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RUNNER'S BUCKET LIST

WORLD MAJORS 8

From seven to eight — the 2027 edition, with Cape Town

Entry routes, timing and race-week prep for every major



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AT A GLANCE

The 8 majors, at a glance

Cape Town has joined the Abbott World Marathon Majors after Sydney, making eight. Everything below is for the 2027 races.

01	**TOKYO**	**$230**
	Sun, March 7, 2027 · Lottery (August, year before) · Charity · Tour packages	
02	**BOSTON**	**$270**
	Mon, April 19, 2027 · Qualifying time (BQ) · Charity · Tour packages	
03	**LONDON**	**£79.99**
	Sat, April 24, 2027 · Ballot (spring) · Qualifying · Charity · Packages	
04	**CAPE TOWN**	**ZAR 800**
	Sun, May 23, 2027 · Ballot · Charity · Tour packages	
05	**SYDNEY**	**A$330**
	Sun, August 29, 2027 · Ballot (free to enter) · Charity · Tour · Gold Club	
06	**BERLIN**	**€215**
	Sun, September 26, 2027 · Lottery (autumn) · Qualifying · Charity · Packages	
07	**CHICAGO**	**$250**
	Sun, October 10, 2027 · Lottery (autumn) · Qualifying · Charity · Packages	
08	**NEW YORK**	**$315**
	Sun, November 1, 2026 · Drawing (February) · Qualifying · Charity · Packages	

Fees are the headline marathon fee as of October 21, 2026. New York shows the November 1, 2026 race; the 2027 date hasn't been announced.

ENTRY CALENDAR

When do entries open?

Majors take entries about a year out. Miss the window and you wait a year — use this calendar to plan your next one.

TOKYO	Race 3/7	Est. 8/14~8/28
BOSTON	Race 4/19	Est. 9/14~9/18
LONDON	Race 4/24	Est. 4/24~5/1
CAPE TOWN	Race 5/23	Est. 6/10~6/24
SYDNEY	Race 8/29	Est. 9/29~10/19
BERLIN	Race 9/26	Open ~11/12
CHICAGO	Race 10/10	Open ~10/29
NEW YORK	Race 11/1	Est. 2/4~2/25

Est. = Estimate — last year's dates moved forward a year

Save a race and we'll remind you 3 days before entries open and the day before they close

PacerTrip app · Official dates are set by each race



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TOKYO MARATHON

Sun, March 7, 2027 · Tokyo, Japan

Starts at the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building, runs through Iidabashi, Kanda, Nihonbashi and Ginza, turns at Asakusa and finishes on Gyoko-dori in front of Tokyo Station.

Gentle downhills make it fast, and the crowds never let up.

MAJOR 01

TOKYO.

Race day

Sun, March 7, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Closed

Fri, August 14, 2026 ~ Fri, August 28, 2026

Fee

$230

Start · Limit

09:10 · 7 hours (16:10 finish)

How to enter

Lottery (August, year before)
Charity · Tour packages

Course

Flat · PB-friendly
7-hour limit

Good to know

Race-day time UTC+9
Bib pickup: Tokyo Big Sight South...

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 01

TOKYO. Course

The Tokyo Marathon, held on March 7, 2027, marks its 20th edition.

The course starts in front of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building, passes Iidabashi, Kanda, Nihonbashi and Ginza, turns at Asakusa (near Sensō-ji), then returns via Ginza to finish on Gyoko-dori in front of Tokyo Station.

Mostly gentle downhill, it is considered good for personal bests.

Alongside Boston, London, Berlin, Chicago and New York, it is one of the six World Marathon Majors, a status it gained in 2012.

Start

Marathon 09:10 (Mar 7, 2027)

Time limit

7 hours (16:10 finish)

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 01

TOKYO. Race-day tips

Tokyo Marathon 2027 is the 20th-anniversary race on Sunday, March 7, and finishers receive a 20th-anniversary premium edition finisher medal. Entry is mainly by lottery.

The general lottery is open from 11:00 on August 14 to 17:00 on August 28, 2026 (Japan time), with results announced on September 18.

Competition is fierce and the chances of securing a lottery place are said to be around 10%, so it is worth looking into other routes such as Charity Entry (donation-based) or semi-elite qualification in case you miss out.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 01

TOKYO. How to enter

Lottery

TBD

Applications for the 2027 Tokyo Marathon general entry must be submitted during the designated period.

