



19TH-24TH OCTOBER 2026

# ULTRA X SOUTH AFRICA

## THE MAX - 330KM - 6 DAYS

RACE INFORMATION PACK

30.9°N/6.93°W

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100K M

# WELCOME

You know our Half Distance events (Finland, Scotland, Madeira...), you know our Full Distance ones - Jordan, Tanzania... Introducing, our one and only 'MAX' distance race.

Ultra X South Africa 'the MAX' takes place in the wild and dramatic landscapes of the Western Cape, one of the most diverse and awe-inspiring regions on the planet. From fertile valleys and untamed wilderness to towering mountain ranges and the sculpted sandstone of the Cederberg, this race showcases South Africa at its most raw and beautiful.

Over six stages and 330km, runners will journey across vineyards, orchards, and farmlands, through remote gorges and mountain passes, and into landscapes rarely open to the public. Each day offers new challenges: flowing singletrack carved by local farmers, steep climbs that test resilience, long stages that demand grit, and hidden wilderness trails rich with unique flora and fauna.

Each night, participants will come together in exclusive and wild camps far from the noise of the outside world. You'll enjoy your own private tent beneath starry skies and gather around the glowing campfire — the beating heart of every evening. This is where the day's stories are shared, friendships are forged, and #theultraxperience comes alive.

This is not just a race — it is an immersion into South Africa's natural wonder and cultural warmth. The route is as varied as it is unforgiving, with extreme shifts in temperature, challenging elevation gains, and ever-changing terrain underfoot. For those who take it on, Ultra X South Africa is an extraordinary adventure and a true test of endurance, strength, and spirit.

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# KEY INFORMATION

There are six stages taking place on the 19th October - 24th October 2026.

Stage distances can be seen below:

- Day 1: 50km – Valley to Valley
- Day 2: 41km – Trails of the People
- Day 3: 50km – Into the Wild
- Day 4: 80km – The Beast
- Day 5: 59km – Hidden Wilderness
- Day 6: 50km – The Cederberg Finale

Ultra X South Africa 330km THE MAX is a UTMB® indexed race in the 100k Category.

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

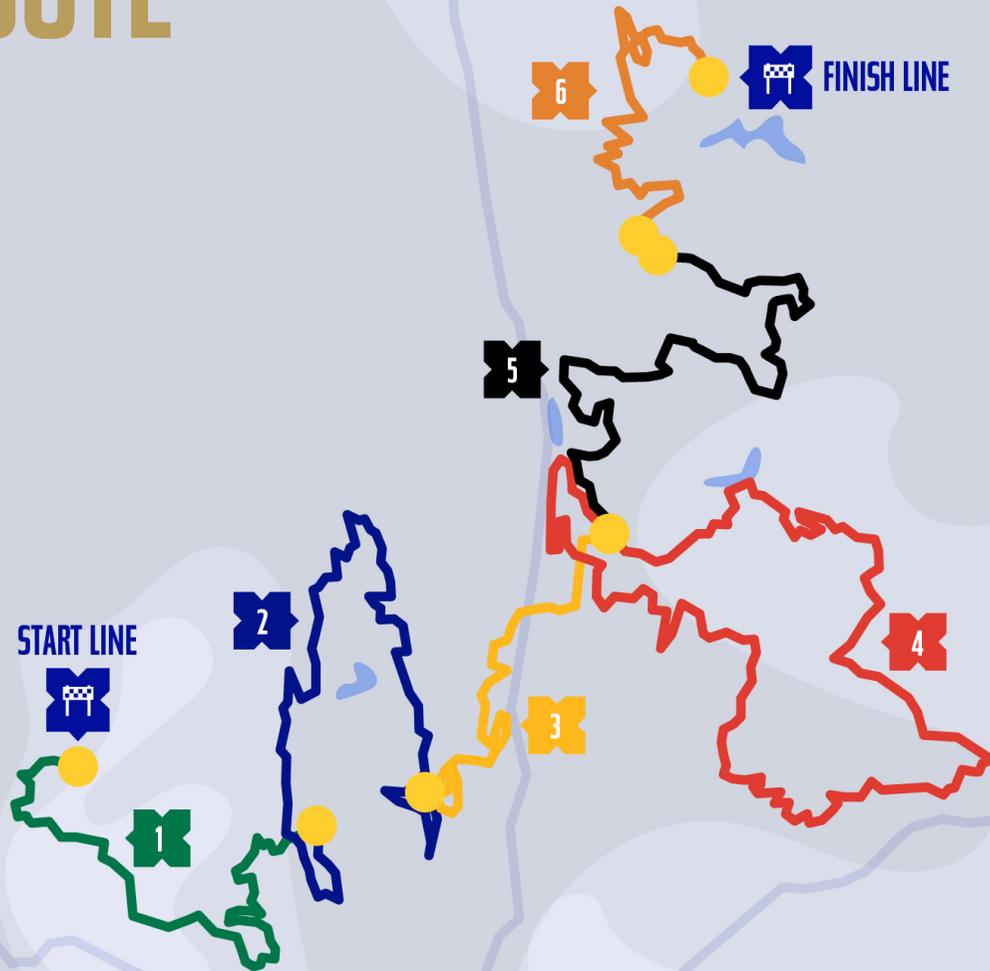
Runners arrive at the Race Hotel in Cape Town on Saturday 17th October to meet fellow competitors and prepare for the challenge ahead. On Sunday 18th October, there will be welcome brief, kit checks and registration before departing to the Tulbagh Valley.

Add on options for hotel accommodation will be announced shortly on our registration page. If you experience any difficulties, please let [contact@ultra-x.co](mailto:contact@ultra-x.co) know.

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# THE ROUTE



5K

## SOUTH AFRICA

- ROUTE 1 (48KM)
- ROUTE 2 (60KM)
- ROUTE 3 (50KM)
- ROUTE 4 (80KM)
- ROUTE 5 (47KM)
- ROUTE 6 (29KM)

# 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 timing chip 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.

# CUT-OFFS

We want everyone to finish the race whilst enjoying the scenery. We therefore have generous time allowances of 2-3 hours per 10km.

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.

# RACE BRIEFING

The race safety briefing will take place on Sunday morning at the Race Hotel

# RACE HOLDALLS

Race holdall (20kg): This will be transported between camps by the race organisers and should contain everything required for the entirety of the race.

# KIT CHECKS

Kit checks will take place on Sunday morning at the Race Hotel in Cape Town.

Please ensure you have all of the mandatory equipment.

# SLEEPING

The living accommodation consists of a single person tent. Participants must provide their own roll mats and sleeping bags. Although competitors must carry essential safety equipment (such as water bottles, daily nutrition, basic medical kit, a whistle etc) in their running packs, their race holdall (containing sleeping equipment, clothing, meals etc) is transported between each campsite by the organisers.

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# BAGS & RACE HOLDALLS

Participants are allowed three bags for the week:

**Race holdall (20kg):** This will be transported between camps by the race organisers and should contain everything required for the entirety of the race.

**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.

**Travel Bag:** You will be able to leave this bag at the hotel for your travels before/after the event.

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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. 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 30 hours



White Ribbon  
Under 34 hours



Blue Ribbon  
Over 34 hours



Green Ribbon  
Environmental award



# RACE RULES

## No. Rule

1.	There will be no unofficial runner (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 be stay up to date with the event information as is emailed to competitors and published on the event webpage.
3.	Each runners 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 aid stations. 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 supporter 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 gear checks at the start, on route, or at the finish. Failure to comply with the gear 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.



**YOU CAN DO SO MUCH MORE  
THAN YOU THINK YOU CAN**

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