



These Ain't No Pansy Ass City Races

3rd Annual Madison 50K Ultras

July 15, 2022



50K Straight Up or 50K Straight Down

Date and Time of Race

Friday, July 15, 2022

Starting Times:

- Madison Ultra Up Runners – 5:30 AM from Varney Bridge on the Madison River
- Madison Ultra Down Runners – 8:30 AM from Monument Ridge on top of the Gravelly Range

Race Check In – RACE DAY CHECK IN ONLY

Friday, July 15, 2022 – 5:00 to 6:00 AM

The Madison Ultra is a 50K race in two directions but on the very same route. Nearly the entire race will be on a good quality gravel road of which about half is within the Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest. There are two race categories to choose from – 50K up or 50K down. This is because the distance from the banks of the Madison River near Varney Bridge to the very highest point on the Gravelly Range Road on the Gravelly Range is 50 kilometers. This is the route of the Madison Ultra. The Gravelly Range Road connects these two points.



RD Sam Korsmoe on the Madison River
The Start/Finish Line



Madison Trifecta Champ Corey Hardy on Monument Ridge
The Start/Finish Line

This means the starting line for the Inaugural Madison Ultra Up is on the banks of the Madison River and the finish line is at 9,587 feet at Monument Ridge on top of the Gravelly Range. The starting line for the Inaugural Madison Ultra Down is at the Monument Ridge sign which is at 9,587 feet and the finish line is on the banks of the Madison River. The runners will meet on the route and high fives and/or trash talk can proceed at will. The net gain/loss from the river's edge to Monument Ridge is approximately 6,000 feet over the 50 kilometers. In other words, you're facing one hell of an uphill or one hell of a downhill. There ain't no flat spots in between.

Race Day Logistics

All runners will check in at Varney Bridge on the Madison River. This is about 12 miles outside of Ennis. Athletes will be asked to park the vehicles either along the county road or within the Varney Bridge Fishing Access Site. The Madison Ultra Up runners will be checked in first since they will start first. Check in is from 5:00 to 6:00 AM. The Madison Ultra Down runners will be shuttled to the starting line on top of the Gravelly Range from Varney Bridge. This same shuttle(s) will be used

to bring the Madison Ultra Up runners back down to Varney Bridge. There are two starting lines and two finishing lines. There will naturally be two sets of timers and two awards ceremonies.

The race day logistics are as follows:

5:00 AM – Runners arrive to Varney Bridge and park in the designated areas within the fishing access site. The parking area is towards the back of the site.

5:00 to 6:00 AM – Runners check in with priority for check in given to Madison Ultra Up runners. Cars should be left locked at Varney Bridge. There will be a vehicle for SWAG bags and other gear.

5:30 AM – Madison Ultra Up runners start.

6:00 AM – Madison Ultra Down runners board the shuttle vehicle(s) for the ride to their starting line on top of the Gravelly Range.

8:30 AM – Madison Ultra Down runners start. The shuttle(s) will remain at Monument Ridge.

12:00 to 1:00 PM – Awards ceremony for the Madison Ultra Up runners takes place on Monument Ridge. The shuttle bus returns runners to Varney Bridge after the ceremony. Everyone's private vehicles should be at Varney Bridge so the shuttles are no longer needed.

1:00 to 2:00 PM – Awards ceremony for the Madison Ultra Down runners takes place at Varney Bridge.

2:00 PM On – Post-race party and sharing for all runners begins. Athletes are free to leave at any time from Varney Bridge. Free beer and lemonade for all! We'll have some fruit and possibly food as well.

Bring your fly rods! The Madison River is 20 feet below the finish line.

Level of Participant Support

The Madison Ultra will be **a limited support race**. This cannot be emphasized enough. This is just the third year of the race so we're all still learning. The route will be marked with cones at various intervals with kilometer markers on two facing sides of the cones. At various points along the way (approximately every five kilometers), there will be stand-alone water coolers for runners to get their own water. There are no cups at the water stations so please be sure to bring your own water bottles.

