



ULTRA X RWANDA

RACE INFORMATION PACK

4TH-5TH DECEMBER 2027



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WELCOME

Ultra X Rwanda takes place in East Africa and is the only multi-stage ultra marathon in Rwanda. The country borders Uganda to the north, Tanzania to the east, Burundi to the south and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west.

Rwanda is a brilliant introduction for those who haven't experienced much of the African continent. The country is safe, has incredibly friendly people and great infrastructure for travelling as a tourist (4G everywhere) with direct flights from the UK to Kigali and English being spoken widely. Importantly too, thanks to Rwanda's altitude, the country is the perfect running temperature – between 22-25°C with low humidity.

This is not a self-supported race. Participants only need to carry their daily provisions of mandatory safety equipment, nutrition, and hydration.

If you are looking to combine a race with a holiday, then you have plenty of options. Competitors can choose to purchase our add-on which includes a tour of the memorial museum in Kigali as well as a 2 day, 2 night safari at Akagera National park where you'll have the opportunity to see the "Big 5"! Don't forget to visit the local markets of Kigali or if you so wish, the famous Rwandan Gorillas!

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OVERVIEW

Ultra X Rwanda takes place in northern Rwanda and the districts of Burera and Musanze. It offers two distances: 110km & 50km. The 110km event is a two-stage race taking place on Saturday and Sunday, whilst the 50km event is a single-stage race taking place on the Sunday.

The race takes place near the Volcanoes National Park (where the famous mountain gorillas are based) and the twin lakes; Lake Ruhondo and Lake Burera. This course will take you on a sensory journey, over gentle hills and valleys, through traditional coffee and banana fields with lush, jungle like vegetation. Runners will enjoy all of this whilst taking in the incredible backdrop of Rwanda's five iconic volcanoes; Mt Muhabura, Mt Sabyinyo, Mt Karisimbi, Mt Bisoke and Mt Gahinga whilst being supported by the wonderful local population.

There are two stages, Saturday and Sunday. The first stage is 60km and will commence at 06:30. The second stage is 50km and will commence at 07:00 (50km runners will start at the same time). There are checkpoints stationed approximately 12km apart where competitors can access water, shade/shelter, and, if necessary, medical support.

Competitors will sleep at their campsite accommodation (tented) on Lake Ruhondo on the Friday, the campsite near Kinigi on the Saturday, and finally back to Lake Ruhondo campsite on Sunday after the race. Ultra X Rwanda is a UTMB® indexed race in the 100k (110km race) & 50k (50km race) category.

UTMB® INDEX

ULTRA

100K M

50K M



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KEY INFORMATION

For the full race rules and regulations, see our [Terms & Conditions](#).

Arrivals:

We advise participants arrive at Kigali International Airport on or before Wednesday 1st December 2027. Of course, should you wish to land on the Thursday then that is fine. Flights are often direct from Europe and are approximately 8 hours. We recommend you have a rest day prior to the event.

The Kim Hotel in Kigali will be this event's Official Race Hotel. You can book a twin or single room when registering for the event.

Ultra X will have airport – Kim Hotel transfers departing through Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd. The collection schedule will be released once we have captured all of your flight arrival times which will be taken via a form closer to the event. This airport pick-up service is an add-on which can be purchased when you register for the event.

Ultra X will have buses departing from the Kim Hotel at 09:00 on Friday 3rd December to drive you to the campsite accommodation (tented) on Lake Ruhondo. This will be a 3 hour journey with a stop in the middle.

You will be able to leave a suitcase at the Kim Hotel for the weekend. You will not have access to the suitcase until you return on Monday 6th.



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EVENT ADD-ONS

When creating this event we wanted to offer all our participants the opportunity to join us on an all encompassing tour of Rwanda. There are some amazing things to see but navigating various tour companies can be challenging. We have put together what we believe is the perfect post race add-on package.

There are two elements to Ultra X Rwanda.

