



## **12K and Half Marathon**

### **Participant Guide**

**January 31, 2026**

**Oracle, AZ**

#### **Welcome:**

We would like to welcome all 12K and half marathon runners to the 9th Annual AZT Oracle Rumble. **It is important for you to read through the entirety of this participant guide before race weekend.** Our hope is that you will find all the information you need for race day. If you have any further questions that you don't find an answer to herein, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to sharing the day with you. We hope that at the end of the day you leave sharing our collective love for Arizona's wild landscapes and the Arizona National Scenic Trail.

#### **Schedule of Events:**

Friday, January 30, 2026

3:00pm-6:00pm - Packet Pickup at Summit Hut (Oro Valley) 7745 N. Oracle Rd.

Saturday, January 31, 2026

5:00am - gates open at Oracle State Park (OSP)

6:45am - participants can begin arriving at OSP

7:00am - 7:45am - HM Packet pickup and runner check in at Group Use Area (GUA)

7:45am - National Anthem for HM runners and then we walk to the start line as a group.

7:00am - 8:15am - 12K Packet pickup and runner check in at GUA

**8:00am - Half Marathon (HM) Start**

8:15am - National Anthem for 12K runners and then we walk to the start line as a group.

**8:30am - 12K Start**

**\*\*\* HM runners should arrive at OSP by 7:30am at the very latest. We will be walking to the start line as a group by about 7:50am and the race will start promptly at 8:00am**

**\*\*\* 12K runners should arrive at OSP by 8:00am at the very latest. We will be walking to the start line as a group by about 8:20am and the race will start promptly at 8:30am**

## **Packet Pickup and Check in:**

Friday, January 30, 2026 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m packet pickup will take place at Summit Hut (Oro Valley). Summit Hut is located in the Oracle Crossings (Suffolk and Oracle) at 7745 N Oracle Rd, 85704.

Saturday, January 31, 2026 (race morning) packet pickup will take place at OSP GUA starting at 6:45am and going until 7:45am for the Half Marathon and 8:15 for the 12K.

## **Driving Directions to Oracle State Park Staging Area:**

**Oracle State Park (OSP) is located at 3820 Wildlife Dr., Oracle AZ 85623**

This year we will be parking all Half Marathon and 12K participants within OSP. **Please arrive at OSP after 6:45am.** At the entrance kiosk simply show your bib number for entry (or provide your name if you don't have your bib yet) and then proceed into OSP. After driving into the park about .25 of a mile or so you will see *parking volunteers with safety vests on who will direct you where to park. Please follow their directions.*

**Do not park in any area in which you are not directed to do so by the volunteers!**

**PLEASE CARPOOL, CARPOOL, CARPOOL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AS PARKING EVERYONE WITHIN OSP WILL BE VERY TIGHT. PLEASE NO LARGE VEHICLES SUCH AS ANY TYPE OF RV OR VERY LARGE TRUCK.**

**TO MAKE THINGS AS CONVENIENT AND SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE FOR EVERYONE, PLEASE CARPOOL WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. THE FEWER CARS WE NEED TO PARK THE CLOSER WE CAN GET EVERYONE TO THE STAGING AREA WITHIN OSP's GROUP USE AREA (GUA).**

## Race and Park Rules:

- Rule number one. Have fun, take in the views, smile, and be kind to those you meet along the way.
- We will do a rolling start based on UltraSignUp runner rank so that the faster runners are towards the front. There will not be separate, defined starting waves. The start will have a timing mat so your specific start time and finish time will be recorded.
- You must stay on course at all times. If you leave the course for any reason (including taking a wrong turn) you must return to the course at the same point at which you left it. Failure to do so will be grounds for immediate disqualification.
- **Bib numbers must be worn on the FRONT of the body and be FULLY VISIBLE** at all times. Some find pinning the number to their shorts is best when layers of clothes may be put on and off throughout the day.
- Littering of any kind is prohibited. Please respect the natural beauty of these trails and help to ensure our continued use of them by disposing of trash at aid stations.
- Pets are not allowed on the race course. Pets are welcome around the finish line but must be leashed at all times. If you are unable to finish the race you **MUST** immediately notify the appropriate race personnel at an aid station or finish line as quickly as possible **BEFORE** leaving the race course.
- The Arizona Trail is open to other trail users during the race. You may meet hikers, horses or mountain bikes during the day. Please share the trail and be courteous to those you meet along the way.
- Aid station captains have the authority to act on the behalf of the AZT Oracle Rumble race management.
- The race director has the final say in all decisions.

## Restroom and Trail Etiquette:

There will be restrooms available near the start of the 12K and Half Marathon. 12K runners will have access to a port-o-potty at the Kannally Wash aid station 2.1 miles into the race. Half marathoners will have access to a port-o-potty at about .75 mile as they pass through the Oak Woodland Picnic area and then will have access to a port-o-potty 6.2 miles into the race at the Kannally Wash aid station. Nature potty is always an option but you **MUST** pack out your toilet paper (**yes we're serious**). Do not leave any trash on the trail. We want to make sure we have minimal impact on the AZT and the trail corridor. Anyone caught littering will be automatically disqualified. We will provide small plastic bags at packet pickup and have extras at each aid station so that you can pack out your toilet paper to the next aid station.

## **Course:**

This is trail running so all distances are approximate. We do promise you boundless natural beauty, a challenging, well-marked course and supportive volunteers along the way. There will be highly runnable surfaces and some technical terrain. Lots of single track, some sandy washes and guaranteed rocks. Nothing within Oracle State Park is flat. The terrain is all up and down. Make sure to train on similar terrain. Take time to enjoy all that is around you. Remember that running is a celebration of life.