There will be mobile volunteers in different vehicles cruising the route between the two start/finish points. It is highly likely that the runners will become quite spread out as the race progresses. However, runners will meet other runners coming from the opposite direction as they go up or down. The mobile volunteers will have Gatorade and first aid kits in their vehicles along with ice and water.

There is very limited cell phone coverage for most of the route. Signals can be picked up in a few areas, but runners should not expect to be able to contact anyone once the race begins. It's simply too remote.

Family and friends of runners are highly encouraged to travel the route to support their loved one. The two requirements/requests are to drive slowly to keep the dust down and to assist other runners if they are in need. Those who are willing will be provided with aid station supplies to hand out to runners. There are many places along the route that offer superb views of the mountains (and the running route) while also waiting and watching the athletes run.

Cut-off Times

There are officially no cut-off times for any GYAS event. The final call for pulling a runner is at the discretion of the race director. This will be done primarily in the event that the runner is in danger of harming him/herself.

For the Madison Ultra Up runners, there may be an exception. In the event that an Up runner is far away from the finish line and is holding up a shuttle bus or the volunteer crew at Monument Ridge, the RD will have the right to ask the runner to stop running and board the shuttle bus for the trip back down to Varney Bridge. For any Down runners, it will be up to them to complete the race on their own though the RD has the right to pull them off the race in the case of the runners harming him/herself.

The Race Categories and Routes

As described above, there is only one route, but it goes in two directions for runners. The route is the 50K distance between Varney Bridge on the Madison River and Monument Ridge on the Gravelly Range. It's basically all uphill or all downhill. There are actually very few stretches of road that are flat.

Madison Ultra Up

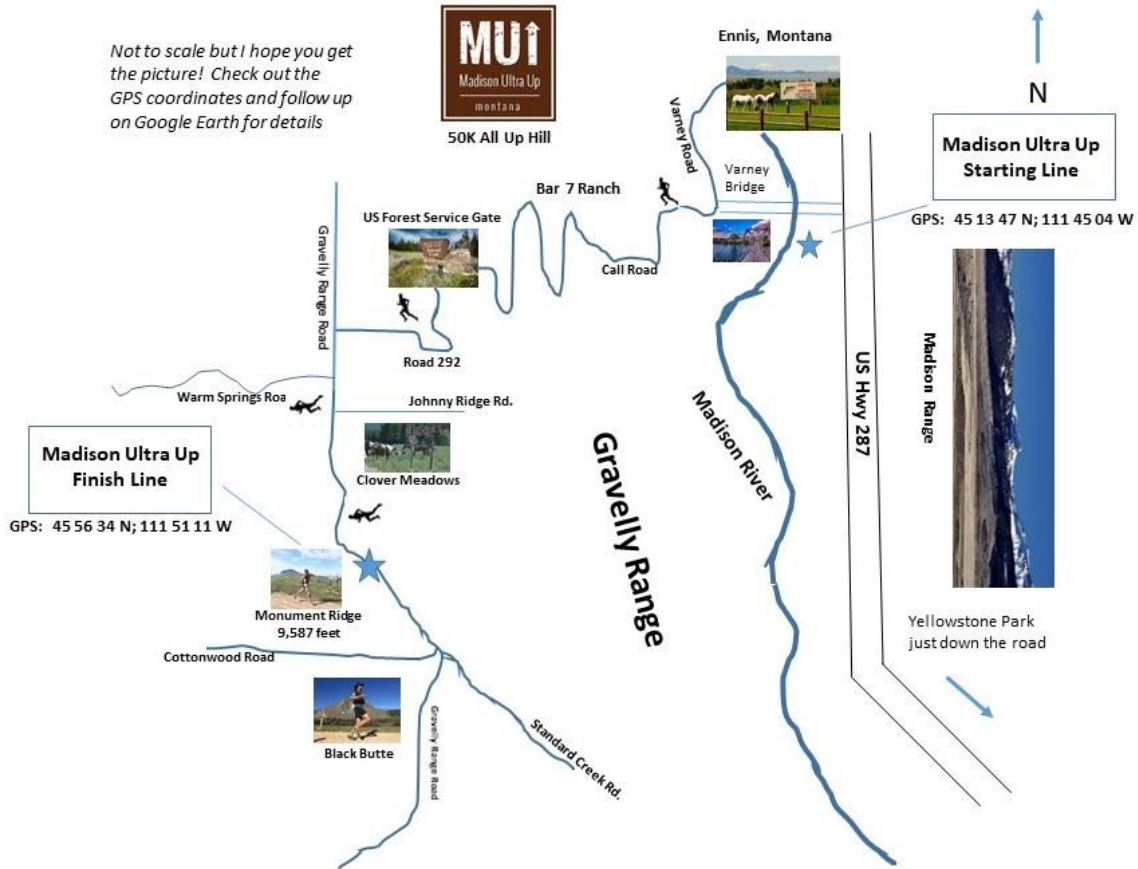
As noted above, the Madison Ultra Up runners start first. They will leave from Varney Bridge, cross the Madison River, and then run into the Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest. This stretch will be identical to the Big Sky Marathon route and the Madison Marathon route. It will also be identical to the Tour de Gravelly route. It will be 50 kilometers of uphill running with a roughly 6,000 feet of net gain over the 50K. There will be an overall champion for men and women as well as a Master's division champion (40 years and up) for men and women.

