

BEAT THE BOAT – JUNE30TH 9.45AM WINDSOR/ETON – FINAL RACE INSTRUCTIONS

Getting to the race by Car

Please note, there is no free parking or official parking at the Race venue. Instead, you'll need to park in one of the many car parks in Windsor. (See the section on parking below). For those arriving early, there is a limited amount of free parking at the Romney Lock Car Park (SL4 6HX) which is a 15 minute walk to the Race HQ. We will have Marshals in and around this car park until it's full. They will be there to direct you to the Race HQ (For number pickup and spectator boat ticket pickup). There are also public toilets on the way to the race HQ, which we recommend taking advantage of.

Getting to the race by Train

Windsor and Eton Riverside station is 5 minutes' walk from the race HQ and 10 mins walk from the Boats. The train from London Paddington has a change at Slough arrives at Windsor and Eton central which is a 5 minute walk to the boat launching area and a 10 minute walk to the race HQ. Please consult the train timetable nearer the time at www.thetrainline.com

Getting to the race by bike

There is an area to lock bikes on Eton/Windsor Bridge, near to race HQ. Race organisers cannot accept responsibility for the security of bikes.

Parking

Please note, there is no free parking at the race venue. Parking will be your responsibility. A detailed guide to Parking in Windsor and Eton can be found [here](#) (via the [Parkopedia website](#)). We **do not** recommend trying to park on the Eton side of the river as the bridge between Eton and Windsor is pedestrian access only, and if the carparks are full, you will have a long Journey getting around to the Windsor Side. We recommend using the Romney Lock or Home Park Carparks due to the locality and cost. The castle and river street car parks are the closest to the spectator Boat access/launch, but are not long stay and will have a higher cost. We recommend you plan your journey/parking well in advance and take into account the location of the Race HQ, Race Start and Boat Access for spectators, as these are either side of the river (Runners will only need to be the Eton side of the river, whereas boat spectators will need to be on the Windsor side of the river). There is a pedestrian bridge in-between. **We recommend using the Romney Lock, Home Park and Windsor and Eton Riverside car parks**

Race HQ – Main 10k Race Registration

The Race HQ Will be situated in the Rear (beer) Garden of the [George Inn pub in Eton](#) (77 High Street, Eton, Berkshire, SL4 6AF) and numbers/race T-shirts will all need to be picked up here from 8am on Race day (**Numbers will NOT be posted out**). On the day entries and/or transfers will not be permitted. Race/Start Finish is a short walk from the race HQ. The boat embarkation for spectators is a 5 minute walk from the race HQ, boat spectators no longer need to come to race registration (this is a change from previous years,) they are to head straight to the boats where they will be checked off on embarkation.. **PLEASE AIM TO HAVE PICKED UP YOUR RACE NUMBER BEFORE 9.15AM OR YOU RISK MISSING THE START OF THE EVENT. SPECTATORS ON THE BOATS WILL NEED TO BE READY TO EMBARK ON THE BOATS BEFORE 9.30 AS THE BOATS NEED TO BOARD ALL PASSENGERS AND POSITION THEMSELVES TO START WELL BEFORE 9.45AM.**

We will have helpers on the bridge to direct you either way you need to go. Our [event map](#) will show all the location information you need:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1sewSIhE9KWaYWNHV01MIAJ4D45k&usp=sharing>



