



2021 BMW Dallas Marathon Festival

Media Guide



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About the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival

A fun and memorable race in a world-class city, benefitting a great cause. Since 1971, the BMW Dallas Marathon has experienced tremendous growth and today is Dallas' largest marathon and the city's largest single-day sporting event. Organized by the Dallas Marathon staff and board of directors, the race is Texas' longest running marathon.

Sunday, December 12, 2021, will be the 50th running of the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival. Participants will be welcomed by an entertaining course that features the city's most vibrant neighborhoods and spectator destinations, as well as the beautiful scenery of White Rock Lake.

Thousands of participants are expected to take part in the three event options as well as the 2-Person Half Marathon and 5-Person Marathon Relay on race day. Hundreds of thousands of spectators join in the fanfare, lining the streets and neighborhoods of Dallas to cheer on participants.

The BMW Dallas Marathon Festival will raise funds for Scottish Rite for Children, the race's primary beneficiary since 1997. To date, the race has donated more than \$4 million for the hospital.



Marathon History

The BMW Dallas Marathon is the result of the efforts of a pioneering group of brave Dallas runners, who had the foresight to establish an annual 26.2-mile race almost 50 years ago. In 1971, Tal Morrison – the official founding father of the marathon who passed away in 2015 – placed a \$25 ad in *Runner's World* beckoning runners from around the country to come to Dallas.

On March 6, 1971, 82 runners from across Texas, and as far away as South Dakota, New York and California, took their marks for the race's first running, which circled Dallas' White Rock Lake. Sixty-one runners crossed the finish line that day in the aptly named, Dallas White Rock Marathon.

In the years that followed, the Dallas White Rock Marathon would gain a reputation as a memorable race “for runners, by runners.” Participation grew tremendously, drawing hundreds and then thousands of runners from every corner of the nation. As aid stations, a pre-race expo, a post-race awards banquet and corporate sponsors were introduced, race weekend grew into a more entertaining event for participants and spectators.

Marathon relays and a half marathon course were added through the years, and as support increased, the marathon's board of directors decided it would donate a portion of race proceeds to charitable causes each year. With this initiative in mind, the marathon named Scottish Rite for Children its primary beneficiary in 1997, and to-date has donated more than \$4 million directly to the hospital.

A renewed partnership with the City of Dallas, along with a rebranding campaign, introduced the Dallas Marathon brand in 2012. The race's start and finish line were moved to the heart of downtown Dallas, which itself was undergoing a multi-billion dollar renaissance of development. The new event name and visual identity would help establish the race as The Official Marathon of the City of Dallas and cater to a growing field of local, national and international runners choosing to compete in Dallas.



Today, the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival is run Dallas' annual marquee event that promotes health and physical fitness throughout the local community. Now in its 50th running, the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival attracts thousands of

participants and spectators to Texas' longest-running marathon and Dallas' largest single-day sporting event. Race day delivers a fun and memorable experience for everyone involved from participants to volunteers to spectators.

Significant milestones in the event's history include:

- 1971 – The Dallas White Rock Marathon debuts at White Rock Lake with 82 runners
- 1976 – For the first time, the Dallas White Rock Marathon is moved from March to December. The race is run twice this year
- 1981 – Julie Brown sets a women's race record in 2:33:39; record stands until 2006
- 1982 – John Lodwick sets a men's race record in 2:12:18; record stands until 2006
- 1983 – A new start and finish are introduced, near Dallas City Hall
- 1995 – Relays are introduced for the first time to attract participants that did not want to run the full 26.2-mile course
- 1997 – The board of directors names Scottish Rite for Children the primary beneficiary of the Dallas White Rock Marathon
- 2001 – Rapid participant growth creates need for start and finish line at American Airlines Center in Victory Park
- 2003 – A half marathon course is added to the Dallas White Rock Marathon, and the Mayor's Race 5K is established as part of race weekend, encouraging Dallas ISD school children to participate in a fun run to promote good health and fitness in the local community
- 2006 – Moses Kororia sets the men's race record in 2:12:04; Svetlana Ponomarekno sets the women's race record in 2:29:55. Also, the Corporate Relay Challenge is added to race day events, encouraging local businesses to get involved in the marathon and promote health and fitness in the local business community