Check the official guidelines for the eligibility requirements and entry periods for...

Qualifying time

TBD

Overseas-based runners with strong qualifying times may apply through the RUN as ONE semi-elite route.

You must submit a result from an officially recognized race and proof of completion, and...

Charity

TBD

You can apply as a charity runner through the Tokyo Marathon's official charity program.

You must check the entry requirements and fundraising commitment for your chosen official...

International travel agency

TBD

Official international tour operator packages may include a Tokyo Marathon entry.

You must book a package for your country through an official international tour operator...

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 01

TOKYO. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

Tokyo Big Sight South Exhibition Halls

3/4 Thu – 3/5 Fri 10:00–20:30

3/6 Sat 10:00–17:30

Getting to the race

Shinjuku Station · 10 min walk

DO THIS Get Welcome Suica — works on JR lines too (the subway-only pass doesn't)

Transit card: Suica (Welcome Suica for tourists)

What you get

- Finisher medal
- Event T-shirt
- Finisher certificate
- Timing chip
- Pacers
- Changing rooms
- Water stations
- Aid stations
- Race expo
- Medical support

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →



Photo: Pingswept · CC BY-SA 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

BOSTON MARATHON

Mon, April 19, 2027 · Boston, USA

First run in 1897, it's the world's oldest annual marathon. There's no lottery — you need an age- and gender-graded qualifying time (BQ) — and Heartbreak Hill near 30 km is its signature.

MAJOR 02

BOSTON.

Race day

Mon, April 19, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Closed

Mon, September 14, 2026 ~ Fri, September 18, 2026

Fee

$270

Start · Limit

10:00 · The official finish clo...

How to enter

Qualifying time (BQ)

Charity · Tour packages

Course

Rolling · late hills

About finishing, not PBs

Good to know

Race-day time UTC-4

Bib pickup: John B. Hynes Veteran...

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 02

BOSTON. Course

The race starts in Hopkinton and finishes on Boylston Street in Boston. It's a 0.7-mile walk from the Athletes' Village to the start line.

The start order is men's wheelchair 09:06, women's wheelchair 09:09, handcycles and duos 09:30, professional men 09:37, professional women 09:47, para athletics division 09:50, Wave 1 10:00, Wave 2 10:15, Wave 3 10:28, Wave 4 10:41, Wave 5 11:01, and Wave 6 11:21.

Start

Wave 1 10:00 / Wave 2 10:15 / Wave 3 10:28 / Wave 4 10:41 / Wave 5 11...

Time limit

The official finish closes at 5:30 pm

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 02

BOSTON. Race-day tips

The Boston Marathon is a major race with about 30,000 starters each year. It starts in Hopkinton, and the finish is on Boylston Street in downtown Boston.

Runners start in waves and corrals based on their pre-registered qualifying times.

The Wheelchair Division starts first, followed by handcycles and duo teams, the elite men's and women's fields, and then the general-entry waves.

Each runner is notified of their own corral assignment and heads from the Athletes' Village to the start line through a designated exit.

The back half of the course from Hopkinton to Boston includes the Newton Hills and Heartbreak Hill.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 02

BOSTON. How to enter

Qualifying time

TBD

The Boston Marathon accepts applications from runners who meet the qualifying standards for their age and...

You must achieve a valid time on a certified course within the qualifying window for that...

Charity

TBD

You can apply for an invitational entry through an official B.A.A. charity.

You must be selected by an official charity and meet that organization's fundraising...

International travel agency

TBD

Runners residing outside the United States can check official tour operator packages through the B.A.A.

You must book a package for an eligible country sold by an official tour operator and...

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 02

BOSTON. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center

For the 2026 edition — Friday, 17 April, 10:00–19:00; Saturday, 18 April, 09:00–19:00; Sunday, 19 April, 09:00–18:00

Getting to the race

DO THIS Just tap your contactless bank card or phone — no card to buy (unless you need commuter rail)

Transit card: CharlieCard

What you get

- Finisher medal
- Event T-shirt
- Timing chip
- Bag drop
- Start shuttle
- Water stations
- Aid stations
- Race expo
- Medical support
- Restrooms

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →



Photo: DanHuddleston · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

LONDON MARATHON

Sat, April 24, 2027 · London, UK

Starts in Greenwich, crosses Tower Bridge and finishes on The Mall in front of Buckingham Palace. Known for landmark-packed miles, nonstop crowds and the most competitive ballot in the sport.

