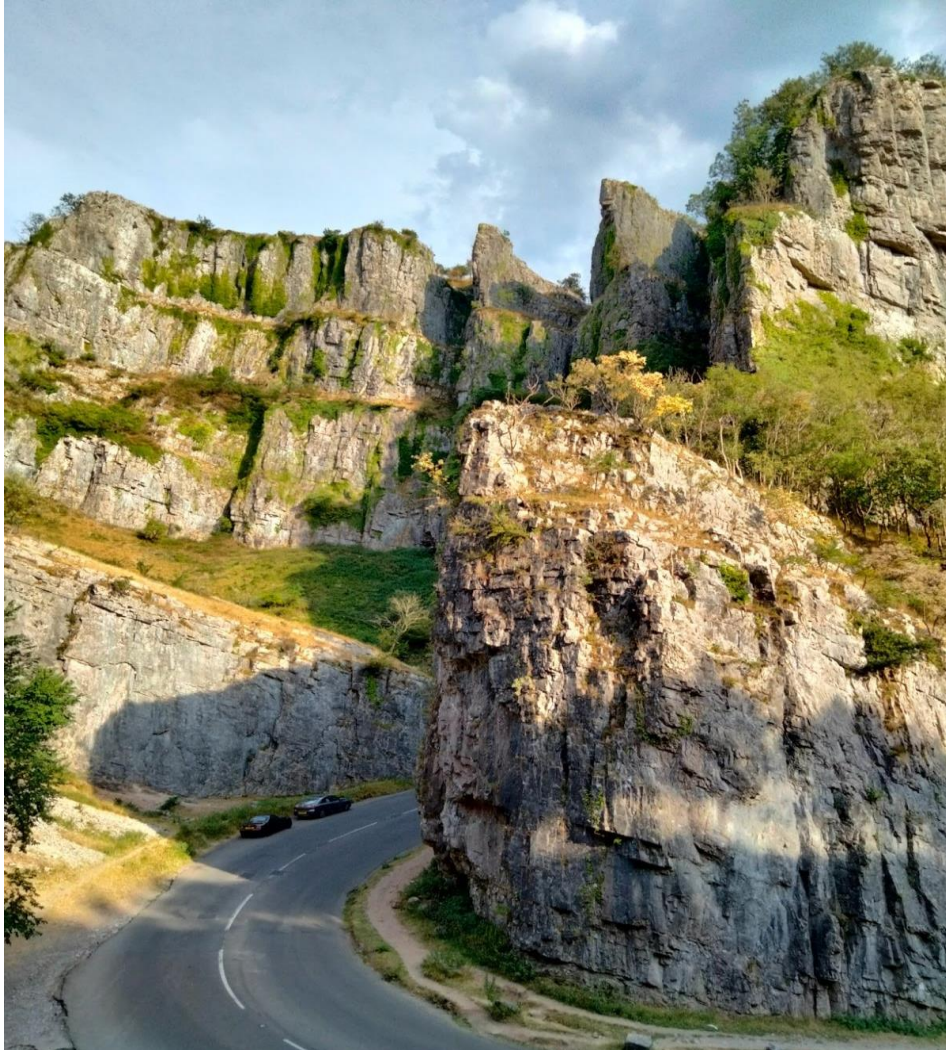


At 2.5km you will reach the end of this road and make a right turn (shown at the top of the profile above), and you are now on the road down to Cheddar Gorge and it is all downhill to the finish!

There is a drinks station at 6km, offering water, which will be located on your left hand side. You are now heading into the more recognisable Cheddar Gorge section of the course and the cliffs will start to rise up high above you.



At about 9.5km you will be coming up the steepest part of the course, a lovely S bend, with a gradient of 16%. Please take it easy at this point, particularly if the route is wet.