- 2010 – A new race course moves the start and finish lines to Fair Park to accommodate larger participant fields and better parking. For the first time, the High School Relay is introduced, matching 16 of the area’s top high school runners on a relay team to challenge the elite marathoner field on race day
- 2012 – The Dallas White Rock Marathon organization rebrands as the Dallas Marathon, introducing a new logo and working with Dallas City Hall to return the race start and finish lines to downtown Dallas; Last Man Running Challenge is introduced
- 2013 – Dallas City Hall and Mayor Rawlings recognize the Dallas Marathon as The Official Marathon of the City of Dallas. For the only time in race history, race weekend events are canceled due to unsafe weather conditions resulting from a major ice storm
- 2014 – Meb Keflezighi, Ryan Hall and Deena Kastor join Dallas Marathon participants at the finish line as elite ambassadors
- 2016 – BMW joins as title partner
- 2019 – The BMW Dallas Marathon Festival launched its parent organization, runDallas.
- 2020 – The 50th anniversary event is postponed to December of 2021 due to the COVID pandemic.



Fast Facts

The 50th running of the BMW Dallas Marathon, Half Marathon, 50K Ultra Marathon and the 2-Person Half Marathon & 5-Person Marathon Relays will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2021. The race day schedule is as follows:

7:30 a.m.	Corrals Open
8:15 a.m.	Start Ceremonies Begin
8:25 a.m.	Corral A Closes
8:30 a.m.	Corral A Start
8:40 a.m.	Corral B Start
8:50 a.m.	Corral C Start
9:00 a.m.	Corral D Start
9:10 a.m.	Corral E Start
10:00 a.m.	Post-Race Party Begins
3:30 p.m.	Finish Line Closes

- The BMW Dallas Marathon is Texas' longest-running marathon, dating back to 1971.
- The 2021 race course highlights Dallas' most fun and memorable entertainment destinations, stately neighborhoods and the scenic beauty of White Rock Lake.
- Each year, the marathon attracts hundreds of thousands of spectators, making race day Dallas' largest single-day sporting event.
- The BMW Dallas Marathon is the largest marathon in the City of Dallas and among the largest distance races in the state.
- Entertainment along the 26.2-mile course includes live music from local bands and performing groups, spectator viewing parties and dedicated cheering sections provided by BMW, Andrews Distributing, Choctaw Casino & Resort, Cumulus Media, Dallas Mavericks, Texas Rangers, FC Dallas, Dallas Cowboys and the Dallas Stars.
- Media coverage of the race is offered during a live television broadcast on TXA 21 (Channel 21) from 8:28am – 9 a.m. CST. The race will be live streamed periodically on runDallas' Facebook page.



- The BMW Dallas Marathon, formerly the Dallas White Rock Marathon, began in 1971 when Tal Morrison, an avid runner and the official founding father of the race, placed a \$25 ad in *Runner's World* magazine beckoning runners to visit Dallas. The first race in 1971 had 82 participants. Only 61 finished.
- The 2021 BMW Dallas Marathon Weekend will feature tens of thousands of participants from 46 states (plus the District of Columbia) and 19 countries.
- In 1997, after years of charitable giving, the Dallas Marathon board of directors announced that Scottish Rite for Children would be the marathon's primary beneficiary. To date, more than \$4 million has been donated to the hospital on behalf of the marathon.
- The BMW Dallas Marathon is partnering with Emily Jones, a familiar face in Texas Rangers telecasts, through its *Last Woman Running* challenge where Jones will start as the very last person to cross the starting line on Sunday, Dec. 12. She will try and pass as many race participants as possible in the half marathon in an effort to raise funds for Scottish Rite for Children. The presenting sponsor of the challenge, Andrews Distributing, will donate \$1 for each runner Emily passes on the course.
- At the start line this year, one lucky participant will win a special edition BMW 4 Series Coupe. All registered runners taking part in the 50th anniversary event were eligible to win the car.
- The very first female Dallas Marathon winner in 1971, Annabelle Corboy, is in the field this year to run the half marathon event.
- The Oncor Kids Race returns to race weekend in 2021. Free to all DISD students, this 1 & 2-mile event will take place on Saturday, December 11th at City Hall Plaza.



Schedule of Events

- ***Friday, December 10th***

Health & Fitness Expo

11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Kay Bailey Hutchison Dallas Convention Center – Hall C

Friday Night Lights Mile

7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Dallas City Hall Plaza

- ***Saturday, December 11th***

10K, 5K, & Kids Races (100M Dash & Oncor Kids Race)

10K – 8:30 a.m.