MAJOR 03

LONDON.

Race day

Sat, April 24, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Closed

Fri, April 24, 2026 ~ Fri, May 1, 2026

Fee

£79.99

Start · Limit

09:00 · Saturday (4/24) up to 7...

How to enter

Ballot (spring)

Qualifying · Charity · Packages

Course

Flat · PB-friendly

Crowds all the way

Good to know

Race-day time UTC+1

Bib pickup: ExCeL London

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary

pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 03

LONDON. Course

This 26.2-mile course starts in Greenwich and finishes on The Mall. As the race has grown, the start line has split into three, and runners from all three first merge in Woolwich just before mile 3.

The route then turns west through Charlton, Greenwich, and Deptford and loops around the Cutty Sark between miles 6 and 7, where the crowds are huge.

It passes through Rotherhithe and follows Jamaica Road in Bermondsey toward Tower Bridge; cross the bridge over the Thames and you're at the half marathon point.

Start

Saturday (4/24) 09:00 · Sunday (4/25) 09:30

Time limit

Saturday (4/24) up to 7 hours 45 minutes

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 03

LONDON. Race-day tips

There are toilets at the start, at every mile from mile 1 to mile 24, and at the finish.

Accessible toilets are at the start and finish, at miles 1 and 2, and then at every even-numbered mile—miles 4, 6, 8, and so on—through mile 24.

Bladder pads, tampons, and sanitary pads are stocked at information points and at every aid station.

Water (BUXTON natural mineral water) is handed out every 3 miles from mile 3 to mile 12 and every 2 miles from mile 12 to mile 24, and you're asked to empty your bottle when you're done.

Lucozade Sport is at miles 7, 15, 21, and 23, and Lucozade Sport gels are at miles 13 and 19.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 03

LONDON. How to enter

Lottery — TBD

You may be selected by entering the London Marathon public ballot.

You must apply in your own name during the public ballot entry period.

Qualifying time — TBD

UK residents can apply with a Good For Age qualifying time.

You must meet the eligibility requirements for that edition, including proof of UK...

Charity — TBD

You can apply directly to an official charity for an entry.

You must meet the charity's selection requirements and fundraising commitment.

International travel agency — TBD

Runners residing outside the United Kingdom can book an entry-inclusive package through an official...

You must check the package conditions of the official tour operator responsible for your...

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 03

LONDON. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

ExCeL London

Based on the 2026 edition — 4/22 (Wed)–4/24 (Fri)	10:00–20:00
4/25 Sat	08:30–17:30

Getting to the race

Blackheath (National Rail) · 10 min walk

DO THIS Just tap your contactless bank card or phone — no card to buy

Transit card: Oyster (Visitor Oyster) or contactless bank card

What you get

- Finisher certificate
- Timing chip
- Bag drop
- Pacers
- Water stations
- Aid stations
- Race expo
- Medical support
- Restrooms

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →



Photo: Axxter99 · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

CAPE TOWN MARATHON

Sun, May 23, 2027 · Cape Town, South Africa

Africa's first World Marathon Major, run against Table Mountain and the Atlantic coastline.

It starts at DHL Stadium in Green Point, loops through the city and southern suburbs, and returns along the Sea Point promenade.

MAJOR 04

CAPE TOWN.

Race day

Sun, May 23, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Closed

Wed, June 10, 2026 ~ Wed, June 24, 2026

Fee

ZAR 800

Start · Limit

08:00 · 6 hours and 30 minutes

How to enter

Ballot

Charity · Tour packages

Course

Mostly flat · pace the back half

6h30 limit

Good to know

Race-day time UTC+2

Bib pickup: DHL Stadium

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary

pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 04

CAPE TOWN. Course

The roots of the Cape Town Marathon go back to an event held at Mutual Park in Pinelands in 1994.

It took its current name when Sanlam became the title sponsor in 2014, and in 2017 it became the first African marathon to receive the IAAF Gold Label.