THE RACE

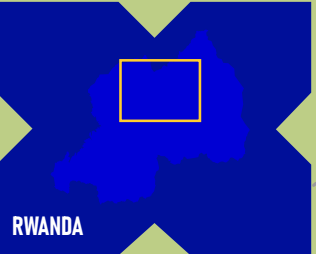
(110km or 50km)

MEMORIAL TOUR & AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK SAFARI

to take place after the race weekend.



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VOLCANO CAMPSITE



ULTRA X RWANDA STAGE 2

1 MINS
0.1 KM



ULTRA X RWANDA STAGE 1 START LINE

1 MINS
0.1 KM
20 MINS
2 KM

47 MINS
27.1 KM



RUHONDO CAMPSITE

3 HRS
95 KM



KIGALI CITY CENTRE



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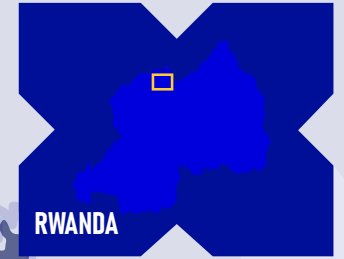
MAP OF KEY RACE LANDMARKS

5K

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THE ROUTE



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CAMPSITE 

START LINE 

FINISH LINE 

2

1

3K

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 DAY 1 (60KM)
 DAY 2 (50KM)



ITINERARY 1/2

Friday 3rd December 2027

Buses will be departing the Kim Hotel in Kigali for the campsite on Friday 3rd December no later than 09:00.

Race check-in will be open between 14:00-15:00 at the campsite accommodation on Friday afternoon. You must complete check-in where you will collect your bib number. A welcome brief will commence at 17:00 followed by an evening meal.

Saturday 4th December 2027

50km runners will enjoy breakfast at Lake Ruhondo and a day exploring the surrounding area. They will then board shuttles Saturday afternoon with their race holdalls to the campsite where they will spend the afternoon before their race starts on Sunday morning.

At 05:50, all 110km runners will board shuttle boats across Lake Ruhondo with their race holdalls (max 9kg). These will be collected on arrival at the other side before the race starts. These should contain everything you would like at camp that night. They will be waiting for you at the stage finish line.

The first stage starts at 06:30 near Lake Ruhondo boat pier on the northern side of the lake. This is a 1 minute walk from the boat drop off point.

Competitors will be able to keep any belongings in their tents at the campsite accommodation, which will be guarded by security prior to their return on Sunday.

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ITINERARY 2/2

Sunday 5th December 2027

The second stage of Ultra X Rwanda starts alongside Ultra X 50 Rwanda runners at the campsite near Kinigi at 07:00. Again, your race holdall bag will be handed in before the start and available to collect at the finish line.

All participants will finish overlooking the twin lakes near the Lake Ruhondo campsite, where the finish line celebrations will be occurring. We encourage everyone to enjoy the atmosphere at the end of the race and support fellow runners cross the line. Your campsite accommodation will only be a few minutes from the finish line.

After party & meal

Post race celebrations will be held on the shores of Lake Ruhondo at your campsite accommodation on Sunday evening. Celebrations will start at 1800, with a delicious buffet meal available between 19:00-21:00. We will be hosting an awards ceremony too for stand out runners. This is not to be missed and is included in your registration.

Runners will enjoy a well earned rest and spend the night at the Lake Ruhondo campsite accommodation.

Monday 6th December 2027

An early breakfast will be held at 07:00 at the Lake Ruhondo campsite accommodation on Monday morning.

Participants will then get shuttles at 08:00 from the Lake Ruhondo campsite back to the Kim Hotel in Kigali. If you would like to book at the Kim for a night after the race you may do so at registration.

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THE ADD-ON

MEMORIAL TOUR & AKAGERA NATIONAL PARK SAFARI

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ADD ON PACKAGE

After finishing Ultra X Rwanda participants will return to Kigali on Monday 6th December 2027 and have the rest of the day to relax and recover before their add on package begins on the Tuesday.

