

# Cotswold Trail Events

Effort – Emotion – Euphoria

## Race Brief and Rules – Cotswold *Half* Way

### OVERVIEW

It's the Cotswold Way. Start in Chipping Campden at the Village Hall, stop at Painswick Rugby Club, follow the signs marked "Cotswold Way". Although we may add occasional markings near check points or where the route has more than 1 option, please plan on the only route markings being the existing Cotswold Way markers (follow the acorn). THIS MEANS YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO READ A MAP!

**You'll have 15 hours, (11am start) to complete the event, with 1 intermediate cut-off along the way.**

The Cotswold *Half* Way is a single-stage, approximately 47mi, trail running event that takes place along public rights of way. There are no road closures for this event, so all participants and supporters must respect road regulations on those sections which are not on trails. Due to changing conditions, it is possible that official diversions will be in place that alter the overall distance of the Cotswold Way and any distances listed in our pre-race information.

The route really is very hilly, because the people who created it wanted you to see every beautiful viewpoint on the top and every chocolate-box village at the bottom, and the only way to do that is to keep going up and down. There are a few road sections, a lot of hard stone tracks, plenty of green and grassy paths, and a fair number of ploughed fields along your route.

### EVENT SPECIFIC TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR THE COTSWOLD HALF WAY 2024

**Evidence of which, hyperlink to official results, must be provided to us no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024. We will not accept screen shots of strava runs; it has to be an official event and the hyperlink sent to us with your race number for us to check.** Entry to the Cotswold *Half* Way is subject to participants meeting the qualifying criteria of the successful completion of a Marathon or longer since January 1st, 2022.

In the event of evidence not being provided by this date entries will be deemed as cancelled and be subject to the cancellation policy stated below. Entries after 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 will require the qualifying evidence upon entry confirmation.

Minimum age: 21 on race day.

### Participant Cancellation

If you cancel your entry before midnight on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 you will be eligible for a refund of 50% of the fee received by us for the entry as we have already committed to outgoing payments for the race to go ahead.

If you cancel your entry after the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024, no refund will be given as we have already committed to outgoing payments for the race to go ahead.

### Deferrals / Transfers

**We do not do transfers or deferrals as these create additional admin and costs close to the race when we are at our busiest preparing for the event.**

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## START TIMES

11am start for ALL runners

## COURSE RECORDS

There are currently no course records as this is the first event at this distance.

## ENTRY

Price

£85.00/£83.00 UKA / TRA Affiliated

## ENTRY LINK

Enter Online at <https://www.racedirector.co.uk/events/cotswold-half-way-2024>

## WHAT YOU GET

You will get a personal tracker for the event at registration and will be included in the live tracking for the race. In addition to drinks and food at the check points and loads of encouragement along the way, entrants will receive a memento at race registration.

Finishers will receive a medal to remind them of their achievement.

## ITRA POINTS TBC

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## RACE WEEKEND DETAILS

**Race Starts:** Saturday, September 14, 2024 at 11am

**Race Ends:** Sunday, September 15, 2024 at 02:00 (or 15hrs after the official start time)

**Race Entry Close:** September 1, 2024 – No on-the-day entry

**Minimum Age:** 21 on race day

**Race Limit:** 100

## Race HQ

Chipping Campden School  
Cidermill Lane  
Chipping Campden  
GL55 6HU

## GETTING THERE

There will be a coach on Saturday morning from Stroud to Chipping Campden.

You can purchase a seat as part of the registration process, the price also includes the transfer from Painswick Rigby Club back to Cheapside Car Park, post race.

The coach will leave Cheapside Car park, Stroud, GL5 2AD Ride car at 08:30 and take you to Chipping Campden, where registration takes place in Chipping Campden School.

Parking at Cheapside Car Park is at your own risk - we take no responsibility for your vehicles or their contents. For more info about the car park, see:

<https://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/carpark/cheapside/gl5/stroud/>

The transport laid on at the finish to take you back to your car at Cheapside Car park.