The 2020 event was cancelled because of COVID-19, and in 2025 it was cancelled because strong winds damaged facilities and course was unsafe on race day.

Start

08:00

Time limit

6 hours and 30 minutes

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 04

CAPE TOWN. Race-day tips

Both the start and finish are centred around Cape Town Stadium and Green Point. Choosing accommodation in this area makes it easier to plan your race-day travel.

Because course makes a wide loop from the city centre through Woodstock, Salt River and Mowbray to the southern suburbs before returning, it is practical to arrange one meeting point for family or companions in Green Point.

Include wind as a factor in your plans for May 23.

The event was cancelled on race day in 2025 because of strong winds, so check the weather and wind conditions before the start and prepare an outer layer that protects you from the wind.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 04

CAPE TOWN. How to enter

Lottery

TBD

General participants for the 2027 Cape Town Marathon full marathon could enter the official lottery.

You must apply during the lottery period set by the race and complete payment if selected...

Charity

TBD

You can apply for a 2027 full marathon entry through the official charity entry route.

You must check the charity program's application requirements and fundraising commitment.

International travel agency

TBD

You can apply for a 2027 full marathon entry through an official international tour operator.

You must check the package conditions of the official international tour operator...

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 04

CAPE TOWN. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

DHL Stadium

Based on the 2026 edition — Thu May 21, 9:00am-7:00pm; Fri May 22, 9:00am-6:00pm; Sat May 23, 10:00am-5:00pm

Getting to the race

No direct train service to start; free event shuttles run from six city hubs (V&A...

DO THIS Get a myconnect card (MyCiTi's reloadable transit card) from a station kiosk for around R40, then load it with Mover...

Transit card: myconnect

What you get

- Finisher medal
- Event T-shirt
- Finisher certificate
- Timing chip
- Bag drop
- Water stations

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 05



Photo: Sheminghui.WU · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

SYDNEY MARATHON

Sun, August 29, 2027 · Sydney, Australia

Joined the Majors as the seventh in 2025. Starting in North Sydney, it crosses the Harbour Bridge and finishes in front of the Opera House. 123,000 people entered the 2026 ballot.

MAJOR 05

SYDNEY.

Race day

Sun, August 29, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Closed

Tue, September 29, 2026 ~ Mon, October 19, 2026

Fee

A$330

Start · Limit

06:30 · 7 hours (course closes ...

How to enter

Ballot (free to enter)

Charity · Tour · Gold Club

Course

Rolling · bridge sections

7-hour limit

Good to know

Race-day time UTC+10

Bib pickup: Sydney Showground

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 05

SYDNEY. Course

The TCS Sydney Marathon is Australia's largest marathon and was announced in 2024 as the seventh Abbott World Marathon Major.

In 2025, its first year as a Major, 35,000 runners from more than 120 countries took part, and competition for spots is intense: 123,000 people applied for the 2026 ballot.

The 2027 race will take place on Sunday, 29 August.

The course starts on Miller Street in North Sydney, the same spot as the 2000 Sydney Olympic marathon.

Start

Elite Wheelchair 06:15 · General 06:30

Time limit

7 hours (course closes at 3:40 p.m.)

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 05

SYDNEY. Race-day tips

Elite wheelchair athletes start at 6:15 a.m., and everyone else starts from 6:30 a.m.; start times for each group will be announced closer to race day. The time limit is 7 hours.

Start corrals are split into Purple, Green, Orange, and High Performance.

Roads around the start are heavily closed, so take public transit.

Purple and Orange groups should take the train to North Sydney Station or the metro to Victoria Cross, then walk along Walker St; the Green group gets off at Crows Nest metro station.

For the 2026 race, all light rail lines were running from the early morning.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 05

SYDNEY. How to enter

Lottery

Official ballot (lottery) — the 2027 race opens on 2026-09-29 10:00 AEST, closes on 2026-10-19 10:00 AEDT…

Charity

Guaranteed entry available through Charity Places

Tour agency

Guaranteed entry available through official travel packages

Qualifying time

Runners who meet the HPP (High Performance Program) time standards get priority; those who don't stay in the…

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 05

SYDNEY. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

Sydney Showground, 1 Showground Road, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127

August 27 (Thu) 09:00–20:00 · August 28 (Fri) 08:00–20:00 · August 29 (Sat) 08:00–16:00 (3 days)

Getting to the race

North Sydney Station

DO THIS Just tap your contactless bank card, phone, or watch at the Opal reader — no card to buy, and the same fares and daily...