Memorial tour

The Kigali memorial is a place of remembrance and learning dedicated to the victims of the genocide in Rwanda. It offers a powerful experience for visitors, promoting reconciliation and building peace through education.

Ultra X add on package participants will start their memorial tour at 09:00 on Tuesday 7th December 2027 morning.

Akagera National Park

Ultra X add on package participants will depart Kigali at 11:30 on Tuesday 7th December 2027 to Akagera National Park after their memorial tour.

Founded in 1934 to protect animals and vegetation, Akagera national park is the largest protected wetland in Africa. It is based in north eastern Rwanda, at the country's border with Tanzania. It is dominated by swamps and small lakes which flow in the wake of River Akagera.

Animals in Akagera national park

The Akagera national park serves as home to a great diversity of wild animals among which are: elephants, lions, buffalos, hyenas, zebras, giraffe and several antelopes like the bushbucks, roan antelope, topis, klipspringer, oribis, cape eland, water-buck, duikers and impalas. There are a number of primates species found within this park such as the olive baboons, vervet monkeys, and the nocturnal bush babies. The shallow waters of Lake Ihema are home to a large number of crocodiles and hippos which can best be viewed during boat rides.

Birds in Akagera National Park

This park is one of the places that is not to be missed by any bird watcher along with the great Nyungwe forest national park. It harbours 520 species of birds in the national park. There are a number of species that are endemic to the park and are very rare like the papyrus gonolex which is found in the papyrus swamps. There are also the localized red faced barbets, and the swamp fly catcher as well as the elusive shoebill stork all found in the park.

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ADD-ON ITINERARY

Tuesday 7th December 2027

(Add on package participants only)

Participants will meet at 09:00 at the Kigali memorial and experience a poignant two hour tour.

After the tour, transport will depart from Kigali at 11:30 to Akagera National park where runners will arrive at their accommodation and relax before a full days safari.

Wednesday 8th December 2027

(Add on package participants only)

Participants will enjoy a full days safari, starting with enjoying coffee at sunrise in the national park.

The day will be spent driving around the park trying to see Africa's famous big five; buffalos, lions, leopards, elephants and rhinos!

