

DUBA MARATHON 2023 Sunday 12th February

42KM MARATHON • 10KM ROAD RACE • 4KM FUN RUN



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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WELCOME FROM THE ORGANISERS



Peter Connerton
Event Director
Dubai Marathon

On behalf of everyone in the organising team behind the 2023 Dubai Marathon, it gives me great pleasure to say... welcome back.

Who would have believed that when Worknesh Degefa and Olika Adugno won the two main races on January 24, 2020, it would be more than three long years before we would see another Marathon on the streets of Dubai?

Yet here we are, more than 1,100 days later ready to get the name of the Dubai Marathon back on the international running scene after a pandemic that affected so many millions of lives. It really is a delight to be back, and we hope to see many familiar faces at the start of the 4km, the 10km and the Marathon races.

When we last staged the event three years ago, the world was a much different place. Since then, the global pandemic has changed how many people view their lives yet thanks to the efforts of the UAE government and its health authorities we are able to come together once again and enjoy running as one in a city that is home to so many different nationalities.

Thanks to the support of government bodies such as Dubai Police, the RTA, the Dubai Municipality, and of course, the Dubai Sports Council, which lays down the important foundations for sports events to flourish in the city, this year sees the Dubai Marathon celebrate its 22nd anniversary.

Staging an event like this demands teamwork and we are grateful to all the aforementioned bodies, the thousands of volunteers, the infrastructure team and, of course, those sponsors and supporters who remained loyal to the Dubai Marathon. That support is greatly appreciated.

But this is a time for talking about the thousands of you who have decided to join us again – the Dubai Marathon has become an institution for runners from the region and even around the world and we are delighted to see so many of you have taken them time to register and join us for the return of the event.

We never take your support for granted and hope you will have a memorable time no matter where your journey began – now go out and let it end at the finish line with your well-earned Dubai Marathon medal...









































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THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLY TO ALL ENTRANTS:

Dubai Marathon is organised in accordance with the rules and regulations of World Athletics and all participants agree to abide by these rules and regulations and comply with all reasonable directions and decisions made by the officials and representatives of World Athletics.

Whilst every reasonable precaution will be taken by the organisers to ensure the participants' safety, participants run at their own risk and the organisers shall not be liable for any loss and/or damage whether personal or otherwise and howsoever arising. All participants accept responsibility for travel and medical insurance and for payment and/or reimbursement of any medical/ surgical expenses incurred.

There is an official six hour time limit at the finish for the Marathon with police and medical support. There will be phased road openings based on a six hour finishing time. Any remaining participants running slower than these times and openings are requested to run on the footpaths.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of World Athletics, a runner must retire from the race immediately if requested to do so by any member of the official medical staff.

5 No pets or any form of wheeled transport is permitted on the route e.g. in-line skates, roller blades, bicycles etc.

6 There will be no refund or transfer of participation for those participants who do not take part or if the event is cancelled for whatever reason.

7 The organiser reserves the right to limit and refuse any entries.



START & FINISH

The Marathon, 10km Road Race and 4km Fun Run will all start from Jubilee Park in Expo City Dubai. All finishes will be at the finish line in front of the iconic Al Wasl Dome.

ROUTE INFORMATION

The Dubai Marathon route is fast and flat with excellent road surfaces throughout.

Masafi Water will be available throughout the route at every 5km mark from 5km to 40km, while intermediary drink stations will have Masafi Water approximately half-way between

each main drink station. O.R.S
Hydration, the Official Hydration
Partner of the 2023 Dubai
Marathon, will provide O.R.S
at 15km, 20km, 25km, 30km,
35km and 40km. Medical points
will be set up around 200m after
each 5km station and toilets will
be in place every 5km from the
5km-40km marks.

GETTING THERE

For overseas visitors and those not familiar with Dubai, the best way to get to the start line is by using the Dubai Metro, which will be open from 4am on Sunday, February 12 with

DUBAI MARATHON 2023

transport complimentary for registered runners and their families. If you intend to travel to the venue by private car, please note the advice from host venue Expo City Dubai is to proceed to the Mobility and Opportunity car parking areas

RACE NUMBERS

Only entrants with official race numbers for the Dubai Marathon 2023 will be permitted to compete in the race. Race numbers are not transferable. There is a "MEDICAL INFORMATION" section on the back of your

race number. For your own safety and to ensure prompt assistance please fill in your personal information. Numbers must be worn on the chest and may not be altered.

MIKATAG TIMEKEEPING

No Tag - No Time. Each race number will come complete with a Tag attached for timing purposes. This is a one-use Tag so no need to remove it in the finish area.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Medical assistance will be

available at the start/finish area and along the course. Please do not hesitate to contact our medical personnel if you are having difficulties. On the course medical assistance will be available every 5km.

COMPETITOR SOUVENIRS

All Marathon and 10km runners will receive a finisher's medal, an adidas Climacool T-shirt and a downloadable finish certificate, while competitors in the 4km will receive a finisher's medal and an adidas Climacool T-shirt with a downloadable participation

0555 Marathon Wheelchair Elites

0600 Marathon Elites/Masses

0800 10km Road Race

1100 4km Fun Run

ENTERTAINMENT

Official media partner Channel 4 Radio Network will be broadcasting live from the start/finish area to entertain spectators and competitors throughout the day.