Madison Ultra Down

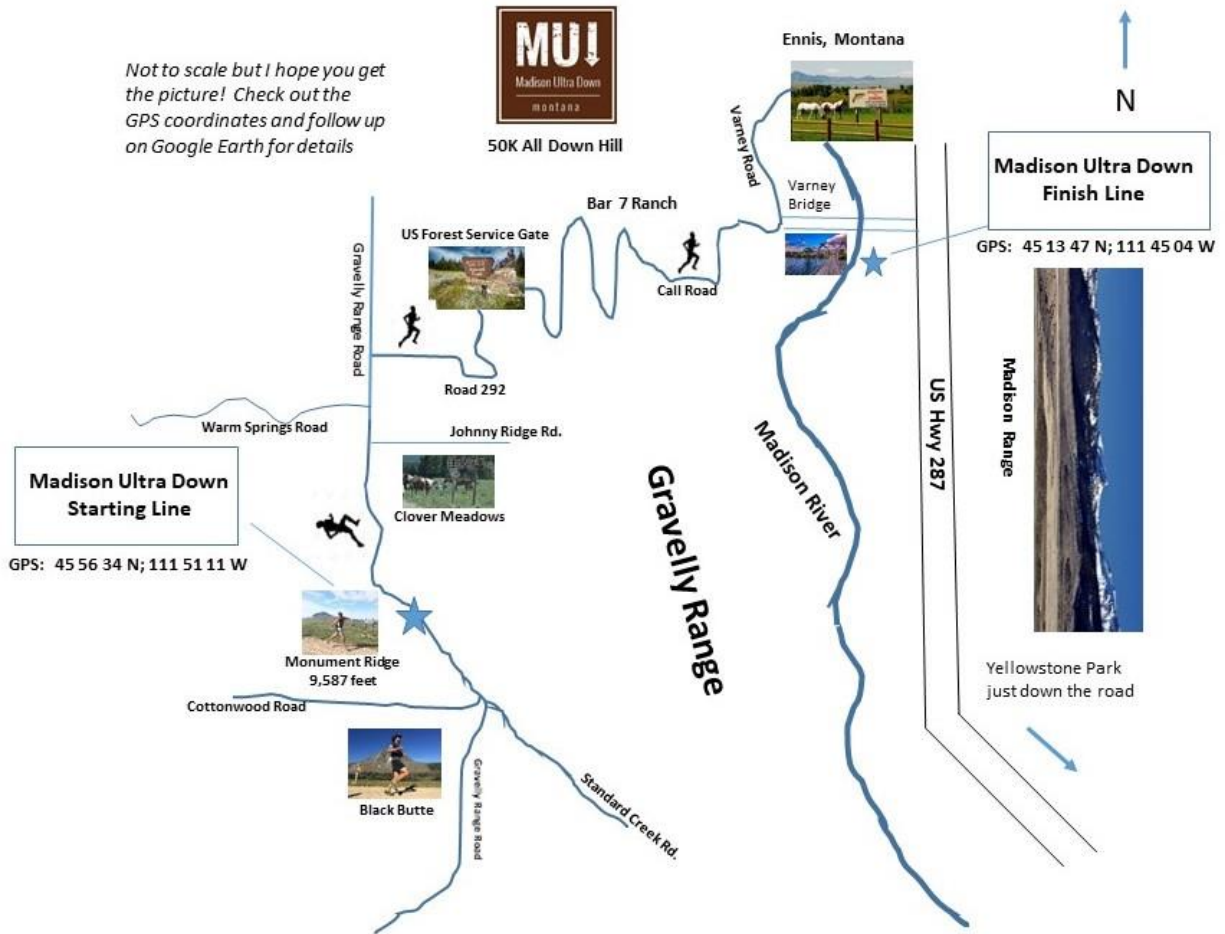
The bus for the Down runners will leave – slowly – about 20 minutes after the Up runners have left. This is to allow them to be spread out a bit and thus not create too much dust. The ride from Varney Bridge to Monument Ridge will be approximately 1.5 to two hours. The race will begin within 30 minutes of arrival. The route is the same as Up but very much all downhill. Instead of a 6,000 foot