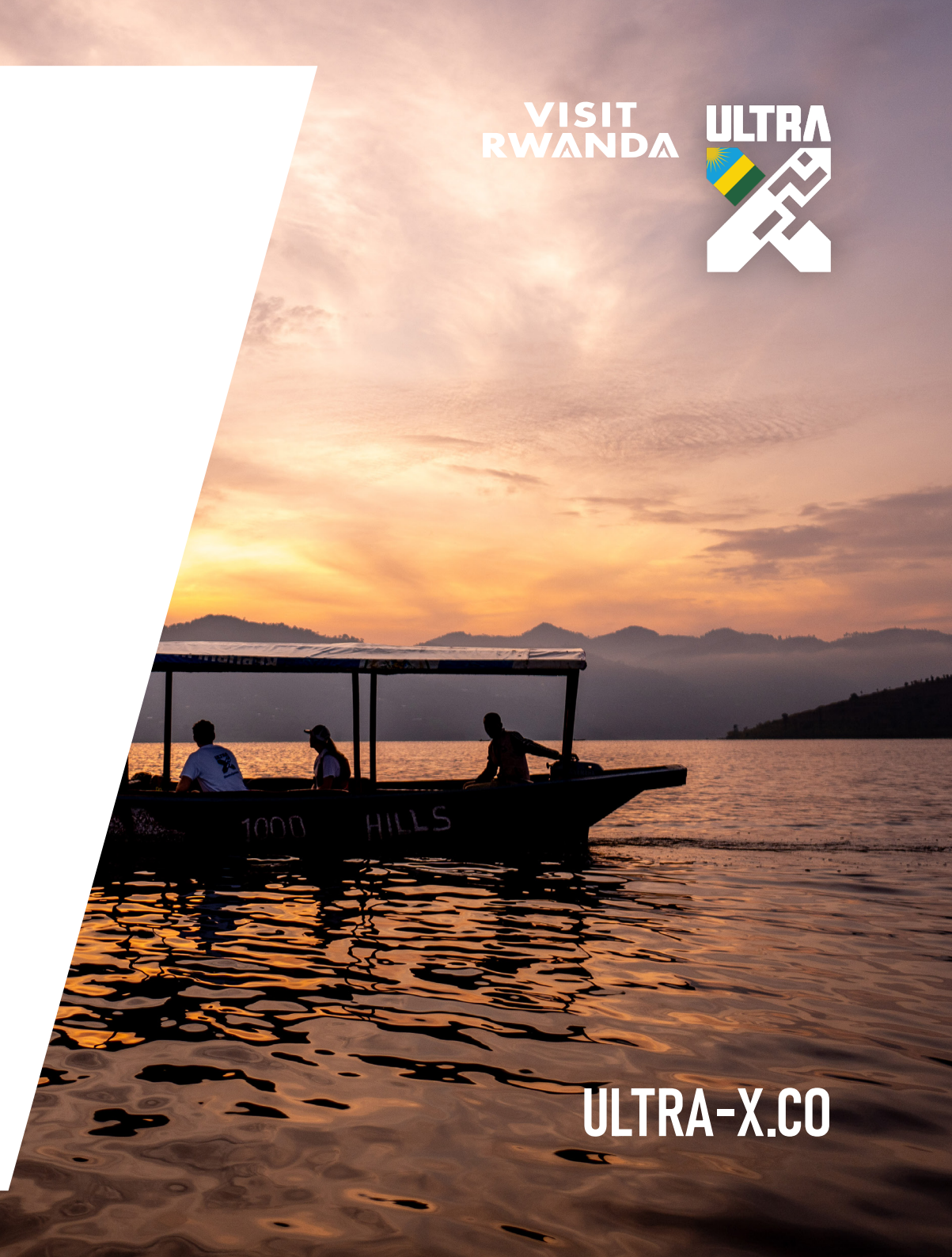
The evening will be spent exploring the south of the park before returning to their accommodation.

Thursday 9th December 2027

(Add on package participants only)

Participants will enjoy a half days safari tour.

Transport will depart the park back to Kigali at 12:00, arriving back in Kigali around 17:00. Participants can either stay on for more of their trip or flying home from Kigali airport.



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ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation during the event weekend (Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights) is tented for most.

However, should you wish to stay in a room instead of a tent, you can book this at registration as an add-on. Rooms come as twins or singles (your choice) as well as an en-suite bathroom. If you book a room as a twin you are welcome to allow a friend or partner to share it with you. They do not have to pay as well.

If you select to stay in a room instead of a tent at registration, this implies for all 3 nights of the event weekend.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Kigali recommendations

Restaurants

NowNow Rolex: casual dining featuring Ugandan-style rolexes (egg and chapati wraps) with great cocktails at affordable prices.

Poivre Noir: more upscale but still casual dining within a nice environment. Higher prices.

Mr. Chips: low-scale environment with roadside seating. Cheap & tasty burgers, chips and poutine!

Meza Malonga: for anyone wanting to get seriously fancy, full course tasting menu made with all local ingredients by an African chef.

Activities

Nyamirambo Women's Center: walking tours of the city, cooking lessons, hair braiding, basket weaving.

Kimironko Market: lively local market with produce, fabric, tailors, and other local artisans.

EcoPark: walking, running, and cycling in a lovely park not far from the city centre.

Umusambi Village: crane sanctuary.

Fazenda Sengha: family friendly horseback riding, archery, and zipline on Mt. Kigali.

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OUR LOCAL PARTNER

TUGENDE

BIKES. FOOD. PEOPLE.

