

Sept 1, 2023 - Hello Whistle Pig Racers!

We're in the home stretch. Make sure to check the gear list for updates.

Here's the first email we sent out, in case you want to review. They are both on our [webpage](#).

Here are a few updates:

Check in will be the night of Sept 8 from 4-7pm at:

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

This Check-in is required. We will not have check in the morning of the race. 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.

**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 8 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.

Red Lodge is bear country so, make sure you have bear spray and know how to use it. The Beartooth Ranger District's bear education specialist will be on hand at race check in to answer any questions you may have.

When you are trekking, you may also be traipsing through noxious weeds during parts of the race. We kindly ask that you don't throw the seeds willy-nilly into the wind. Shove them in a pocket and put them in a trash can when you see one. We appreciate your help in helping prevent the spread!

We have secured the talents of [Greys River Photography](#) for some great photos on the course, so make sure to smile and look like you are having fun!

We're really excited about some of our sponsors for this race!

While you are in Red Lodge, swing into [Sylvan Peak Mountain shop](#) or [Grizzly Peak Outdoors](#) and tell them we sent you. You can pick up last minute necessities here. Or learn more about the area by stopping into [Beartooth Books](#). If you are swinging through Billings, stop by REI and grab supplies

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

Get your dirndls and lederhosen ready! After the race we hope you will go with us to [Red Lodge Ales](#) to take part in [OKTOBERFEST](#) —German food and beer, music and dancing, vendors and games—all ages welcome! This is another fundraising event for Beartooth Recreational Trails Association (BRTA). Your registration in the Whistle Pig gets you free entrance to the celebration. If you park elsewhere and ride your bike or walk down to the brewery, you will receive a free drink token.

Here is the Oktoberfest schedule:

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Alte Kameraden: Live German Band

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Oktoberfest Team Games

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The Lucky Valentines: Live Americana Music

*TLV have written upward of eighty songs, and use a mix of folk melodic sensibilities, tight harmonies, and a whole lotta love to make sad things beautiful. Their sound could be bottled up as "Bruce Springsteen and Patty Griffin meet Shovels and Rope in a Gypsy Junkshop". He sometimes uses a thirdhand suitcase as a kick drum, and the rotary phone from her father's shop as a mic. She blends classical violin with raging folk passion. He channels John Prine and Hank Williams.*

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

Keep your fingers crossed for great weather! We are really looking forward to having a ton of fun with everyone.