There will be 2-4 separate trips back to Cheapside Car Park.

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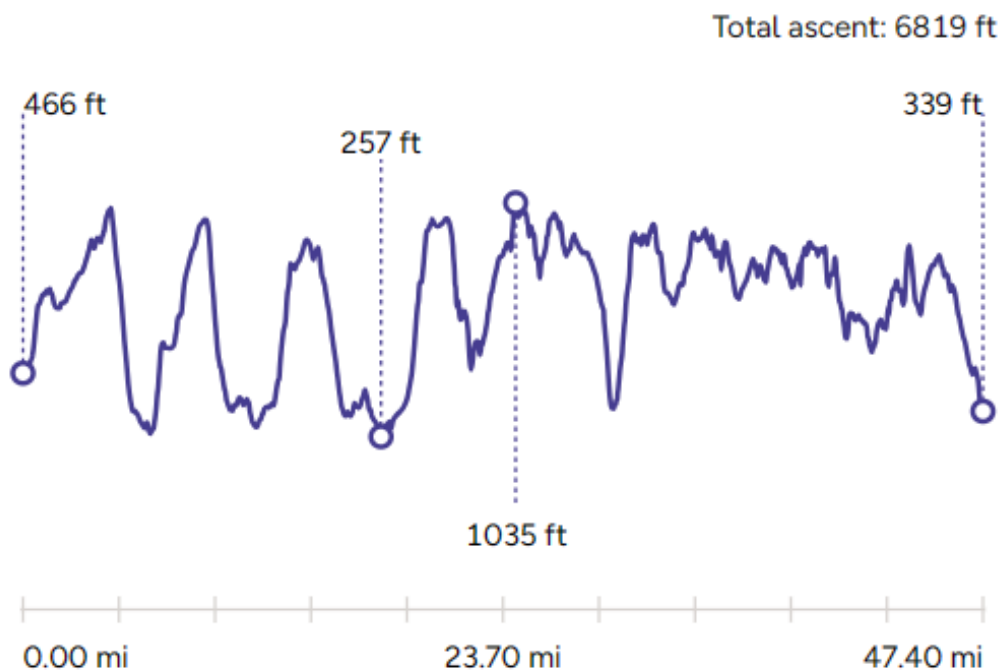
## KEY TIMES, STATS AND MAPS

Cotswold Way, Full Route	
Start Time	11:00
Distance (Approx)	47 miles
Total Ascent (Approx)	6,819 ft
Route Data	Please keep an eye on the National Trust website for route diversions if you're reconnoitering the route in advance <a href="#">Cotswold Way - National Trails</a>
Cut-offs	See the table below

## THE COURSE

Elevation profile

### Elevation



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## CUT-OFF TIMES

The table below shows cut-off times for the race. If you reach the check-point after the cut-off or you have not left the checkpoint by the cut-off time then you will be required to stay at the station until you can be transported back to the finish. You may arrange your own transport if you wish, but must notify check point staff so they are aware that you are leaving and hand in your tracker to a member of race staff. Runners should plan to finish well inside the 15-hour time limit.

If you have not arrived at the finish within the time limit, you will not receive a finishing time or medal.

### THESE CUT-OFF TIMES APPLY TO ALL RUNNERS

Location	Approx Distance from Start	Cut-off Time
Aggs Hill Check Point	27 miles	18:30 Saturday
Painswick RFC	48 miles	02:00 Sunday

## DROP BAGS

We're happy to take your drop bag, if you have one, to Aggs Hill. Please make it fairly compact (standard carrier-bag size, please, not your holiday luggage unless you are in fact travelling to the race from a different country). Drop bags will be returned to the race base, Painswick. If you forget it, we will take it home and contact you as long as you have put your tag on it!