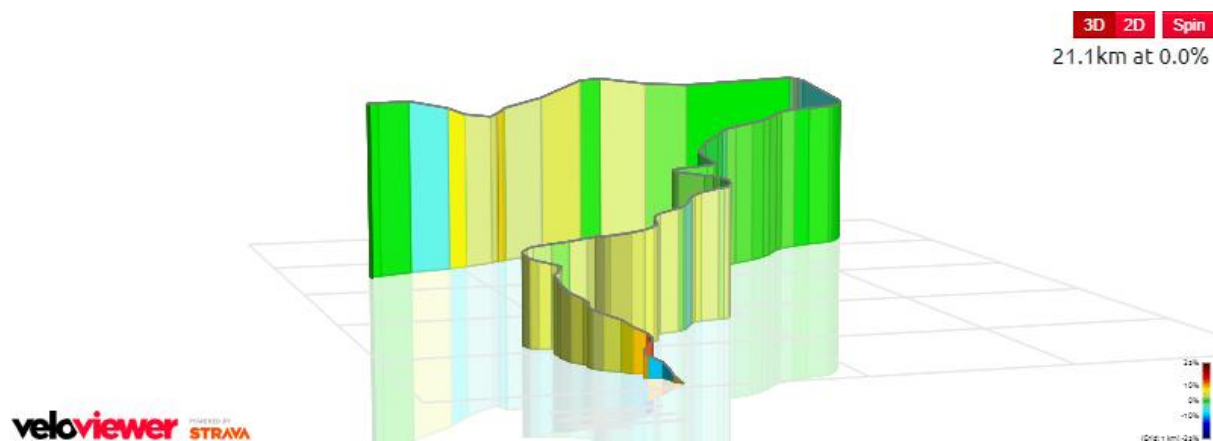


After another 500m you will be celebrating and crossing the finish line! 🏁

Half Marathon Course Description

This is an out and back course. The steepest climb comes early on in your race, after about 500m, a lovely series of bends which show off the beautiful setting. The course passes the first drinks station at 4km into the route, with the first turn off the uphill section coming in at 7.5km.





There is a rolling section for 2.5km which takes you to the 10km start line and timing mat. You need to run beyond the timing mat for another 550m to get to the turn pole and your second drinks station. You then retrace exactly the same route down the gorge, with your third drinks stop coming 16.5km.



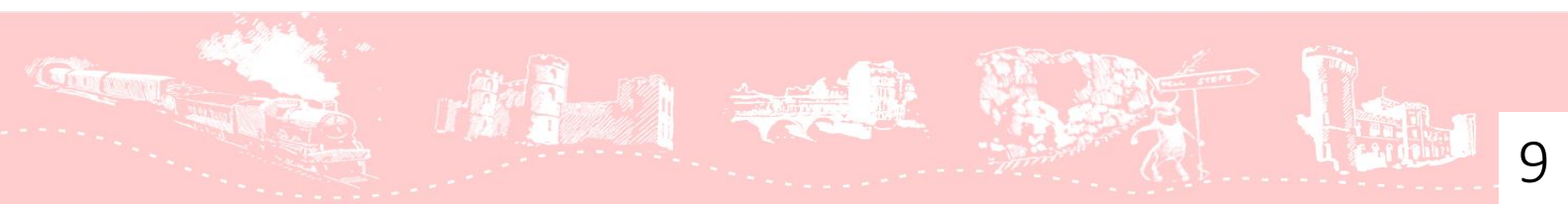
The final 500m sees the steepest part of the course, which we reckon you will remember from the uphill leg, and from here you can start your final run down to the finish

Race Photos

We are working with [AWOL Photography](#) to bring you your race photos for this event. Photos are searchable by race number or by selfie. You can buy a bundle of all your race photos for £10 in advance of race day, or they are £20 from race day itself. A minimum of 2 photographs are guaranteed or your money back.



There will be multiple photographers around the course as well as covering the finish line.



First Aid

We have mobile medical teams moving along the course, as well as communication points at 2.5km, 6km and 8km. If you do not feel able to continue, please stop and you will be collected by the sweep medical vehicle.

Refreshments

We will have a wide range of refreshments on offer at the finish line; a range of sweets and chocolates for everyone, including Tribe Bars which are GF, DF, vegan (does contain nuts).

Medals

All runners will be awarded their finishers medal upon crossing the finish line! 🏆

Results

This race is being timed by K2 Timing, you can view results [here](#).

Prizes

Prize winners will be contacted over email by the end of the week which follows the race

Visiting Cheddar



The renowned [Cheddar Caves](#) are a not to be missed attraction!

Thank you!

A huge thank you goes out to all the organisations that have helped us in the planning and the delivery of this event; Cheddar Parish Council, Priddy Parish Council, Somerset Council, National Trust, Mendip AONB, Longleat Estate, Warren Farm, Avon and Somerset Search & Rescue, Mendip Rotary.

