

Lower-Volume 50 to 100 Mile Training Plan

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Week 1 18 to 32 miles	rest	4-6 miles easy with 5 x 20 sec hills fast. On easy running, think smooth, with quick strides, and no tension in the body. On days you feel great, easy runs can be quicker as long as it feels easy and doesn't impact recovery. On hill strides, find a moderate grade around 6-8% and run up as fast as you can go without sprinting, jogging down and around for 1-2 min before the next one Optional 20-45 min easy x-train double. On x-train days, we want aerobic strain without impact. Elliptical or bike are ideal, but you can also do uphill hiking on the treadmill. While doubles are ideally at least a few hours after the run, you can also do it right after or before the run. These can be up to 60-75 minutes if feeling great!	2 miles easy warm-up, 6 x 2 min hills around 5k effort, 5 x 40 sec hills around 3k effort, 2-3 miles easy cool-down. These hills are a major power and VO2 max stimulus with limited impact Optional 20-30 min treadmill uphill (20-30 min at 15% grade hiking and/or running) or easy x-train. Uphill treadmills are great ways to supercharge climbing with low impact. If you feel great and have time, you can lengthen these doubles all the way to 1 hour any week. Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with 12 x 1 min fast/2 min easy. On x-train days, aim for high cadence around your running cadence. On "fast," increase the resistance and elevate the cadence just a bit, just using this one to get used to it. You will likely be sore from strength the day before! Strength: Mountain Legs	3-5 miles very easy or rest/x-train. The day before the weekly long run, take it extra chill! You can even shuffle at your slowest paces if tired	8-10 miles easy/mod. On easy/mod long runs, you can go on feel, letting your body dictate effort, with the option to push a bit more on uphills. Fuel all long runs well! Long runs ideally on trails like the race when possible, but roads or other terrain works until specific efforts later On all Saturdays with runs under 14 miles, advanced athletes could add cross training. Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with with 15 x 1 min fast/1 min easy. On these "fasts," think an effort you could sustain for around 20 minutes Optional hike. You can layer in hikes on the weekend too, which are specific training for most long ultras. Any x-train day can be a longer activity than noted (like a bike or ski), as long as no impact. Strength: Ultra Legs
Week 2 18 to 32 miles	rest	4-6 miles easy with 6 x 30 sec hills fast. 30-second hill strides are major power at VO2 stimuli, and usually a good bit tougher than 20-second strides Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy warm-up, 5 x 3 min hills around 5k effort, 2 miles easy. 3-min hills are a bread-and-butter session for adaptations! Optional 20-30 treadhill or easy x-train Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy x-train. Lower intensity day, but can mix it up with some relaxed intervals Strength: Mountain Legs	3-5 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	8-10 miles easy/mod (20 min mod/hard around threshold effort on net uphill). After the warm-up, do the tempo around an effort you could sustain for 1 hour, a sweet spot for aerobic and power development. Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy x-train Optional hike Strength: Ultra Legs

Week 3 25 to 39 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 8 x 30 sec hills fast. These hills are a sneaky workout! Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	8 miles easy/mod to mod. Start relaxed, then settle into moderate effort! Getting the body used to higher-end aerobic paces Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train. On this treadhill, you can do the 2nd half moderate to hard to get a 2nd stimulus of the day! Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with 4 x 3/2/1 min fast with 90 seconds between intervals and 3 min easy between sets. Think 30-min effort on intervals! Strength: Ultra Legs	3-8 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	13 miles very easy. Run the downhills quickly and really be patient and caring with body! Strength: Ultra Legs, ideally adding heavier weights now	60-90 min easy x-train Optional hike Strength: Mountain Legs
Week 4 26 to 44 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 4 x 20 second hills. Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy, 3 x 3/2/1 min hills mod/hard with run down recovery after each (think 10k/5k/3k effort on each set), 2 miles easy. The legs may be a bit fried after this much hill volume on the workout! Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs	3-6 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	10 miles easy/mod on trails (start easy, then settle into moderate running, thinking 50k effort or more to finish) Strength: Mountain Legs	6-10 miles easy on trails. Back-to-back weekend runs to set the tone for bigger back-to-backs to come! Ideally both with fun downhills Optional hike or easy x-train Strength: Ultra Legs
Week 5 27 to 43 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 8 x 30 second hills. Another one of those sneaky workouts, embrace these hills as an opportunity to get faster! Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy, 6 x 90 second hills fast (think 5k), 15 min moderate (think 1-hour effort over rolling terrain), 2 miles easy. The moderate running after the hills will help the body clear lactate more efficiently and run quickly on tired legs Optional 20-30 min treadhill (can progress to mod/hard in the 2nd half) or easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with 4 x 6 min moderate/2 min easy (think 1-hour effort on intervals, nice and controlled) Strength: Ultra Legs	3-8 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	16 miles very easy. Take your time, no rush on this one as we build up endurance, though aim for strong downhills, which are often a limiter in long events Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy x-train with 4 x 2 min fast/90 seconds easy, 4 x 90 seconds fast/90 seconds easy, 4 x 1 min fast/90 seconds easy (think 30-min effort on intervals) Optional hike Strength: Mountain Legs