## FOOD

We generally put out a selection of sweets & savouries. Typical fare in the past has included flapjacks, peanut butter, marmite, pickles, tinned fruit, rice pudding, crisps, nuts, pretzels, gummy sweets, jelly babies, fig rolls, ginger nuts, salted roast potatoes. A selection of these kinds of food is the minimum you should expect to find where the table shows "Yes" for food. We'll bias additional items more towards "food" at the early CPs, with things like cocktail sausages, pork pies, cheese, and sandwiches, then gently migrate towards a bias of "sugary" and salty stuff towards the end. Vegan/Vegetarian alternatives will be available.

## HOT DRINKS

We'll be breaking out the camp stoves & thermal flasks to make hot/warm drinks available at some of the check points. Tea, coffee, or soup will form the backbone of your re-warming delights.

## HOT FOOD

We will have a vegan chilli and rice, beans on toast or similar dish available at Painswick RFC, and bacon rolls at Tormarton. Other aid stations will have soup, spaghetti hoops or other types of wet hot food. Vegan/Vegetarian alternatives will be available.

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## CUPLESS RACE

Please note that this **IS** a cupless race, with the exception of Painswick, we will **NOT** provide any drinking vessels. You must therefore bring your own suitable vessel(s) for hot and cold drinks. Eg mug, collapsible cup, hard bottle.

## CHECK POINTS

There will be a checkpoints at Stumps Cross, Aggs Hill and Birdlip, where the route is on or near a road. Water, squash and cola will be available at each CP. A variety of sweet and savoury snacks will also be. Be reminded, though, that it may take a couple of hours to get from one stop to the next, so participants must carry a drink throughout (see Race Rules).

Location	Approx. Mileage	OS Reference	Nearby Postcode	What 3 Words	Drop Bag	Food	Hot Drinks
Chipping Campden School	0-HQ	SP 154 396	GL55 6HU	rainwater.cookies.table	N/A	No	No
Stumps Cross	13	SP 075 303	GL54 5SB	undertook.elephant.slowness	No	Yes	No
Aggs Hill	27	SO 991 224	GL54 4ER	theme.silver.tulip	Yes	Yes	No
Car Park at Birdlip	38.5	SO 931 153	GL4 8JX	headsets.speaks.nerve	No	Yes	Yes
FINISH Painswick RFC (Indoors)	47.5	SO 860 093	GL5 6RS	barn.interval.grad	Yes	Yes	Yes

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## RACE RULES – IF YOU ENTER YOU WILL HAVE TICKED A BOX TO SAY YOU AGREE, SO READ THEM BEFORE ENTERING

### OVERALL RULES

The race is run in accordance with UKA Rules. Unless something below takes precedent, UKA Rules apply.

- 1. Stay away if you are ill:** Participants must not attend the event if they are required to isolate or are suffering from a fever or any flu-like symptoms such as persistent cough, fever.
- 2. Have a get-home plan in case you abandon / time out on Saturday:** Unless guidance changes significantly prior to race day, all participants must have someone available to collect them if they abandon during Saturday. We will still do our best to get people to a safe place to wait for collection, such as Painswick RFC. However, to minimize any virus transmission risks to participants and volunteers alike, we wish to avoid the chained transport we traditionally provide from one safe haven to another.

### TRACKERS AND POSITIONING APPLICATIONS

Each participant will be issued with a tracker at registration. The tracker must be turned on and with the participant at all times in the event. Passing the tracker to another person is not allowed.

What3Words: Event officials and medics recommend every participant that carries a smartphone adds the What3Words app to their phone to aid rapid collection in case of emergency. This app is widely used and highly rated by emergency services for providing a precise location into the navigation app of the person who is coming to rescue you. What3Words location details will also be added to the checkpoint information prior to race day to help participants and crews find them.

### MEDICAL SUPPORT

Medical support will be available for the whole event, by Challenge First Aid, who specialise in these kinds of events. Their role will be to provide advice and deal with any major/significant issues.

You will be expected to utilise your own first aid kit, as it will be your responsibility for minor issues such as general footcare, dealing with blisters etc.