Transit card: Opal card

What you get

- Finisher medal
- Timing chip
- Pacers
- Free public transit
- Water stations
- Aid stations
- Race expo
- Medical support
- Restrooms

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

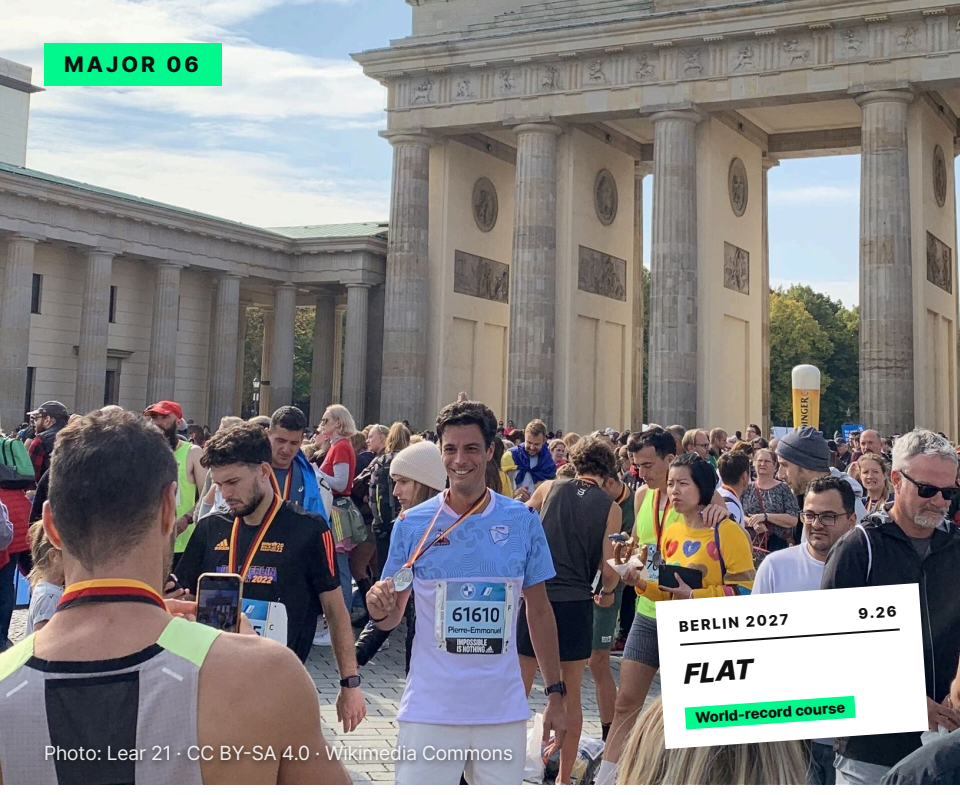


Photo: Lear 21 · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

BERLIN MARATHON

Sun, September 26, 2027 · Berlin, Germany

The course where the most world records have been set. Almost no elevation change and smooth roads draw record-chasers, and the finish through the Brandenburg Gate is the race in one image.

MAJOR 06

BERLIN.

Race day

Sun, September 26, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Open

Thu, October 1, 2026 ~ Thu, November 12, 2026

Fee

€215

Start · Limit

08:45 · 6 hours 15 minutes (fro...

How to enter

Lottery (autumn)

Qualifying · Charity · Packages

Course

Pancake flat · PB heaven

6h15 limit

Good to know

Race-day time UTC+2

Bib pickup: Flughafen Tempelhof

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary

pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 06

BERLIN. Course

Course starts on Straße des 17. Juni and loops through Tiergarten, Moabit, Mitte, Kreuzberg, Neukölln, Schöneberg, Steglitz and Wilmersdorf.

It passes the Bundestag and the Chancellery, the Kurfürstendamm and the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, and Potsdamer Platz, runs along Unter den Linden and finally passes through the Brandenburg Gate before finishing on the same street where it started.