Tugende is a bike workshop and café in Kigali. In Kinyarwanda, Tugende means “LET’S GO.” Tugende was founded to create a lively and inclusive hub in Kigali centred upon a love for cycling, great food, community and wellness. At the centre of everything they do is quality; in their products, services and the amazing team they are building. Tugende has an impact mission beyond their core business to create sustained socioeconomic impact in Rwanda.

Tugende started as a small bakery in the home of one of the co-founders (Meg) who began to create specialty boulangerie items at her house in Rwanda during COVID. Meg is an economist, farmer, baker, lifelong athlete who fell in love with cycling in the land of a thousand hills. In 2022, Meg joined forces with Simon, a passionate cyclist and cycling fan who was operating the Race Around Rwanda and Rwandan Epic races, as well as the bespoke cycling tourism company, Komez. Both saw potential for a “bike cafe” business model in Kigali; but beyond that, both are on a mission to create positive impact for the cycling industry and opportunities for youth athletes in Rwanda.

Mission: To create well being and impact through sport, food and community.

Vision: Rwanda celebrated as the premier country on the African continent for cycling, hospitality, and sports & adventure tourism.

Core values:

Quality, Integrity, Hard work, Energy, Growth



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KIT CHECKS

This is the process by which the race organisers will ensure participants have the mandatory kit and are carrying the correct number of calories.

Kit checks will take the form of spot checks, which will be carried out at random throughout the race. Randomised checks will occur at registration, the start line, checkpoints, the campsite, and the finish line. Please ensure you bring your kit to registration and you can demonstrate that you have the GPX files downloaded on a device.

You **MUST** ensure you have every piece of mandatory kit on the Kit List. If you do not have an item, you will not be able to start the event.

You **MUST** keep as much of (if not all) your mandatory kit in your hand luggage with you when you fly to ensure that a lost bag does not end your event!

SLEEPING

The campsite tent accommodation at Lake Ruhondo and the campsite will feature single person tents (1 person per tent). Participants must bring their own roll mats and sleeping bags to ensure a comfortable nights sleep at both campsites. Temperatures in Rwanda do drop at night and it will be colder at the campsite. It is recommended you bring a warm/thicker sleeping bag.

Provisions will be made to accommodate male or female changing areas.

Although competitors must carry essential safety equipment (such as water bottles, daily nutrition, etc) in their running packs, their race holdall (containing sleeping equipment, clothing, meals etc) is transported between each campsite by the organisers.

RACE BRIEFING

The race safety briefing will be issued in the form of a PDF via email in the week before the race.

DROP OUTS

This is an extreme event and voluntary or imposed withdrawal does happen. This is taken seriously and handled with great respect by the race organisation.

Participants may withdraw from the event at any time. We request that any competitor who wishes to stop their race informs the organisation and hands in their tracker in at Race HQ.

Should a participant retire or be withdrawn from the event, all additional costs incurred (accommodation, transfers, food, etc) must be covered by the participant.

If you cannot finish a stage (as long as you are cleared by the medical team) you may start the following day's stage. However, you will not receive a rank or medal.

KIT CHECKS

Mandatory kit items will be spot checked throughout the weekend. Randomised checks will occur at registration, the start line, checkpoints, the campsite and the finish line.

CUT-OFFS

We want everyone to finish the race whilst enjoying the scenery. We therefore have generous time allowances of 4.44km/h.

Participants must have departed the checkpoint before the cut-off time, or they will not be allowed to continue. Cut offs are subject to change by the Race Director. Any changes will be communicated to participants.