5K – 8:45 a.m.

100M Dash (kids 6 & under) – 10:00 a.m.

Oncor Kids Race – 10:30 a.m.

Health and Fitness Expo

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Kay Bailey Hutchison Dallas Convention Center – Hall C

Carb Loading Dinner

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Choctaw Runners Lounge Tent at Dallas City Hall Plaza

- ***Sunday, December 12th***

BMW Dallas Marathon, Half Marathon, 50K Ultra Marathon, 2-Person Half Marathon Relay and 5-Person Marathon Relay

7:30 a.m. – Corrals Open

8:15 a.m. – Start Ceremonies Begin

8:30 a.m. – Full Marathon, Half Marathon, Ultra Marathon and Relay Start (5 corral starts, each 10 minutes apart)



By The Numbers

It takes a ton of moving parts, a dedicated race staff and board of directors, the cooperation of countless partner organizations and the tireless efforts of thousands of volunteers to make race weekend a success for the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival.

A few fun facts you might not know:

- Approximately 10,875 gallons of water and 7,800 gallons of Gatorade are given out during race day
- 20,000 pieces of fruit are on hand at the finish line
- 625 gallons of beer is consumed at the finish line and post-race party
- 112 bags of clothing discarded along the start/finish line and course will be collected and donated to local charities
- Average race temperature on race morning is around 40 degrees Fahrenheit at the start and 50 degrees Fahrenheit by 2 p.m.
- The first race in 1971 had 82 participants; only 61 participants finished
- The race was run twice (March and December) in 1976



2021 COVID Statement

We strongly recommend that everyone wear a mask indoors (Expo/Package Pick-up) and outdoors when social distancing isn't possible (Start Corrals).

- If you have tested positive or been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of the event, you should not participate in or attend the event.
- If you feel sick or experience symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., a fever of 100.4F or higher, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking, muscle pain/achiness, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nasal congestion, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue or any other symptoms associated with COVID-19 identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) you should self-isolate and not participate in event activities or enter event venues while symptomatic, even if you have been vaccinated. Please see a doctor and/or get tested.



Weather

The BMW Dallas Marathon offers an ideal setting for serious runners looking to set personal records. Historically, the climate in Dallas on race day in early December features mild temperatures:

Average temperature at race start (8 a.m.)
40 degrees Fahrenheit / 2 degrees Celsius

Average temperature at race end (2 p.m.)
50 degrees Fahrenheit / 10 degrees Celsius

Dallas Marathon officials, along with city officials make final decisions regarding the cancellation or alteration of the race due to weather. The BMW Dallas Marathon has adopted the WBGT (wet-bulb globe temperature) index as its standard to account for high heat and humidity, as measured in accordance with the American College of Sports Medicine recommendations. Rain is not a cause for a delay or cancellation of the race.

Race Records

The following records have been compiled for all editions of the BMW Dallas Marathon, on its varying courses from 1971 – 2019. Thus, these are “race records” and should not be referred to as “course records”.

BMW Dallas Marathon

2:12:04 Moses Kororia, 2006 (men)
2:29:55 Svetlana Ponomarenko, 2006 (women)

BMW Dallas Half Marathon

1:02:59 Valenite Orare, 2006 (men)
1:11:32 Nuta Olaru, 2008 (women)



Primary Beneficiary

Scottish Rite for Children is a national leader in the treatment of pediatric orthopedic conditions. The hospital strives to improve the lives of children through innovative research and training programs.

Scottish Rite treats children with orthopedic conditions, such as scoliosis, clubfoot, hand disorders, hip disorders and limb length differences, as well as certain related neurological disorders and learning disorders, such as dyslexia.

Scottish Rite for Children is also celebrating an anniversary year, having reached its centennial milestone in October of 2021. To help celebrate, Scottish Rite has created its first-ever capital campaign, the [Boundless Centennial Campaign](#), raising funds that will have a lasting impact for future generations of children who receive exemplary care at Scottish Rite.

The BMW Dallas Marathon board of directors named Scottish Rite for Children its primary beneficiary in 1997, and has since donated more than \$4 million to support the hospital.

For more information, to volunteer or to make a donation, please call (214) 559-5000 or (800) 421-1121 or visit scottishritehospital.org.