Start

08:45 Runners start (6 waves)

Time limit

6 hours 15 minutes (from when you cross the start line)

Cutoffs

33km 15:40

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 06

BERLIN. Race-day tips

Water is available at 5, 12, 17.5, 22.5, 27.5, 32.5, 34.5, 38 and 40 km.

Water, fruit, tea and Maurten DRINK MIX 160 are provided at 9, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 36 km, while Maurten energy gel 100 is available at 27.5 km.

Drinks are served in cups, and the last water table at every aid station has a refill station for personal bottles or hydration packs.

Personal supplies can be handed in at the designated stand from 7:00 to 7:45 a.m. on race day in a container labelled with your name, bib and the aid station; glass containers are not permitted.

They will be delivered to the 5, 9, 15, 20, 25, 30, 36 and 40 km mark.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 06

BERLIN. How to enter

Lottery — €215

Lottery applications 10/1~11/12, results announced 12/3, and only winners pay.

Age 18 or over, time limit 6 hours 15 minutes

Qualifying time — TBD

Qualifying-time entries for 2026 are approved after proof of time and age is reviewed.

Men: 44 and under, under 2:45; ages 45–59, under 2:55; ages 60+, under 3:25 / Women: 44...

Charity — TBD

Confirmed entry is provided when applying through the official charity partner, Realbuzz Group

The minimum fundraising amount varies by charity.

International travel agency — TBD

An official tour operator programme operating since 2000, offering flight-and-accommodation packages through...

Sales by third parties other than official partners are not permitted.

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 06

BERLIN. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

Flughafen Tempelhof (formerly Tempelhof Airport), Platz der Luftbrücke 5, 12101 Berlin

9/24 Thu	15:00–20:00
9/25 Fri	10:00–20:00
9/26 Sat	09:00–19:00

Getting to the race

S+U Brandenburger Tor / U Bundestag / U Unter den Linden / S+U Potsdamer Platz

DO THIS Buy single/day tickets via the BVG app — no IC card exists here

Transit card: BVG ticket / rechargeable BVG card

What you get

- Changing rooms
- Free public transit
- Finisher medal
- Finisher certificate
- Race expo
- Aid stations
- Medical support
- Pacers
- Restrooms
- Timing chip

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

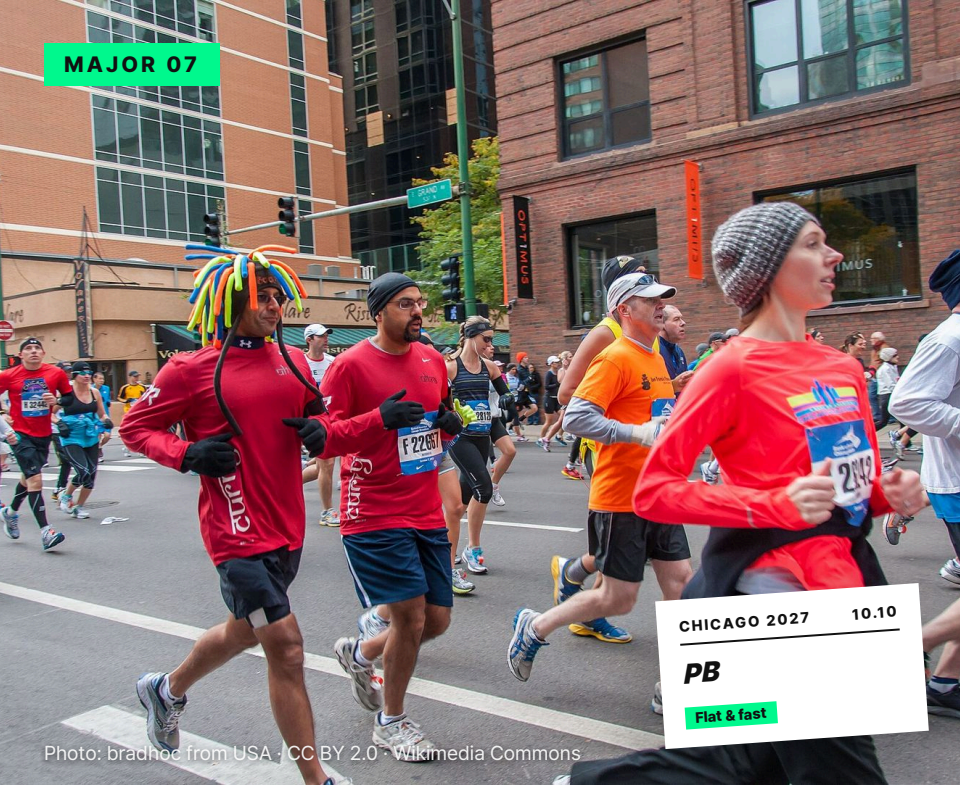


Photo: bradhoc from USA · CC BY 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