Week 6 24 to 42 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 4 x 20 second hills. Extra chill before big workout on Wednesday! Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy, 5 x 3 min hills fast (think 5k), 20 min moderate (think 1-hour effort over rolling terrain), 2 miles easy. The toughest workout of the cycle! Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs	3-8 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	12-14 miles easy/mod (30 min mod/hard around threshold effort). The tempo should feel challenging but manageable! Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy x-train Optional hike Strength: Ultra Legs
Week 7 42 to 60 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 8 x 30 second hills Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	8-10 miles very easy. We are in the 2 biggest running weeks now, take it easy! Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs. Keeping it lower key this week	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with 7/6/5/4/3/2/1 min fast with 2 min easy recovery (think 1-hour effort)	Easy x-train, taking away running day before bigger weekend!	20 miles easy/mod with strong uphills. Focus on each uphill as a solid effort, fueling a ton and trying to finish this one feeling good	10 miles easy. The running weekend will supercharge endurance heading into final build Strength: Ultra Legs
Week 8 45 to 63 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy, 10 x 45 second hills fast (think 5k, with a bit more pushing as you go), 2 miles easy. A power stimulus between all of the longer weekend runs! Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs	Easy x-train or rest, just like last week but with rest option	CAMP WEEKEND! 4 weeks out from the race, a lot of time on feet, all very easy ideally. Today: 25 miles easy. Take your time, fuel a ton, and get in that ultra mindset. Run the downhills well since that can be extra challenging in ultras. If doing a 100 miler, this can go up to a 50k long run.	10-20 miles easy. This is the weekend that gets specific adaptations for the race! Strong downhills ideal! If any injury concerns, use this day to x-train. Only do the high end if health is 100%

Week 9 20 to 36 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 6 x 20 second hills Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy, 20 min mod/hard over hilly terrain (think 10k effort with harder finish), 5 min easy, 5 x 1 min hills fast (think 5k effort), 2 miles easy. The hard tempo into hills combo will really work on output on tired legs, bringing all the adaptations together! Optional 20-30 min treadhill with mod/hard 2nd half or easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with 3 x 4/3/2/1 min fast with 1 min easy between intervals and 3 min easy between sets (think 1-hour effort on intervals) Strength: Ultra Legs	3-8 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	8 mile easy run PLUS longer hike! Ideally this is a longer day of time on feet with the hike, but with just a bit of impact via run at the start of the day. Something like 6-8 hours on feet with full fueling ideal for 100 milers! Strength: Ultra Legs	60-90 min easy x-train Optional hike Strength: Ultra Legs. Doubling up!
Week 10 26 to 44 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 8 x 30 second hills Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	8-10 miles very easy. Nice and low intensity. Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train Strength: Mountain Legs. No more ultra legs through race day!	60-90 min easy x-train	3-8 miles very easy or rest/xtrain	14-16 miles easy/mod on trails (1 hour moderate around marathon effort to start, faster to finish). The extended tempo will prepare the muscular system for the demands of race day Strength: Mountain Legs	60-90 min easy/mod x-train with 10/8/6/4/2 min fast with 2 min easy after each (think 1-hour effort) Optional hike
Week 11 23 to 32 miles	rest	4-8 miles easy with 4 x 20 second hills Optional 20-45 min easy x-train	2 miles easy, 2 x 10 min moderate (think 10k effort) with 3 min easy recovery, 2 miles easy. Final intensity stimulus to tune things up! Optional 20-30 min treadhill or easy x-train	40 min easy x-train Strength: Mountain legs	Rest and recovery. Really leaning into the taper now!	10-12 miles easy on trails. A nice aerobic long run a week before the race activates the nervous and aerobic systems for peak performance	60-75 min easy x-train with 15 minutes moderate
Week 12 Race week!!!	Rest	6 miles easy on trails	40 min easy x-train	Rest and recovery	2-4 miles easy plus 4 x 20 second hills mod (not hard) in AM	ULTRA!!!!!! Celebration time! Start relaxed, focus on fueling, own the downhills, and make sure to smile a ton. You are READY!	PIZZA! That's also implied in the whole training plan. No matter what, you are incredible! Celebrate yourself so hard.