

Ouse Valley Way Marathon and Half-Marathon



20th September 2026

Race day instructions

Thank you for signing up for an Ouse Valley Way race along one of England's longest rivers, the River Ouse that starts in Yorkshire and finishes in Kings Lynn. In the old county of Huntingdonshire, the route stretches a convenient 26 miles.

The race organisers are BRJ Run and Tri in Huntingdon and the Race Director is Claire Ashton. These are club organised races completely run by volunteers.

These are trail races where the paths are a mixture of grass, gravel, and tarmac. Whilst we try our best to clear the course, some of the paths are uneven, may have trip hazards and low branches, and competitors are responsible for their own safety. Due to the off-road route, the route may need to be changed at short notice.

Due to the dry summer, there are places along the route where the ground is very dry and cracked. These are towards the end of both routes around Holywell.

Suitable shoes

If the weather is dry before the race, road shoes are suitable. If the weather has been wet, more grippy trail shoes with smaller lugs, are recommended, rather than those for rocky surfaces.

Navigation

The routes are available to follow via Ordnance Survey and GPX. Please download the route as we cannot place marshals at all points along it.

Important change to the St Ives section

There is a civic parade happening in St Ives on the day and we will need to re-route the route to avoid this. Please follow the arrows and marshal instructions. The new route will run along a parallel road to the usual High Street route.

Half-marathon route

[Ordnance Survey half-marathon route](#)

[GPX half-marathon route via Garmin](#)

Marathon route

[Ordnance Survey marathon route](#)

[GPX marathon route via Garmin](#)

Where it's not possible to run along the river, the route passes through villages and towns and includes road crossings. There are no road closures, please cross carefully.

Competitors are expected to self-navigate and there will be marshals, route markings and yellow tape at key places.

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Race details

Marathon

Registration, number collection and start – One Leisure, St Neots, PE19 2SA

Open – 8.00 am

Race start – 9.30 am

Start – To the side of One Leisure

W3W – longingly.install.invested

Cars can be parked for free at One Leisure all day and can use the toilets. Registration is outside near to the start.

Finish – The Crystal Ship Café and Bar, Earith PE28 3QF

W3W – confident.vineyard.lunge

Cars can be parked for free at Crystal Ship all day.

Half-Marathon

Registration, number collection and start – Godmanchester Town Cricket Club, Fox Grove, PE29 2BN

Open – 9.00 am to 10.15 am

W3W – shut.cakes.emulated

There is a small amount of parking at the cricket club. Cars cannot be parked there once the race starts. There is all day free parking on Post Street in Godmanchester.

Half-marathon race start – 10.30 am

Start – Godmanchester Town Cricket Club

W3W – shut.cakes.emulated

Finish – The Crystal Ship Café and Bar, Earith PE28 3QF

W3W – confident.vineyard.lunge

Cars can be parked for free at Crystal Ship all day.

Transport to the race starts

Transport is available to anyone who pre-books a seat and takes marathon and half-marathon runners from the finish at Earith to their starts. This is so you can park your cars in Earith ready for the finish. Seats are booked in advance. If you booked via Sublime, there was the option to book a seat, so you may have booked one already.

If you booked your race via Find a Race or need to book a seat, [click here](#) to do so.

Departing from – The Crystal Ship, Earith to the race finishes

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Marathon people

Leaving Crystal Ship at 8.15 am to St Neots

Half-marathon people

Leaving Crystal Ship at 9.30 am to Godmanchester

Feed stations

Feed stations are spread along the routes. Please carry your own cup or bottle to be refilled. Each station has reusable cups. Drinks and food are all vegan and gluten free.

- Water
- Electrolyte drink
- Crisps
- Sweets

Marathon point - miles	Half-marathon point - miles	Landmark
4		Near Rugby Club, St Neots after Lammas Field
6.4		Paxton Pits, St Neots
9		Buckden Marina
13		Post Street carpark, Godmanchester
17.4	4.4	Houghton Mill
20	7	Guided bus carpark, St Ives
23.8	10.8	Pike and Eel pub, Needingworth
26.2	13.1	Finish line

Facilities at the starts and finish

One Leisure, St Neots – marathon registration, start and race headquarters

There is free car parking and cars can be left all day. Please car share and follow instructions so that cars are parked safely and considerately.

Runners can use the toilet facilities inside One Leisure.

The Crystal Ship Café and Bar – marathon and half finishes

The café is located on an industrial estate in Earith, please follow your satnav and look out for a sign for the race HQ and bar once you are on the estate.

There is plenty of free parking and cars can be left all day.

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At the finishes

The races finish alongside the bar, a short drop down from the river.

The bar will be open for finishers and supporters and is serving freshly made rolls and jacket potatoes as well as drinks.

Godmanchester Town Cricket Club – half registration, start and race headquarters

There is a small car park at the cricket club and cars can be left there until the race starts. There are toilets in the pavilion and hot drinks are available for £1 each. This goes to the cricket club who is not charging us to use the pavilion.

First aid support

The races are supported by Rutland Medical Services. There will be fixed first aid support at the finish line and a roving ambulance and team along the course.

If you need medical support, call the first aid response team on 0800 998 7202.

This number is on your race number.

Additional support

Fully trained first aiders are marshalling and spread through the course, at the half-marathon start and the race finishes. All marshals have water for anyone in need.

Runner safety

- Please complete the medical details section on the rear of your number.
- Each race has tail runners who will stay at the back of the race with the last participant.
- The medical support team's telephone number is on all race numbers.

Trophies, medals and prizes

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third male and female runners in the half-marathon and marathon races.

Medals

All finishers will receive a medal.

Results

Sublime Race Timing publishes the results live - www.sublimetiming.com/results

Free race photographs

Finish line photos will be taken and available from the Sublime Timing website after the event. We will also post photos on the Ouse Valley Way Marathon Facebook page.

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Communication during the races

WhatsApp channel

We have set up a WhatsApp channel for announcements on race day. We will only use it to share race information. Please join it via this link.

https://chat.whatsapp.com/B6DJV2m2IPg12tDw0uvYnD?mode=ems_copy_t

It is difficult to track emails and messages on race day. If you need to send a message to me, please use WhatsApp on 07870 270676.

Licensing and insurance

Trail Running Association

The races are licenced by The Trail Running Association

Permit number – 8100

UK Athletics Insurance

Under the race licence and affiliation to England Athletics the race is insured. [Follow this link for details.](#)

Have a great run.

Claire

Race Director