



Westport Marathon / Half-Marathon /10k – Competitors Brief

Welcome to the inaugural Westport Marathon. This document outlines important information relevant to all three of our events – marathon, half-marathon, and 10k. Please read the 'Important Notices' section, as well as the section of the brief pertaining to your event.

Our primary concern is that all competitors complete the event safely and enjoyably. You have a key role to play in making this happen. I would specifically remind you to closely observe the following:

Important Notices

1. When gathering for the start of your event, please use the car parks provided and keep clear of any sections of the public roads at the Quay which will be in use for the events.
2. Please obey the instructions of the Gardai, Civil Defence, and event marshals during the event. They are there for your safety and enjoyment.
3. It is your responsibility that you are fit and well to compete in your event. If you have not trained for the event, or are feeling in any way unwell on the day, we recommend that you refrain from taking part.
4. Part of the full-marathon and half-marathon course will use the cycle/walkway between Westport (Belclare Junction) and Murrisk

village, along the R335. This section of the courses will have 2-way traffic so please be aware of oncoming runners. Always stay to the LEFT of the path when meeting oncoming runners.

5. Bag drops will be available at the start line of each event.
6. Westport Marathon pursues a 'Leave No Trace' policy. Westport itself is one of Ireland's tidiest towns. Rubbish drops will be available at the water stations around the routes and are clearly marked on the maps on our website. Please dispose of your rubbish responsibly.
7. Toilets will be available on the route and these are clearly marked on the route maps on our website.
8. Water Stations are available along all routes and these are also clearly marked on the route maps on our website.
9. We ask competitors to please stick to the running route when running between Belclare junction and Murrisk village and vice versa. Marshals will be in place at certain sections of the route to aid the flow of the race.
10. Traffic Management systems will be in place along the full- and half-marathon routes at the 4/5k outward routes and the 17k/30k inward routes. Please follow the instructions of the traffic management professionals, Gardai, and marshals in these areas.
11. After finishing your event, please keep to the right hand side of the road, inside the barriers, in order to exit the finish area. There will be other runners using the rest of the road as they complete their event. Please respect your fellow competitors. Thank You.

Full-Marathon

- The full marathon course has been professionally measured. The extra 195 metres has been added at the start of the route. For your Garmin/tech to align with the course KM markers, you should record your first split at the 0km point, 195-metres after the start line of the event.
- The Full Marathon begins at 08:40am. Competitors must be at the start line at the Quay school no later than 08:25am. The pre-race briefing will take place at 08:30am.
- Competitors who have not reached the turnaround point for the half-marathon (11km) by 10am, will be directed back on the half-marathon route. This is for your safety and that of the course volunteers.
- The marathon course will be marked every 5km with RED distance markers on a white background. The section of the route from 17km to 24km will have distance markers every KM. The road will also be marked every KM with RED line paint.
- After the 33km mark, approaching the Quay school, stay to the right hand side of the road (look for the 34km sign) as you will have to complete another loop of this section of the course (Railway walk), back to Belclare junction, where you will turn right just after the 38k mark. Stay left at the Quay school upon return for the last km to the finish line.
- The section of the route between the 11km mark (end of the Greenway after Murrisk village) and the 24km mark (re-entering the Greenway before Murrisk on the inward/return route) will be on OPEN PUBLIC road, the R335. From the 11km mark, competitors must keep to the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the road, facing the oncoming traffic. Please remain

as close to the shoulder as is safely possible. There will be warning signage placed along this section of the route to advise drivers of athletes on the road. Motorcycle marshals will also be on the route to slow traffic.

- On the inward section from Murrisk to Belclare, stay to the left of the picnic benches at the viewpoints at approx the 28k and 29k marks. Follow the signage and instructions of the marshals.
- You will meet oncoming runners from the Half-marathon between Murrisk village (27k) and Belclare junction (31k). Please stay to the LEFT HAND SIDE of the running route, in single file where necessary or when instructed by the marshals, when meeting oncoming runners.
- At Belclare Junction 31k, the event merges with route for the 10k.
- From the 31km mark onwards, there is a full road closure in place up to the Ardmore rd, just before the Quay school. The full width of the road is available to runners here. However, local access traffic will still be using the road. Please merge to the free side of the road until the traffic passes, and then re-use the full width of the road.

Half-Marathon

- The half-marathon course has been professionally measured. The extra 95-meters has been added at the start of the route, so please take a split at the 0km mark in order to ensure your Garmin/tech aligns with the course markers.
- The half-marathon begins at 10:30am. Competitors must gather at the start line at Westport Quay no later than 10:15am for the pre-event briefing.

- The half marathon route will have distance marker signs at 5km, 10km, 12km, 15km, 17km, and 20km, with GREEN writing on a white background. The road will also be marked every KM with GREEN line paint.
- Just beyond the 5km mark at Belclare junction, the route continues out towards Murrisk village (9km). On this section of the route, and again on your return/inward route between Murrisk (14k) and Belclare (17k), there will be a 2-way flow of runners. Please stay to the LEFT HAND SIDE of the running route when passing oncoming runners.
- Around approx 11km mark there is a narrow wooden bridge behind the hotel in Murrisk Demesne. Please give way to runners coming back towards Murrisk direction if this bridge is congested. Strictly single file traffic, keeping to the left over the bridge.
- On the inward section from Murrisk to Belclare, stay to the left of the picnic benches at the viewpoints just before and after the 15k mark. Follow the directional signage. Marshals will also be on and to direct you.
- You will meet oncoming runners from the Half-marathon between Murrisk village (14k) and Belclare junction (17k). Please stay to the LEFT HAND SIDE of the running route, in single file where necessary or when instructed by the marshals, when meeting oncoming runners.
- At Belclare junction (17k), turn left for the final section of the route. A full road closure is in place here, so the full width of the road can be used. You will be merging with runners from the 10k event at this point also. However, local access traffic will still be using the road. Please merge to the free side of the road until the traffic passes, and then re-use the full width of the road.

10K Event

- The 10k course has been professionally measured.
- The 10k starts on the Roman Island slip road, roughly 200-metres from the finish line.
- The event begins at 11am. Competitors should gather at the starting point no later than 10:45am. The pre-race briefing will begin at 10:50am.
- Please be aware that the half-marathon begins at Westport Quay at 10:30am. Please do NOT cross sections of the Towers slip road until the runners have left the Quay area.
- The 10k route will be marked with distance signage every KM. The marked signage will be BLUE on a white background. There will also be BLUE road markings for every KM.
- Turn right at Belclare junction, just after the 5km mark. Here you will merge with runners from the full and half marathons. A full road closure is in place here, so please use the width of the road. However, local access traffic will still be using the road. Please merge to the free side of the road until the traffic passes, and then re-use the full width of the road.
- At the Sheebeen thatched pub, at approx the 7.5km mark, turn immediately left to complete the loop around Rosbeg. You will pass the 8km marker. Rejoin the main road at Rosmo House, turning left down towards the Quay school. Keep to the LEFT hand side of the road here, running back towards the Towers bar.

Upon finishing, all competitors will receive their finisher medals. Refreshments will be available at the finish line marquee.

We hope you have a fantastic day. Enjoy the beautiful scenery along the route and the camaraderie of your fellow runners. Please remember to follow the instructions of the Gardai, course officials, and volunteers. Thank You and have a great day.