



Saddleback Marathon

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Same Mountains, Same Start/Finish

The Saddleback Marathon has been re-routed due to #HolyFire. This year the marathon is an out-and-back on technical single-track for nearly the entire race.

**Blue Jay Campgrounds
Cleveland National Forest**

The Saddleback Marathon is back

Same mountains, Same Start/Finish
but this year it's mostly single-track



Race Details

Location

Blue Jay Campgrounds: off Ortega Highway about 21 miles inland from San Juan Capistrano, CA. Take Ortega Hwy exit from I5 and head inland. Turn left on Long Canyon Road/Forest Rte 6S05 (approx. 2.5 miles past Ortega Oaks Candy Store). Follow signs for Blue Jay Campground (approx. 3 miles). If approaching from Lake Elsinore in Riverside County (I15) take Rte 74 west to Long Canyon Road/ Forest Rte 6S05 (about a ½ mile past Hell's Kitchen). Turn right and follow signs (approx. 3 miles) for [Blue Jay Campground](#). Cell service is sporadic in the mountains. Please plan ahead.

Pre-Race Bib Pick-Up

Lower Blue Jay campgrounds Friday, December 6, 2019, 4pm – 10pm.

Marathon \$120 / ½ Marathon \$90

Race day entry includes race day shirt, finish line meal/refreshments, finishers' medals and special awards for top three finishers.

- 6:00 am: Check-in
- 6:30 am: Early Start
- 6:45 am: Race Briefing
- 7:30 am: Marathon Official START
- 8:00 am: ½ Marathon START
- 10:30 am: Cut-off at Hot Springs Canyon



The 2019 Saddleback Marathon has been re-routed due to #HolyFire which burned the original route. This year's Saddleback Marathon will be an out-and-back on the technical single-track for nearly the entire race. All runners start at lower Blue Jay campground and proceed up Long Canyon Road through Blue Jay campground to San Juan trail head. From there, participants will travel along the upper portion of San Juan Trail before dropping down into the valley and on over to Cocktail Rock. After that, runners traverse an additional 7 miles of technical downhill, finally landing in Hot Springs Canyon where they are greeted with a full aid station. The Hot Springs Canyon aid station serves as the only cut-off for this race. Those who do not arrive to this station by 10:30 am will be driven back up to lower Blue Jay (Start).

Half marathoners will start 30 minutes after the full marathon, taking the same route. The turnaround point for the half marathon is Cocktail Rock. There is no cut-off for the half marathon and early start is also not an option for half marathoners.

Race Details (continued)

Aid Stations

Mile 2.75	A
Mile 5.5	A,W
Mile 13	A,W,F
Mile 19	A,W
Mile 24.5	A

(A=first aid, W=water, F=food)

Cut-offs

10:30am Hot Springs Canyon for the full marathon

No cut-off for the ½ marathon

Drops

If you drop from the race, you must inform a race official. If you do not, you may be liable for a search and rescue costs.

Early Start

Allowed, 6:30am

Elevation Gain

Approximately 3,800' for the marathon

Head phones

Allowed, keep volume low

Timing

Chip timing and tracking will be provided by Negative Split Timing. Live tracking will be available.

Refunds

No refunds. This race does not allow refunds of any kind. Race entries will be applied to the 2020 Saddleback Marathon should this race be cancelled due to circumstances beyond the race director's control (fire, government shutdown, etc.).

Hiking poles

Semi-allowed (only after the field spreads out)

Markings

Route will be marked with colorful ties and/or flour

Pacers

Not Allowed

Race Day Registration

Race day registration is available, permitted space is available. Cash only please.

Spectators

Spectators can see runners at Start/Finish in lower Blue Jay. For the marathon, spectators can meet up with their runners at the turnaround point at the San Juan Trail head on Hot Springs Canyon Road.

Weather

Be sure to check the weather before arriving. The Santa Ana Mountains during December can have varying weather. You may see a warm day, or on the extreme, see temperatures near freezing



Facilities

Blue Jay Campground

Located approximately 3 miles off Ortega Hwy, Blue Jay Campground has 50 sites with a varying distance apart for a true "wilderness" feel. Amenities include trash cans, fire pits, grills, vaulted toilets, and plenty of local trails for hiking, biking and equestrian. Visit the [Cleveland National Forest](#) for more details.