Main 10k Race Number and T-Shirt Collection

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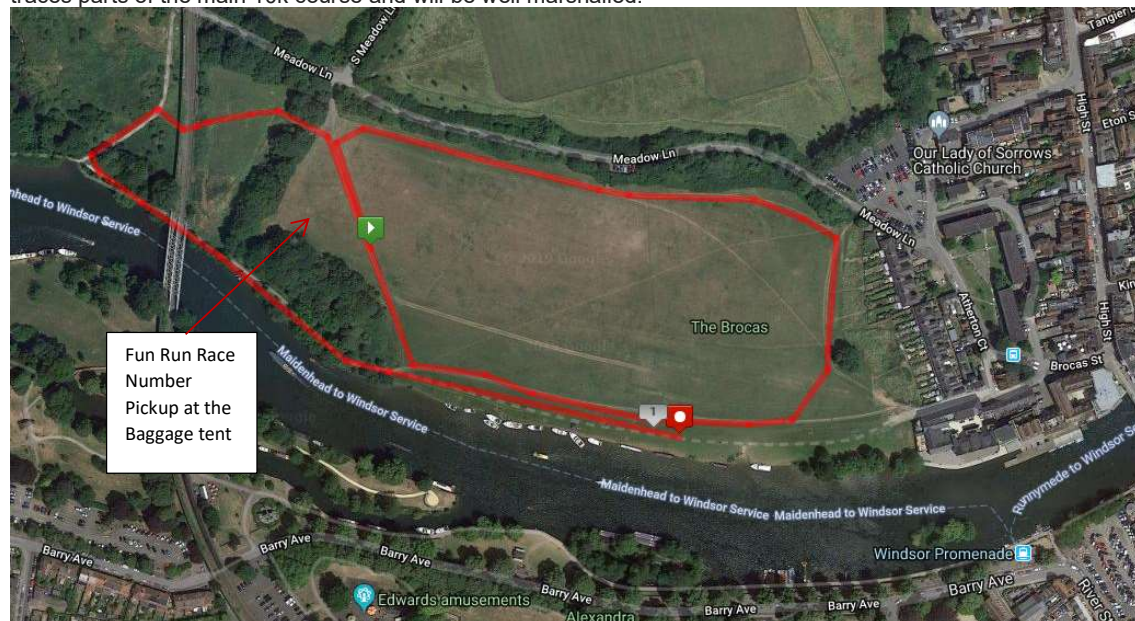
This will all take place at **Race HQ** (The George Inn) and NOT the race village/start area on the Brocas Field. Numbers for runners will be collected from the standard surname A-D, E-H etc etc tables. Boat Spectators are to head directly to the Boat embarkation on the Windsor side of the River. There will be plenty of people to help you in this area. After collecting your number, you'll be directed in a one way system around the beer garden to the T-shirt collection area. All race T-shirts are preassigned to the sizes you chose when entering (We will display a list in registration for those that have forgotten). They have been made to order, so there will be no official swapping of sizes permitted (Although come and see us at the end of the event, as we may be able to facilitate some size swaps between runners). For people who have transferred entries, if you gave a new size requirement on your transfer email, that will be provided. If not, it will be the original size ordered). As you'll be given your T-shirt **before the race**, we recommend either bringing a bag (that you can drop off in our bag drop at the race village or popping it back in your car). Anyone who actually races in the race t-shirt will be our personal hero and will receive a dozen high fives (This happened last year and was rather wonderful)

Boat Embarkation – Prepaid Boat Spectators

All spectators, who have pre-paid for boat tickets, need to be assembled on the Quayside (Windsor) where we have several Marshals and helpers to ensure they get on the correct boat. Spectators need to be there ready by 9.30am to ensure swift loading. Please bear in mind time taken to get from Car parks to Quayside. Boat Spectators **do not** need to go to the race village area on the Brocas fields. We will have Marshals everywhere we can in order to intercept those who may have avoided reading the race instructions. Please note, the boats have toilet facilities and fully licensed bars, should you feel in the need of a drink at 9am (Same logic as airport beers). **Please do not miss your boats!** They will be leaving on time, irrespective of missing passengers. They will have banners on the side signifying whether they are the 40/50 min boat etc. There will be a marshal on each boat with a list of all passengers, so will cross your name off the list as you embark.

1 Mile Kids Fun Run – 9am

New for 2019, we now have a 1 mile kids race at 9am, structured to allowed time to run before making it to the spectator boats. **Numbers for this race are to be collected from the Baggage tent within the Race Village on the main brocas field** (NOT at the Race HQ at the George Pub). The start line is very close to the baggage tent, as are toilets and food/drink, but please still try to be here well before 9 to get your numbers pinned and children primed. The 1 mile course will be cover much of the BTB start/finish areas and will be led by an adult lead runner and marshalled. Children running in this race, and entered on the spectator boats need to be able to complete the 1 mile course in approx 20 mins or quicker. This will allow time to walk the 10 mins to the boat embarkation point before the boats leave. All passengers **MUST BE** on the boats by 9:35am so that the boats have time to move into position before the 10k starts at 9:45 sharp.. The route for the 1 mile fun run is below. It traces parts of the main 10k course and will be well marshalled.



Race Village

The race village includes the **Start/Finish area, Toilets, Bag Drop, Food/Drink Vendors, Runface shop** (selling 2 technical tee shirts for £15 on the day!) and a pop up Windsor and Eton brewery shop. Please note that we cannot drink beer directly on the field but the shop will sell gift packs and carry away ales. (Don't worry the George pub is expecting you after the race and is only a 5 min walk from the finish line, all runners will have a voucher offering £1 off their first ale in the George pub in their goody bag.)

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Please also bring CASH with you on the day as most of the vendors will only be able to accept cash on the day due to poor reception on the field.

Our map is loaded with information but we will have Marshals and helpers everywhere we can:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1sewSlhE9KWAYWNHVo1MIAJ4D45k&usp=sharing>

Changing Facilities

There are none. Please don't take your clothes off in public in Windsor. If the Royal Standard is flying over Windsor castle, we are reasonably sure the Queen will find out about it, and you'll be in all sorts of right royal trouble.

Toilets

If you see an open public toilet on the way pop in to save time. Whilst we have several portaloos at the start there will always inevitably be queues.

Bag Drop

We have a free baggage tent close to the start/finish area of the race. The baggage drop area will be Marshalled during the event, but anything left there will be at the owners own risk. We cannot take responsibility for anything that goes missing. Please remember to pick your bag up at the end.