### SHORT CUTS

Runners must follow the course. Any runner deemed to have gained advantage by taking a different route is subject to disqualification. Runners who find themselves inadvertently off-course should make their way back to the last-known correct position and re-join the course from there.

### PACERS

Supporters are not allowed to run along with the race. Every year, someone always says, “It’s a public path, you can’t stop me running on it”. That is correct, we cannot stop people running on the path, but we can and will disqualify the runner they are accompanying.

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## CUT-OFFS

Cut-offs are in place for both safety and organisational purposes. These cut-off times are based on typical slowing patterns from this and other events. The cut off to Aggs Hill at 27miles is 18:30. The cut off at Painswick Rugby Club – Finish Line is 02:00 15.09.24

Runners who choose to ignore or dispute the cut off decisions run the risk of continuing without aid station and medical cover and will be invited to refrain from entering future Cotswold Trail Events Ltd events.

## ABANDONING THE RACE

Should a runner or team need to abandon the race, please notify the Race Directors or check point staff. If you abandon at a check point and you have no crew you will be transported eventually back to the finish, but this may take some time. When you abandon, please hand in your race number and race tracker. Obviously, if there is an emergency and you are collected by the emergency services, please make your best effort given the situation to let race officials know what has happened.

## PHOTOS

In some cases, photos may be taken of participants, they will, eventually, be made available on the website....but give us time! You are welcome to take your own photos of your participation in the event.

By taking part in the race, you agree that we may take photos of you participating in the event, that the photos are the property of Cotswold Trail Events Ltd, and may be used for promotional purposes.



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## RULES OF THE TRAIL

1. **Roads:** The roads are open to traffic. The roads are all typically quiet, but we cannot guarantee that you won't meet cars. You will cross some busy roads– please take care. Marshals and runners cannot stop, slow, or interfere with the traffic. Where pavements are available through towns, especially Bath, please use the pavement rather than the road.
2. We are not the only users of the trails and roads along the route. Everyone you meet during your run has a right to be there. Please treat them with respect. A smile from you will frequently result in a friendly word of encouragement in response.
3. **Gates:** You will be running through a variety of fields, some of which will have livestock and some, where livestock must not go. Please close all gates as you pass through them. Remember, you are out to have fun, but the landowners and tenants on the farms rely on them for their livelihood. Respect their needs, and we will remain welcome to enjoy the trails.
4. **Headphones:** Although we discourage them, runners may wear headphones, but should ensure they are able to hear other trail users nearby. **Both headphones must be removed on all road sections.**
5. **Dogs:** Dogs are not allowed to accompany runners in this race. We love dogs, but this event is not for our four-legged friends. Please leave them with your supporters.
6. **Mandatory Kit: IF YOU TURN UP WITHOUT THE MANDATORY KIT YOU WILL FORFEIT YOUR RACE.** It's there for when things go wrong, not for when you have the perfect race. Spraining an ankle on a rainy day can be miserable, but doing it without appropriate clothes to hand could be extremely dangerous. We'll be doing spot checks and disqualifying anyone who doesn't have the kit
  - a. Water: at least 1.5 litres. During the 1st afternoon, we **suggest 2-2.5 litres (so many people run out if they skimp!)**.
  - b. Paper Map – you'll struggle at night without one. **If you can't read a map, it's best not to enter the race.** Anyone showing up with a single sheet of A4 will be refused entry – it's not funny, and frankly shows a distinct lack of respect for the other runners as well as the volunteers and medics looking after everyone during the race.
  - c. **Waterproof** jacket - full sleeved, Taped seams. We recommend full waterproofs if there's any rain forecast.
  - d. A cup for use at aid stations suitable for both hot & cold drinks
  - e. Emergency nutrition (gel, energy bar, sweets, etc.)
  - f. Head covering (hat, multi-use covering, hood)
  - g. Mobile phone, charged (we'll provide race official numbers on race day)
  - h. Bivvy bag or full-sized bin liner –foil blankets just are not enough to keep you warm if it's wet.
  - i. Whistle
  - j. Your tracking device (you will get one at race registration).
  - k. A spare long-sleeved top (tech, cotton, wool – it's up to you). This is not for your drop bag, it's to be carried on your person at all times during the race, **carried in a waterproof (zip lock/drybag) bag**
  - l. torch **with** spare batteries (hand-held or head torch): **YOU MAY NOT PUT THIS IN YOUR DROP BAG or Give it to friends / supporters – HAVE IT WITH YOU AT THE START.** Too many of you put it in the wrong bag and end up running in the dark...
  - m. First aid kit, including
    - i. tape (micropore, zinc oxide, flexible, or similar)
    - ii. plasters
    - iii. blister plasters
    - iv. field dressing