Parking

All vehicles must display a National Forest Adventure Pass. If you do not own an annual pass, you must purchase a day pass (\$5). A limited number of passes will be available for purchase at check-in on race day. Day passes are also available at [Big5 Sporting Goods](#) Stores.

Once on the road to lower Blue Jay, stay on right side and pull as close as possible to the car in front of you, only allowing sufficient room to pull out. Large gaps are unacceptable. Turnouts on Long Canyon Road near Blue Jay campground's entrance may be used for overflow parking (with valid parking pass, see above). Do not park in campsite parking if you have not rented a campsite. You will be ticketed by the Forest Service.

Camping

Shared Campsites

(Check-in 4pm, -- 10 pm Friday evening)

Shared campsites are available for rent in lower Blue Jay. These campsites are the closest to the Start/Finish line. \$10 per runner, daily. Families welcome. **1 tent only please.**

There is no parking at the shared campsites. Campers may pull their vehicles into the circle to unload gear, but must park outside the circle on the right side of Long Canyon Road with valid parking permit (See Parking). The spots closest to the circle will be reserved for campers who arrive Friday night, December 6.

Full campsites

Full campsites are available for rent in upper Blue Jay from the Forest Service. Available on first-come- first-serve basis for \$20, daily. Pay at kiosk at campground entrance.

Parking is available at the campsite for full campsite rentals.