CHICAGO MARATHON

Sun, October 10, 2027 · Chicago, USA

A loop that starts and finishes in Grant Park and winds through Chicago's neighborhoods. Flat with few sharp turns, it's fast — and every neighborhood brings its own crowd.

MAJOR 07

CHICAGO.

Race day

Sun, October 10, 2027

Entry (2027 race)

Open

Thu, October 8, 2026 ~ Thu, October 29, 2026

Fee

$250

Start · Limit

07:35 · 6 hours and 30 minutes ...

How to enter

Lottery (autumn)

Qualifying · Charity · Packages

Course

Flat · PB-friendly

6h30 limit

Good to know

Race-day time UTC-5

Bib pickup: McCormick Place

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary

pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 07

CHICAGO. Course

The race starts and finishes in Grant Park and passes through 29 neighbourhoods.

The organisers describe it as a flat, fast course and say that seven world records and numerous national records have been set on this course.

The course time limit is 6 hours 30 minutes, equivalent to a 15-minute pace per mile. A vehicle following the final starter maintains this pace and signals when the roads can reopen.

Runners who fall behind this pace will not receive full support from aid station and traffic-safety personnel, and those finishing after 4:00 p.m.

Start

Wave 1 07:35(A~E corral) / Wave 2 08:00(F·G·H·J) / Wave 3 08:35(K·L·M...

Time limit

6 hours and 30 minutes (15 minutes per mile pace), runners finishing ...

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 07

CHICAGO. Race-day tips

Expo and Packet Pickup will be held at the McCormick Place North Building from 10:00 to 18:00 on Thursday, October 8, from 09:00 to 18:00 on Friday the 9th, and from 09:00 to 18:00 on Saturday the 10th.

On race day, gear check and the start corrals open at 5:30 a.m., and gear check closes at 4 p.m.

The starting order is 7:20 for professional wheelchair men, 7:21 for professional wheelchair women, 7:23 for handcycling, 7:30 for professional men and women, 7:32 for the high performance program, 7:35 for wave 1, 8:00 for wave 2, and 8:35 for wave 3.

Pace teams cover target times from 2 hours 55 minutes to 6 hours.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 07

CHICAGO. How to enter

Lottery — $250

General entry, with places selected by random drawing from applicants worldwide.

U.S. residents: $250; non-residents: $260. Submitting multiple applications does not...

Qualifying time — $250

Guaranteed entry awarded without a drawing to runners who meet the qualifying time for their age group.

A verifiable time run since 2024-01-01 on a course certified by USATF, World Athletics,...

Charity — $250

Guaranteed entry for runners raising funds on behalf of more than 200 partner charities.

A minimum fundraising commitment of $2,200 (USD) is required.

International travel agency — TBD

Guaranteed entry through an official partner tour operator package including flights and accommodation.

Prices vary by tour operator (including the entry fee, flights, hotels, etc.).

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 07

CHICAGO. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

McCormick Place, North Building, Level 3

10/8 (Thursday) 10:00~18:00

10/9 (Friday) 09:00~18:00

10/10 Sat 09:00~18:00

Getting to the race

DO THIS Just tap your contactless bank card or phone wallet at any CTA/Pace turnstile or bus reader — no need to buy a Ventra...

Transit card: Ventra Card

What you get

- Aid stations
- Bag drop
- Timing chip
- Event T-shirt
- Changing rooms
- Race expo
- Finisher medal
- Medical support
- Pacers
- Restrooms

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →



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NEW YORK CITY MARATHON

Sun, November 1, 2026 · New York, USA

2027 race in November (date TBA)

Starts on Staten Island and runs through Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan and the Bronx to finish in Central Park. The world's largest marathon covers all five boroughs — 59,226 people finished in 2025.