Checkpoint	Distance	Cut-off time
Day 1 - Start	0	06:30
Day 1 - CP1	14.6	09:47
Day 1 - CP2	24.6	12:02
Day 1 - CP3	34.2	14:12
Day 1 - CP4	43.3	16:16
Day 1 - CP5	51.8	18:09
Campsite - Finish	60.5	20:07
Day 2 - Start	0	07:00
Day 2 - CP1	10.6	08:58
Day 2 - CP2	18.7	10:52
Day 2 - CP3	29.3	13:20
Day 2 - CP4	39.1	15:37
Finish	50.9	18:23

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SUITABLE FOOTWEAR

Well in advance of the race, participants will need to decide on the right footwear. The heat and friction produced whilst running not only puts shoes under extreme stress, it also causes feet to swell. As is good practice before any race, participants should ensure their shoes are sufficiently worn in. The same can be said for all kit and equipment – it must be comfortable over long distances.

The course is split between technical and hard trail with some sections of soft mud. Trail shoes are recommended.

EQUIPMENT

A comprehensive Kit List will be issued to participants upon registration. This will contain all mandatory and recommended kit and equipment.

CLOTHING

What a participant chooses to run in is up to them. We recommend trying different options to find out what is most comfortable over long distances.

As the race organisers transfer a bag between the start, campsite and finish, participants have the luxury of being able to bring a change of clothes for the weekend, and something to keep warm in the evenings when the temperature drops.

CLIMATE

Daytime temperatures average around 22°C, with temperatures cooling to possible lows of around 5-8°C at night. This should be taken into consideration when packing. Conditions are tropical and there is a fair chance of rain.





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BAGS & RACE HOLDALLS

Participants are allowed three bags for the weekend:

Suitcase: to be left at the hotel in Kigali for the weekend.

Race holdall (10kg): This will be transported between the start line, campsite, and finish line by the race organisers and should contain everything required for the entirety of the race. Participants will have access to their race holdalls in the campsite after the first stage on Saturday and at the finish line on Sunday. It must be a waterproof holdall bag and must not exceed 10kg. Holdalls weighing more than 10kg will not be transported. They will be weighed. Any items which are attached to the outside of the bag or sticking out will not be transported.

Running pack: This is the bag participants will carry each day whilst running. Running packs must be large enough to carry the mandatory items on the kit list.

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INSURANCE

Personal insurance that covers ultramarathon trail running is required to participate in this event. It is the responsibility of the individual to check that they have adequate cover (most standard travel insurance policies do not include ultramarathon running). This must cover you fully against the costs of hospitalisation, medical care and repatriation if you were not able to continue the Race, including the cost of air or other forms of evacuation and / or repatriation should sickness or injury necessitate such a course of action.

There are several insurance companies that offer ultramarathon trail running cover. We recommend:

ITRA Insurance
The British Mountaineering Council Mann
Broadbent

SAFETY

It is recommended to consult a doctor before taking part in endurance challenges and to discuss vaccines and medication before travelling.

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MEDAL RIBBONS

All finishers will receive a race medal. Different medal ribbons will be awarded based upon the finishing times outlined below. Those that do not want a medal will be able to opt-out at race registration. For the 110km race different medal ribbons will be awarded based upon the finishing times outlined below.

As part of our [Sustainability Policy](#), the Green Ribbon will be awarded to the competitor that displays the highest commitment to reducing their environmental impact both in preparation for and during the race (as determined by the organisers).



Black Ribbon
Under 11 hours



White Ribbon
Under 13 hours



Blue Ribbon
Over 13 hours



Green Ribbon
Environmental award



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MANAGING YOUR BOOKING

Racespace is the registration platform we use where participants sign up and can manage their booking from.

In order to manage your booking, log on to your Racespace account and navigate to [My Entries](#).

It is here that you can see all races that you are signed up to and add extras to a race using the entry actions button.

In order to see what you have previously purchased, the My Receipts tab on the My Entries page will display all previous purchases.

If there are any other issues then try the [Racespace support page](#) which will hopefully answer your question. If not then feel free to get in touch.