net gain, there will be a 6,000 foot net loss. There will be an overall champion for men and women as well as a Master's division champion (40 years and up) for men and women.

Route Maps



Not to scale but I hope you get the picture! Check out the GPS coordinates and follow up on Google Earth for details



Madison County Hotels and Restaurants

The home base for the Greater Yellowstone Adventure Series (GYAS) races is in Ennis, Montana. This is a small town on the Madison River. It is about 50 miles from Bozeman. The drive from Bozeman airport (BZN) to Ennis takes about an hour. Ennis is 70 miles from Yellowstone National Park (the west gate entrance).

Some of the Madison County hotels that we recommend are:

Red Bear Inn – www.redbearinn.com

El Western – www.elwestern.com

Sportman's Lodge – www.sportsmanslodgemt.com

McAllister Inn – www.mcallisterlodging.com

Lure Me Inn – www.luremeinn.com

Rainbow Valley Lodge – www.rainbowvalleylodge.com

Riverside Motel – www.riversidemotel-outfitters.com

Moriah Motel – www.moriahmotel.com

King's Motel – www.kingsmotelllc-mydirectorystay.com

Some of the nicer places to eat and drink include:

G Bar – 305 East Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-5553

Willies Distillery – 312 Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-4117

Alley Bistro – 59 MT Hwy 287, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-5695

Bynee's – 214 Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-3156

The Continental Divide – 47 Geyser Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-7600

Tavern 287 – 129 East Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-7287

Longbranch Saloon – 125 Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-7020

Yesterday's Soda Fountain – 124 Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-4246

The Pic A Nic Basket – 97 North 1st Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-7900

Ennis Sugar High – 170 North Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-7113

Nacho Mamma's Burrito – 111 West Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-4006

McAllister Inn Steakhouse – 5566 Highway 287, McAllister Tel: (406) 682-5000

Sportman's Lodge – 310 North Main Street, Ennis Tel: (406) 682-4242

Wells Fargo Steak & Coffee House – 314 West Wallace Street, Virginia City Tel: (406) 843-5556

Mill Creek Inn – 102 Mill Street, Sheridan Tel: (406) 842-5565

The Shovel and Spoon – 108 North Main, Sheridan Tel: (406) 842-7999

The Old Hotel – 101 East 5th Avenue, Twin Bridges Tel: (406) 684-5959

The Shack – 301 North Main, Twin Bridges Tel: (406) 684-5050