MAJOR 08

NEW YORK.

Race day

Sun, November 1, 2026

Entry (2026 race)

Closed

Wed, February 4, 2026 ~ Wed, February 25, 2026

Fee

$315

Start · Limit

09:10 · No explicit time limit

How to enter

Drawing (February)

Qualifying · Charity · Packages

Course

Rolling · bridge climbs

An experience, not a PB

Good to know

Race-day time UTC-5

Bib pickup: Jacob K. Javits Conve...

Entry dates · stays · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 08

NEW YORK. Course

The course starts at Fort Wadsworth on Staten Island, near the approach to the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge.

The bridge is closed to traffic for the day, and runners cross on both its upper and lower decks in the opening miles.

The course then runs about 11 miles through Brooklyn along Fourth Avenue and Bedford Avenue, passing Bay Ridge, Sunset Park, Park Slope, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Williamsburg, and Greenpoint.

Around halfway, runners cross the Pulaski Bridge into Long Island City, Queens.

Start

Wave 1 09:10 / Wave 2 09:45 / Wave 3 10:20 / Wave 4 10:55 / Wave 5 11…

Time limit

No explicit time limit

Course map · video · elevation pacertrip.com →

MAJOR 08

NEW YORK. Race-day tips

Applicants far outnumber spots, so most runners get in through the drawing—more than 200,000 people applied for the 2025 race alone.

There are also guaranteed-entry routes: the 9+1 program (finish nine NYRR races and volunteer once in the same year), an NYRR Philanthropic Membership at the 5K or 10K level, 15 or more New York City Marathon finishes, meeting the official time standard, or running with a registered charity team.

The race is held on the first Sunday of November and has been organized by New York Road Runners since 1970.

Course maps and official videos aren't included for copyright reasons — see them on pacertrip.com. Info as of October 21, 2026; always confirm on the official website.

MAJOR 08

NEW YORK. How to enter

Lottery

TBD

You can enter the New York Marathon general lottery. NYRR members may have a separate re-draw opportunity if...

You must apply during the entry period for that edition, and selection in the lottery is...

Qualifying time

TBD

If you achieve a qualifying time recognized by NYRR, you may apply through the time-qualifier route.

You must meet the qualifying window and official result requirements for that edition.

Charity

TBD

You can apply for an entry with a fundraising requirement through an official NYRR charity partner.

You must meet the application requirements and fundraising target of your chosen official...

International travel agency

TBD

Permanent residents outside the United States can book an entry-inclusive package through an official NYRR...

You must be a permanent resident outside the United States and follow the package...

Fees and dates are taken from official race information as of October 21, 2026. They can change — confirm on the official website before you enter.

MAJOR 08

NEW YORK. Prep

Bib pickup (expo)

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York

10/29 (Thursday) - 10/30 (Friday) 10:00 - 20:00

10/31 Sat 9:00 - 17:00

Getting to the race

Whitehall Ferry Terminal via 1 train to South Ferry, N/Q/R to Whitehall St, or 4 train to...

DO THIS Just tap your contactless bank card or phone at the OMNY reader — no card to buy, and rides cap automatically at...

Transit card: OMNY card

What you get

- Finisher medal
- Event T-shirt
- Timing chip
- Bag drop
- Pacers
- Free public transit
- Start shuttle
- Water stations
- Aid stations
- Race expo

Stays · flights · local transit · AI itinerary pacertrip.com →

ABOUT PACERTRIP

Don't plan your race abroad alone

Race info on the official site, stays in one app, flights in another. Runners spend weeks juggling five apps to plan a race abroad. PacerTrip puts it all in one place.

01 FIND

3,000+ marathons worldwide

Dates, entry windows, fees and time limits in 44 languages — taken from official race info and kept up to date.

02 ALERTS

Never miss an entry window

Save a race in the app and we'll send a push 3 days before entries open and the day before they close.

03 PLAN

An AI itinerary built for runners

Expo, carb-loading, race day and recovery — a trip plan that follows a runner's week.

04 STAY & MOVE

Choose by distance to the start

See stays by distance to the start line, and how to get from the airport to the start for every race.

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DREAM. PLAN. RUN.

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