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RACE RULES

No. Rule

1.	There will be no unofficial runners (i.e pacers).
2.	Runners must be completely aware of the length and specificity of the event and be prepared for it. It is the runners' responsibility to stay up to date with the event information as it is emailed to participants and published on the event webpage.
3.	Each runner's bib number must be worn on the front of the body and must be easily visible at all times.
4.	Runners must always follow the marked trail/course.
5.	Each runner must complete the entire course under their own power.
6.	Runners may not store supplies of any kind along the trail. E.g drop bag
7.	Each runner must be checked IN to all checkpoints. You will be disqualified if your time is not registered at every aid station.
8.	Cut-off times will be strictly enforced. Runners leaving any aid station after the cut off will not be listed as official finishers and will not be eligible for awards.
9.	Injection of PEDs or Fluids/ IVs by non-official race medical personnel will result in disqualification.
10.	Littering of any kind will result in immediate disqualification. Please respect the natural beauty of our trails and the right of everyone to enjoy them. Littering will threaten our use of the trails and the future of the race.

No. Rule

11.	Any runner who is unable to finish the race must personally inform the aid station captain of the nearest checkpoint of their decision to withdraw. This serves as official notice of a runner's withdrawal from the race. Runners who leave the course without turning in their number will be classified as "lost," initiating search and rescue.
12.	Runners are responsible for the actions of any supporters. If your supporters are deemed to have broken any of the runner race rules the runner will be held accountable. Your supporters act on YOUR behalf and based on YOUR instructions.
13.	Runners must carry with them AT ALL TIMES the mandatory equipment required.
14.	There will be mandatory kit checks at the start, on route, and at the finish. Failure to comply with the kit checks will result in disqualification.
15.	Runners are not to be accompanied by dogs at any time whilst on course.
16.	Any athlete who has been determined to have violated anti-doping rules at any time - through IAAF, the World Anti-Doping Agency, UK Anti Doping or any other National Sports Federation is ineligible for entry into any of our events. We reserve the right to conduct pre and post-competition testing for any and all performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs) listed on the current WADA Prohibited List. Any athlete who refuses to submit to anti-doping controls, if selected for testing, shall be disqualified and subject to a lifetime ban from our events.
17.	Runners must not be crewed in any way at this event.
18.	Runners must at all times comply with any instruction given by race management, staff and volunteers.

*All race rules above will be subject to Ultra X penalty and disqualification guidelines found in our Terms and Conditions [here](#), Clause 22.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Included?	Yes	No
Race entry	✓	
Fully marked course	✓	
Medical support throughout the event	✓	
Opportunity to purchase event photography	✓	
Ground assistance and full safety support	✓	
UTMB World Series Indexed race (100k & 50k category)	✓	
Finisher's medal	✓	
Race accommodation Friday, Saturday, Sunday	✓	
Transfers to and from the race accommodation on Friday and Monday	✓	
110km runners & 50km runners will be provided a packed lunch before boarding transport on Friday and an evening meal on arrival at Lake Ruhondo. 110km runners will then be self sufficient with dehydrated meals on Saturday, through to Sunday evening where they will enjoy a buffet meal at the race afterparty. 50km runners will enjoy breakfast and a lunch at the campsite at Lake Ruhondo on Saturday before moving to the campsite where they will be self sufficient with dehydrated meals from Saturday evening until the buffet meal at the race afterparty Sunday evening. 110km & 50km runners will enjoy breakfast together on Monday before returning to Kigali.	✓	
Race after party on Lake Ruhondo and buffet meal	✓	
Any accommodation in Kigali before or after the race weekend (accommodation is provided Friday, Saturday, Sunday)		✗
Kigali memorial tour & safari excursion add on (this can be purchased as a separate race entry ticket with the add on)		✗
Flights		✗
Personal food, kit and equipment		✗
Comprehensive insurance (to cover cancellations, loss of items, injury etc)		✗
Training costs		✗
Spending money		✗
Transport home for runners who are disqualified or withdraw early		✗



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YOU CAN DO SO MUCH MORE
THAN YOU THINK YOU CAN

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