Junior Race Directors

Each year, a Scottish Rite for Children patient serves as the Junior Race Director of the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival. The Junior Race Director helps participants learn more about the hospital and allows runners and sponsors to see firsthand, patients who benefit from the support of the marathon. The Junior Race Director officially counts down the start of the race and helps spread the word about the great work Scottish Rite is doing in the community.

2021 Junior Race Directors

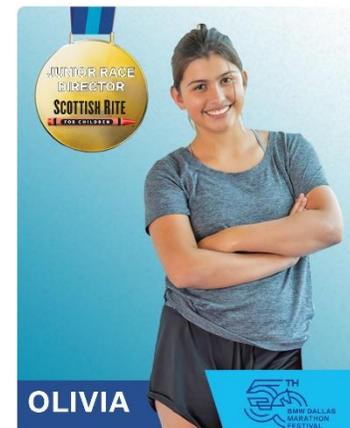
We are proud to announce our first Junior Race Director for this year's BMW Dallas Marathon Festival, Jayden!

Jayden is a sports enthusiast and loves to play football and basketball. His favorite sports teams are the Dallas Mavericks and the Pittsburgh Steelers. He hopes to become an NBA player when he grows up, but plan B is to become a dentist or surgeon!



We are also proud to announce a second Junior Race Director for this year's BMW Dallas Marathon Festival, Olivia!

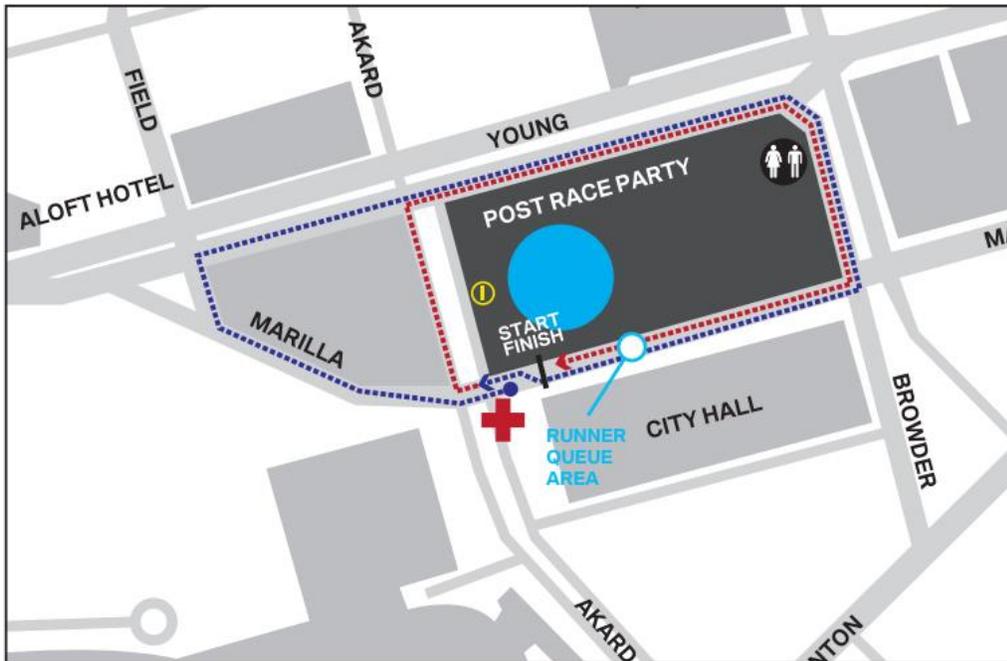
Olivia is a vivacious and high-spirited adaptive sports athlete in swimming and running and now a Paratriathlete who was recently chosen as part of the 2021 U.S. Paratriathlon Junior/ U23 Development Team. "There's a misconception about people with disabilities that you are weak and can't do something, and I like to prove people wrong," Olivia says. "I like to do more than people think I can because it shows how athletic I am."





