

Hello Whistle Pig Racers!

We're in the home stretch. Make sure to check the gear list for updates and our previous email. They are both on our [webpage](#).

Here are a few updates:

We anticipate at most 11 miles of trekking/hiking/running and 21 miles of biking. Of course the ultimate distance will depend on how you get around. We will have a few challenge checkpoints as well - you'll learn more when you get your map. :)

The biking will largely be doable on a cross bike, although we like to ride it on a mountain bike. There will be quite a few checkpoints that you can get either on foot or on bike.

At the end of the race, we're bringing some fantastic food to you from [Samurai Sues Everyday Foods](#) (You can find her bread and cookies in Red Lodge at the Beartooth IGA and her grain bowls and breakfast burritos and sandwiches at the Circle 17). For racers, it's included as part of the race. You should have gotten an opportunity to purchase more when you registered as well. Let us know if you would prefer a vegetarian lunch and if you have other dietary restrictions that you may not have made a note of. We will try to accommodate. You can email us at whistlepigadventure@gmail.com

Check will be the night of Sept 6 from 4-7pm at:

Natali's Front Bar Patio
117 S Broadway
Red Lodge, MT 59068

Maps, printed by [mytopo.com](#), your UTM reader, your race number and other goodies will be given out at that time. The grid readers will have multiple scales but the scale we will be using is 1:10,000. We encourage you to stay, have something to eat and/or a beverage, plot your UTM points, make sure your compass can adjust for declination and start developing a strategy. Natali's is a sponsor of the race so we hope you will show them some love.

We highly recommend that you join us for the Friday evening check in but we understand that things happen. Will have a brief check in from 7-7:30am the morning of the race if you aren't able to make it the night before.

Our racer meeting will be at 7:30am to go over the last details before we start the race at 8am.

WHAT THE HECK IS UTM? AND WHAT THE HECK IS DECLINATION?

Not to worry.... Our chief cartographer will be doing a review of navigation and UTM plotting at 7pm on Sept 6 at the Red Lodge Area Community Foundation, 122 Hauser Ave South. This is right around the corner from Natali's Front Bar. Feel free to stop by if you want to get a little more comfortable with these skills.

SAFETY FIRST

Red Lodge is bear country so, make sure you have bear spray and know how to use it. The race is during archery hunting season so we recommend wearing bright clothing.

We've been out on the race course looking for great spots for checkpoints. There are some stunning Montana views and plenty of Montana trees, bushes, streams and unfortunately, weeds. Be prepared for the possibility of wet feet, scratched legs and a hitchhiker or two (houndstouge). We ask that you try not to spread the weed seeds if possible.

RULES - We are working on finalizing the rules. We'll post them on our website when they are buttoned up.

Our race director Hanna Kohley will be taking some great photos on the course, and we have secured the talents of [Cully Lauver](#) for videography so make sure to smile out there!

WE'RE REALLY EXCITED ABOUT SOME OF OUR SPONSORS FOR THIS RACE!

While you are in Red Lodge, swing into [Sylvan Peak Mountain shop](#) and tell them we sent you. You can pick up last minute necessities here. Plus, they carry [Crazy Creek](#) products, another one of our sponsored. Or head to the Base Camp if you are coming from Billings. If you are looking for a place to stay, reach out to the [Pollard](#) or go to

Redlodge.com to find other great places to rest up and eat well in Red Lodge. Red Lodge is beautiful this time of year so plan on staying, driving over the [Beartooth Highway](#) taking part in [SummerFest](#) at the Roosevelt Center after the race. If you want a little something to remember your time here, you can find unique souvenirs at [Back Alley Medals](#) in downtown Red Lodge.

We plan on announcing the winners at the conclusion of the race at the start/finish line while you refuel and rehydrate. In addition, there will be a raffle for all participants that includes some great prizes so be sure to stick around.

We will provide you with more information at check in. In the meantime, feel free to reach out with questions.

The weather forecast looks outstanding! Keep your fingers crossed that it stays that way (Although we will race in anything) We are really looking forward to having a ton of fun with everyone.