

FAQ



1. WHAT DOES REGISTRATION INCLUDE?

For all categories, registration includes participation in all activities during the three days (Friday: Gravel Crit, Saturday: Stage 1 – 90+ km and Sunday: Stage 2 – 105+ km).

In addition, automatic registration to participate in the different promotional gifts that we will have during the award ceremony. More details in the rules.

2. WILL AN EARLY-BIRD OR LATE FEE BE AVAILABLE?

Registration prices will run as follows:

| Registration Type | Period | Fee |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Early-Bird Registration | Until Feb 14 | \$150 |
| Regular Registration | Feb 15 – March 14 | \$165 |
| Late Registration | March 15-27 | \$180 |

3. DOES THE GRAVEL CRIT HAVE A SEPARATE COST?

No, it is included in the registration fee.

The GRAVEL CRIT is an optional activity as it will be an exhibition race and does not count towards the official race on Saturday and Sunday. There will be separate and cash-only prizes (not trophies) for the top three places.

4. DO I HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN BOTH DAYS OF THE GRAVEL GRINDER?

Cyclists can choose to participate in the competitive (Open) or non-competitive (recreational) categories.

In the **competitive categories**, it is a **requirement** to participate both days to qualify to win cash prizes.

In **non-competitive categories**, the cyclist can participate on both days **or** only one day. Participation medals will only be awarded upon completion of the event.

5. CAN I PARTICIPATE WITH AN MTB or E-BIKE?

For MTB, participants can register in competitive and non-competitive categories. For e-Bikes, riders can only participate in the non-competitive category.

6. DO YOU NEED TO BE AN EXPERT?

Not at all, you can do the race at your own pace. There will be no set or cut-off time.

7. IS THE UCI ID OR USA CYCLING LICENSE REQUIRED?

This is not necessary.

8. WILL NON-COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES ALSO HAVE TIME CHIPS?

Yes, all participants will receive their time chips to be able to time and record their progress.

9. WHAT ARE THE PRIZES PER CATEGORY FOR THE GRAVEL GRINDER?

The cash prizes for the competitive categories are as follows:

OPEN – TOP 5 COMBINED PRIZE POOL:

-  Men Open Gravel Bike – \$5,000
-  Men Open MTB – \$2,000
-  Women Open Gravel Bike – \$2,000
-  Women Open MTB – \$2,000

MASTER - TOP 3 COMBINED PRIZE POOL:

-  Men Master Gravel – \$1,000
-  Men Master MTB – \$1,000
-  Women Master Gravel – \$1,000
-  Women Master MTB – \$1,000

The non-competitive categories will receive participation medals.

10. WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE CHECK-IN OR DELIVERY OF THE KITS BE?

Check-in and delivery of kits will take place on Friday, March 27 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Ponce Hilton. Cyclists will also be able to do a late check-in on Saturday or Sunday morning. Stay tuned to our social media and your emails to see the most up-to-date itinerary.

11. WHAT IS THE ROUTE, DISTANCE AND ELEVATION OF EACH DAY?

All activities start and end every day at the Ponce Hilton.

Registered participants will receive all official routes by email before the event, ready to download to their cycling apps.

12. ARE THE GRAVEL AND MTB ROUTES DIFFERENT, OR BETWEEN COMPETITIVE AND NON-COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES?

Routes can vary in distance according to competitive and non-competitive categories. They do not vary depending on the bicycle they use.

13. WHAT IS THE TERRAIN LIKE THROUGH THE ROUTE?

The route has different terrains and soils, passing through flat and rocky terrain, but also through dirt farms and some slopes. That is why it is recommended that riders use a gravel bike, although they can also use an MTB or E-Bike.

14. IS THE ROUTE GOING TO BE MARKED?

The route will be marked at all key points, and we will have event staff identified to assist you if necessary.

15. IS THE ROUTE GOING TO BE AVAILABLE TO PRACTICE EARLIER?

No, because the route passes through private properties, it will only be available during the days of the event.

16. DOES THE ROUTE START AND END BOTH DAYS AT THE PONCE HILTON?

That's right, all the activities of our event will be held at the Ponce Hilton.

17. HOW OFTEN ARE THERE GOING TO BE OASES?

The oases will be located approximately every 20 miles.

18. WILL THERE BE MECHANICAL SUPPORT AREAS FOR RIDERS OR TEAMS?

The event organizers will not offer a mechanical support service, but we will have designated areas where you can perform these tasks. Each cyclist can bring their support staff or tools that they deem necessary.

19. DOES THE EVENT OFFER LODGING ALTERNATIVES?

As part of the event, a special group rate has been coordinated at different hotels:

Hilton Ponce

 Group rate is available until March 4

 <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/pnchihh-910-d44488dd-896e-47dc-9ed7-6bf6da32a9dc/>

Aloft Ponce

 Group rate available until February 28

 <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1757600007341&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Ponce Plaza Hotel & Casino

 Group rate available until February 27

 787-813-5050

 mdavila@ponceplazahotelandcasino.com

⚠ Group rates are limited and subject to availability.

20. WILL THERE BE TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOTEL OR EVENT?

The event will not offer transportation; this must be coordinated by each person on their own.

21. WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL THERE BE AT THE PONCE HILTON AS PART OF THE EVENT?

Our entire event is based at the Ponce Hilton, including a Meet & Greet on Friday and an awards activity on Sunday for all participants.

22. ARE YOU GOING TO HOLD THE 5K AND 10K RACE THIS YEAR?

This year the 5K-10K will not be held as we want to focus all our efforts on our main gravel cycling competition, betting on an even more solid and memorable experience.