2021 FRIDAY NIGHT MILE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2021



LEGEND

..... LAP 1

..... LAP 2

INFORMATION TENT

MEDICAL

START TIME

7:00 PM WITH ROLLING HEATS

* RUNDALLAS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE COURSE AS NEEDED PRIOR TO EVENT DATE



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2021

5K & 10K COURSE MAP



MAP KEY

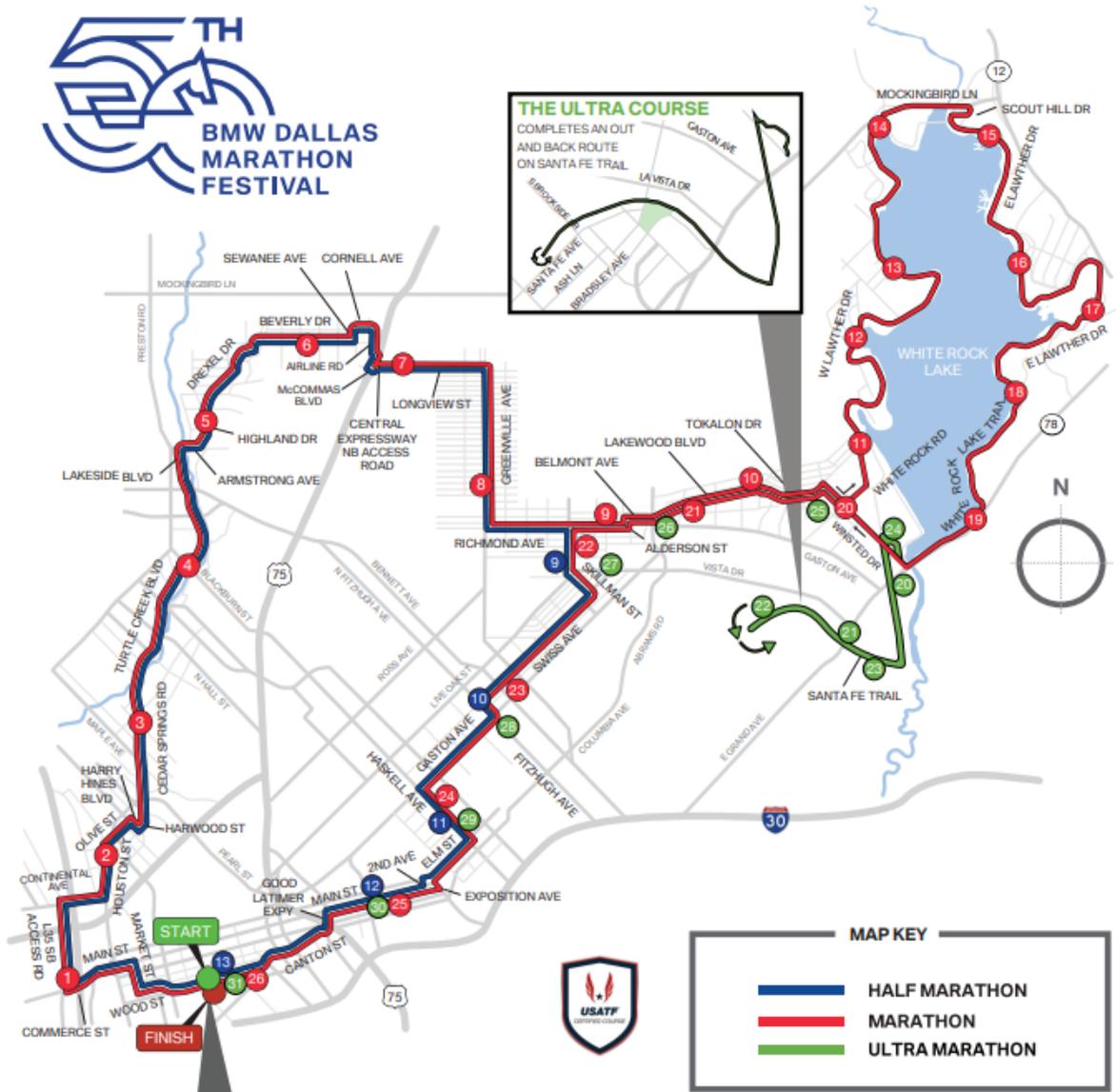
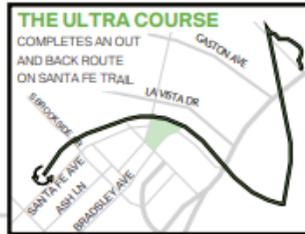
- 5K COURSE
- 10K COURSE





SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

MARATHON COURSE MAP



HALF MARATHON

ELEVATION MAP



MARATHON

ELEVATION MAP





SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

2 & 5 PERSON RELAY MAP



HALF MARATHON

ELEVATION MAP



MARATHON

ELEVATION MAP