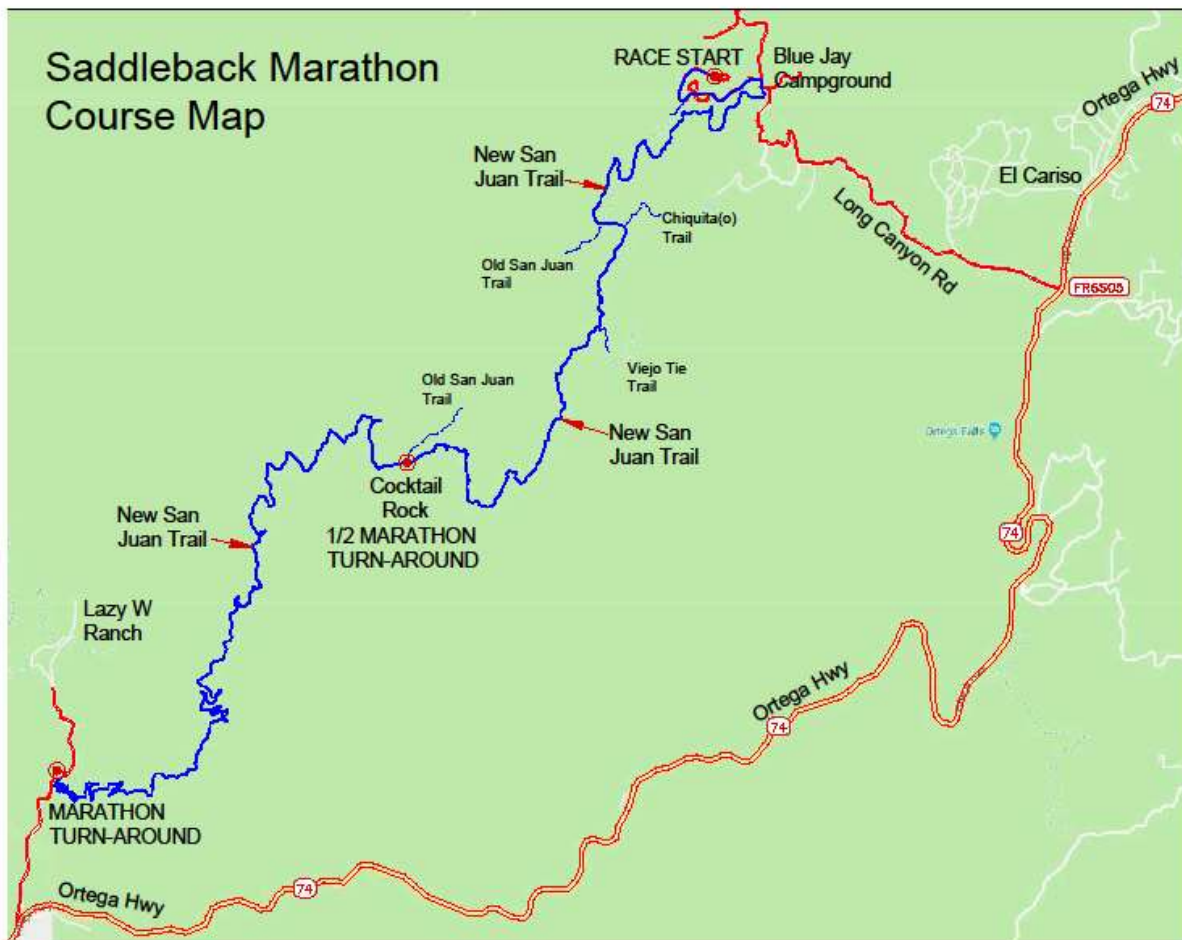


Leave No Trace

We are fortunate to run in this beautiful place. What goes into the forest with you must come out of the forest with you. Tread lightly and leave nothing but your foot print. Use the Aid Stations to dispose of your trash. While in lower Blue Jay, dispose trash in receptacles at the Start Line, not in the campsite trash bins. We are hauling all of the trash out.

Course Map

All runners start at lower Blue Jay campground and proceed up Long Canyon Road through Blue Jay campground to San Juan trail head. From there, participants will travel along the upper portion of San Juan Trail before dropping down into the valley and on over to Cocktail Rock. After that, runners traverse an additional 7 miles of technical downhill, finally landing in Hot Springs Canyon where they are greeted with a full aid station. The Hot Springs Canyon aid station serves as the only cut-off for this race. Marathoners return back to Blue Jay via the same trail. Once back in the campground, runners continue on to Falcon Trail which they will take back to the Finish Line. Half marathon runners will take the same course, but turnaround at Cocktail Rock. (Map below does not include Falcon Trail, check back for revised map in October 2019.)



Medical Plan

Emergency Access

Long Canyon Road and the circle in lower Blue Jay campgrounds will be kept clear to allow emergency vehicle access. Runner/Spectator Safety: 1 to 2 Traffic directors will direct traffic and signs and barriers will be placed to ensure the safety of runners and spectators

Aid Stations

First Aid available at start/finish, and also at the following mileage:

Mile 2.75	A
Mile 5.5	A,W
Mile 13	A,W,F
Mile 19	A,W
Mile 24.5	A

(A=first aid, W=water, F=food)

Emergency Phone #'s

9-1-1

US Forest Service Fire Station (949) 728-0113
35505 Ortega Hwy, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

El Cariso Fire Station (951) 678-3136
32353 Ortega Hwy, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

Trabuco Ranger Station (951) 736-1181
1147 East 6th Street, Corona, CA 92879

Helicopter Landing Zone

Cariso Village

Medical Facilities

Inland Valley Medical Center

36485 Inland Valley Drive
Wildomar, CA 92595
(951) 677-1111

Directions to Inland Valley Medical Center (20 miles from race start/finish):

Head northeast on San Juan Trail toward Long Canyon Rd
Turn right to stay on Long Canyon Rd
Turn left onto CA-74 E
Turn right onto Grand Ave
Turn left onto Clinton Keith Rd
Turn right onto Inland Valley Dr

Mission Hospital

27700 Medical Center Rd
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
(949) 499-1311

Directions to Mission Hospital Center (29 miles from race start/finish):

Head northeast on San Juan Trail toward Long Canyon Rd
Turn right to stay on long Canyon Rd
Turn left onto CA-74 E
Merge onto Interstate 5, Northbound
Exit Crown Valley Parkway
Turn right on Crown Valley Parkway

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