Race Start

The race starts at **9.45am! 9.45am! 9.45am!!** The Boats set sail at the same time and the race will begin when all 5 boats sound their hooters (or horns? Not sure of the nautical terminology). We will ask runners to line up on the start in order of their predicted finish time. There are plenty of parts of the course where you can overtake (the initial 2 loops of the Brocas field being ideal), so please don't steam roller each other on the start line. The race director will have a PA system and advise you of anything you need to know.

The Course

The course has been up on the website for months, and our race day map also has a detailed course guide (including Marshal and drinks points). We have lead bikes on the course and plenty of Marshals, but please take the time to check the course out to ensure you know where you are going, in the unlikely event you can't spot a marshal or route arrows. We've run/walked/rode the course many times over the last few months to ensure clarity. The route is flat and please remember this is a TRAIL race. Providing it stays dry this week, road shoes will be suitable. The course is a mix of grass, gravel path, paved path and some longer grass skirting around a ploughed field. We wouldn't expect many PB's if you compare this to a road course. The routes of the boats and the runners obviously diverge several times, so there will be points where someone running on target to beat their boat, will be behind it, and other times where they will be in front of it. Please note that runners will enter the final field and still have approx. 800 metres to go as they do a lap around the field before finishing. Every effort has been made to ensure the boats finish as close to their target times as possible. The boats will sound their hooters when they finish. The design of the course over the final 1km should mean a runner on target time will be in a sprint finish with several tonnes of boat...it should be awesome. On the course, please be careful as the Thames path is open to the public (Lead bikes will attempt to clear the way), the course is a rough trail in places and you of course may be distracted by the boats. Please pay attention to where you are going and listen to the marshals as they are there to keep you safe.

Course Safety, Marshals and Headphones

As we've said before, runner safety is paramount to us. Please don't race if you are unwell, and if you aren't sure, please speak to one of our medical volunteers in the race village area. Marshals are on the course for your safety, they are all volunteers so please be friendly towards both them and members of the public (We want to have this event next year!). Headphones are not permitted because you'll need to hear instructions from Marshals and will need to be aware of members of the public, lead bikes and medical bikes (They also need to know you have heard them).

Drinks Stations

We have 2 drinks stations on the course at roughly 4k and 7k distance. Both will be stocked with water.....and beerand prosecco (Drink responsibly please, but feel free to hang out at the drink stations for a chat/beer if you need a break). Any runners aged under 18 will have their numbers marked and will not be permitted to pick up alcoholic drinks.

Marshals

As we've said, all Marshals are volunteers and everyone involved in the event is either a runner like you, or a suffering significant other of a runner. We at runface are also runners like you. We've done everything possible to ensure beat the boat is the sort of event we'd love to race ourselves! I'm sure our Marshals will appreciate any smiles or high fives you send their way. The majority of which will all be retiring to the George Inn after the event, so please join us. If you know someone who wants to volunteer some time as a marshal, in registration or as a finish line helper, please contact rob@runface.co.uk

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Goody Bags

Goody bags will be given out after the race in the finish funnel. They will contain some drinks, snacks and vouchers redeemable for money off from the George Inn pub in Eton (where you picked your race number from). If you don't plan on using your vouchers, why not give them to a marshal on the way home?

Prize Giving

We aim to do the prize giving at 11am. Prizes will be given to 1st,2nd,3rd Men and Ladies, 1st V40/V50/V60 men and ladies and 1st Team (First team to get 2 men and 2 ladies over the finish line). We'll have spotters on the line hopefully letting you know if you've won something, so please don't all disappear.

Runface Shop

There will be a runface popup shop at the race village. We'll be selling all technical tops 2 for £15 (normally £16 online) and we'll only be doing this on the day. Please aim to bring cash if you think you may want to buy something. (Checkout our stock beforehand: www.runface.co.uk/shop). You can buy these before and after the race.

Race Village Facilities

Within the race village on the Brocas field, there will be several food and drink vendors, including an ice cream man! Please come and support these vendors both before and after the race!

Windsor based 94 Signals from the Army will also be on site with a recruitment tent and several personnel and vehicles. This year we are also proud to support the Dash charity (Domestic Abuse Stops Here) who are a fantastic charity that save lives and are volunteering on the day (they will also have a tent at the race village)

Photos

We'll hope have some roving photographers out on the course. Give them a smile! Photos will be available for free after the event so make sure you give them a good pose. Our finish area probably has one of the greatest backdrops you'll ever see, so you'll want a picture!

After the Event

If you're coming down with the family, there are many great places to eat and drink in Windsor, so we'd recommend making a day of it. You'll have a voucher for the George inn, or if it's bursting to capacity, there are many other great places in Windsor and Eton. Most of the larger runner clubs, marshals and events team will be at the George Inn, so we'd love to hear your feedback.

Results

We aim to have official results up as soon as possible after the event. Please note, the race is now chip timed.

Useful Links:

[Runface Website](#)

[Parking Map/Guide of Windsor](#)

[Beat the Boat Route and Site Map](#)