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7. **Route Markings:** We will not be adding to the existing Cotswold Way route markings except in very few locations. Therefore, expect to follow markings bearing the “acorn” symbol and/or the words “Cotswold Way”. If we add any markings, they will be marked “Cotswold Trail Events” or “CTE”.
8. **Horses:** Some of you may encounter riders on the course. Please treat the horses with caution and give them as much space as you can. A nervous horse can cope with one or two runners, but you may find a horse that’s had enough of runners and gets quite skittish. If the space is cramped or if a rider is having difficulty controlling the horse, please stop for a few seconds and let the rider get back in control, and then continue at a walk until you have passed the horse. Remember, if you fall down, it hurts, but if a rider falls off a horse, then they are at risk of serious injury and a scared horse becomes uncontrolled. It’s just not worth the risk for a few seconds.
9. **Permit:** The race is held under UK Athletics Rules, permit granted by the TRA (applied for).
10. **Littering:** If you pack it, you bin it. Our races are designed to take you through beautiful, scenic locations, so please respect the area by taking your rubbish to the next checkpoint. Runners seen to willfully litter are subject to disqualification.
11. **Running poles:** These are allowed in this event. They are to be stored inside/on your running pack or left outside indoor checkpoints to prevent injury to yourself, other runners and checkpoint staff.

## SUPPORTERS / SPECTATORS

1. We welcome supporters and spectators on most sections of the course. Please follow appropriate guidelines when using the trails and roads of the area. We especially request that dogs are kept on leads and that supporters following their runners along the course do not block roads, drives, or gates when parking at the side of the road.
2. Please be aware during the night hours that your noise stands out more when the villages go quiet. Cowbells, shouting, cheering, horns honking, and other seemingly welcome encouragement for your runners can cause real problems for the locals and therefore our ability to keep the race going year on year. Therefore, please keep the dark hours quiet wherever possible.
3. Supporters are allowed to provide food, drink, and support to runners along the route, whilst parked safely, but are not allowed to carry any of a runner’s mandatory kit aside from: supporters may carry the runner’s headtorch, which can be deposited in the final drop bag, **after** the final drop bag location. The headtorch may not be carried by supporters at any point before the final drop bag location or before the onset of daylight, whichever is later in the race.
4. **Supporters/Crew are not welcome to park at the 1st aid station at Stumps Cross**, due to the nature of the road and the space available for parking. Please, instead, take the time to have a break and catch up with your runner somewhere you can safely park. They may also appreciate stopping off at Broadway Tower, Winchcombe, Cleeve Hill, Leckhampton Hill.
5. Please park with respect to residents and tourists in Chipping Campden. The town can be bustling on a Saturday, but there should be ample space for everyone to park at the school, **Please note School parking is now pay and display.**
6. Please do not take cars/bicycles onto paths/tracks where they do not belong. Bicycles are allowed on bridleways, but not on other trails.
7. **Parking at Painswick Rugby Club is not allowed before 7pm for crew.** The rugby club has a home match and we cannot be seen to be taking over their small car park. Please make your Crew or whoever is collecting you after your race aware.
8. Supporters must not impede any other race participant.

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