### **12K:**

The 12K race will begin at 8:30am on Wildlife Drive just up the road from race headquarters (GUA) and the start line will be marked by a banner. The route will head up the road and after about .4 miles will turn right on the Wildlife Corridor Trail. At just under 2 miles you will take a left onto the Arizona Trail and run roughly .5 mile to the Kannally Wash aid station. After leaving the aid station to the left you will traverse an additional 2.8 miles of the Arizona Trail. Part way through this section you will meet back up with the Half Marathon course and may have some faster runners coming up behind you and asking to pass. Please be accommodating. You will be turning left next to Highway 77 and will encounter the second aid station at Cherry Valley Wash. Leaving the aid station, you will head up Cherry Valley Wash for about 1 mile before turning left onto the Mariposa Trail. After another 1 mile you will turn left on the Bellota Trail and then it is a short trek down to the finish line.

### **Half Marathon:**

The half marathon will begin at 8:00am on Wildlife Drive. The start line will be marked with a banner. After heading up the road you will turn right on the Windy Ridge Trail for .27 mile before turning right on the Granite Overlook Loop Trail. About halfway through the 1 mile section of the Overlook Loop you will reach the highest point of your race at 4622'. Look around. Enjoy the views. Back down you turn right onto a small spur trail and then the Manzanita Trail. You will cover about 2.3 miles on the Manzanita Trail before taking a left onto the Arizona Trail (AZT). After about 2 miles on the AZT you will arrive at the Kannally Wash aid station, roughly 6 miles into the race. Leaving the aid station you will turn right onto the Windmill Loop Trail, which runs partly in the wash and partly on a trail above the wash. After 1 mile you will leave the wash and head uphill, still on the Windmill Loop Trail. After about 2 miles you will meet up with the Powerline Trail and turn right. After a short distance you will reach a four-way trail junction where you will turn right on the AZT. After about 1.2 miles you will turn left next to Highway 77 and encounter the second aid station in Cherry Valley Wash. Leaving the aid station, you will head up Cherry Valley Wash for about 1 mile before turning left onto the Mariposa Trail. After about another 1 mile you will turn left onto the Bellota Trail, and then it is just a short trek down to the finish line.

## Course Markings:

The course will be marked with yellow and orange surveyors tape and/or reflective ribbons streaming from bushes and trees. Also, all trail junctions will be clearly marked with arrows. There is only one section where signs will point the HM and 12K participants in different directions, and that is when leaving the first aid station at Kannally Wash. Aid station workers will help direct you, along with a large sign. At all common trail junctions where the different distances are all going the same direction, simply follow the directional arrows and ribbons.

## Aid Stations:

**We have gone cupless. Runners must provide their own drinking vessels at the aid stations. We will have collapsible cups available for \$3.00 at packet pickup for your convenience.**

There are two aid stations for both the 12K and HM distances. You will find water and electrolyte drink from Skratch Labs provided at both of these aid stations.

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE** that for 2026 we are adding time cutoffs to these two events as last year we had folks out on each course for over 5 hours. This puts an undue burden on many of our volunteers. Runners & Hikers are asked to be able to average about 18 minutes per mile or faster. If runners do not reach the specific aid station at the time cutoff listed below they will be pulled off the course. We will provide a ride back to the finish for anyone that needs to be pulled from the course. Folks that wish to come out and hike at a more leisurely pace with no time cutoff should enter the 3 mile event. Details on that event, and a separate runner guide, will be made available as soon as that information is available.

DISTANCE	AID STATION	TOTAL MILEAGE	CUTOFF TIME	TOTAL RUN TIME
Half Marathon	Kannally Wash (KW)	6.0m	9:50am	1 hr 50 min
Half Marathon	Cherry Valley Wash (CV)	10.5m	11:10am	3 hr 10 min
Half Marathon	Finish Line	12.9m	12:00pm	4hr
12K	Kannally Wash (KW)	2.3m	9:10am	40 min
12K	Cherry Valley Wash (CV)	5m	10:40am	2 hr 10 min
12K	Finish Line	7.4m	11:20am	2 hr 50 min

Make sure to carry your own water and calories for use in between the aid stations along with gels or any other calories you will need.

## Drop Bags:

We will provide a safe area for you to leave a bag at the start of the race since it is important that you stay warm before and after your race. Please only leave your bags in the clearly marked finish line bag area.

- Do not leave valuable or fragile items in your drop bags.
- **Drop bags should not be large (smaller than a standard backpack)** and should be clearly marked with your bib number and the aid station initials. No other information is needed on the bags.

**\*\* Race management is not responsible for the loss or damage of any drop bags.**

## Dropping Out or Dropping down in Distance:

If you are unable to finish the race you **MUST** immediately notify the appropriate race personnel at an aid station or finish line **BEFORE** leaving the course. **Do not leave the race without letting us know** as this may result in a great deal of time, energy and money spent searching for you to ensure you are safe and unharmed.

## Weather and Terrain:

In January, the average high temperature is 56 °F (13 °C) with a low of 35 °F (2 °C). At an altitude of 4,100 feet Oracle's vegetation consists of mostly emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*), desert spoon (*Dasyliroton wheeleri*), soap tree yucca (*Yucca elata*), prickly pear (*Opuntia*) and various grasses. There are no major ascents or descents in any of the courses but almost all of the trails are rolling.

## Race Day - Daylight Hours:

Sunrise: 7:22 am

Sunset: 5:50 pm

## Awards:

All runners will receive a unique finisher award for making it across the line! There will be special awards for the top 3 male and female finishers in each distance and for the first place masters female and male champions.