TEMPERATURE

Expect race day temperature



A LOOK BACK AT 2020

itandard Chartered Dubai Marathon 2020



Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon 2020



around the 10-15 degree Celsius mark at the start.

BAGGAGE FACILITIES

Baggage facilities will be available at the entrance/exit at Expo 2020 Metro Station and near the start line at Jubilee Park. See map for details. Baggage drop facilities will not be available for 4km Fun Run participants. The official baggage bag provided will be the only bag accepted at the baggage drop. No other bags will be accepted.

REFRESHMENTS

Catering services will be available on the day near the finish area with a selection of food and beverage available.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Please don't attempt to run if you feel unwell, even if you are raising money for charity. Most medical emergencies occur in people who have been unwell but do not wish to miss the event, so if you are feeling feverish, have been vomiting, had chest pains or diarrhea, or otherwise feel unwell, it is unfair on you and your family, the charity you are supporting and the marathon staff to risk serious illness and become a medical emergency. If it is hot, wear loose clothing, start slowly and - if possible - run in the available shade. Start the race well hydrated. This will help you feel better later in the race and may prevent cramp,

runners who have not trained sufficiently or are dehydrated. Do not gulp large volumes of liquid during or after the race as it is also possible to become ill from drinking too much, too quickly.

which is most common in

AFTER THE RACE

Do not stand about as soon as you finish. Keep walking especially if you feel dizzy - and replenish fluids. Collect your finisher's medal and water after the finish line. Always drink something and have something to eat as some runners feel faint more than half an hour after finishing the race.



DEGEFA, ADUGNA SHINE IN 2020 DUBAI MARATHON



Worknesh Degefa made it a Dubai double with victory in the 2020 Dubai Marathon as debutant Olika Adugna won a dramatic sprint to the finish in an historic men's race.

Degefa, the winner in Dubai in 2017, produced the top performance of the day clocking a fast time of 2:19:38 leading from start to finish.

But while she was well ahead and running on her own in the women's event, the men's race had a spectacularly close finish with Adugna the surprise winner in 2:06:15 as the first four runners crossed the line separated by just three seconds.

And for the first in marathon history, eleven runners clocked times of under 2:07 – a record that had stood since the 2012 Dubai Marathon when ten runners finished under 2:07.

The pace in the men's race was not quite as fast as expected mainly due to the weather conditions. In relatively warm temperatures of around 20 Celsius, overcast skies and a little breeze, a leading group of 24 runners reached the halfway in 62:43.

There were still eleven runners in contention for victory with



just 2km to go. In what looked like the finish of a middle-distance track race, 20-year-old Adugna edged out another debutant as Kenya's Eric Kiptanui finished second just two seconds adrift in 2:06:17. Tsedat Abeje took third while fellow-Ethiopian Lencho Tesfaye was fourth with both runners clocking a time of 2:06:18.

"I felt very good and always believed I could win," said Adugna, who continued a winning streak of male Ethiopian athletes in Dubai that stretches back to 2012. "Of course, I'm delighted I was able to do it in my debut race at the distance." In contrast to the men's race, Degefa enjoyed a wire-towire victory passing halfway in 68:36 and was set to beat the course record of 2:17:08. Unfortunately, Ethiopia's fastest-ever female marathon runner could not keep her pace in the second half of the race.

But the 29-year-old pre-race favourite – who clocked a national record 2:17:41 in Dubai just twelve months earlier – remained well ahead and achieved a sub-2:20 time for the third time in her career. While Degefa finished in 2:19:38, fellow Ethiopians Guteni Shone and Bedatu

Hirpa took second and third in 2:20:11 and 2:21:55 respectively.

After receiving her trophy from HE Mattar Al Tayer, Vice Chairman of the Dubai Sports Council, Degefa revealed she suffered a recurrence of a back problem during the race.

"I had this problem a week ago and unfortunately it returned during the race," said the diminutive Ethiopian, who needed medical attention at the finish. "It's true I wanted to run a much faster time but at least I've won the race despite the pain."

15



In the wheelchair division, there were victories for Marcel Hug and Sandra Graf with both Swiss athletes making it a hattrick of victories on the flat and fast streets of Dubai.

Hug held off a determined challenge from Zhang Yong of China to win by just one second, while Graf had a less dramatic race to the tape, winning by just under two minutes from Brazil's Vanessa De Souza.

Around 25,000 entered the 21st edition of the Dubai Marathon with runners spread across the Marathon and the associated 10km Road Race and 4km Fun Run. Held under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, and under the aegis of the Dubai Sports Council, with Standard Chartered as title sponsor, the Dubai Marathon was also supported by adidas, Dubai Holding, Masafi, Channel 4 Radio Network, Dubai Municipality, Dubai Police and the Dubai RTA.

FINAL POSITIONS - MEN	
1. Olika Adugna Bikila (ETH)	2:06:15
2. Eric Kiprono Kiptanui (KEN)	2:06:17
3. Tsedat Abeje Ayana (ETH)	2:06:18

FINAL POSITIONS - WOMEN	
Worknesh Degefa Debele (ETH)	2:19:38
2. Guteni Shone Amana (ETH)	2:20:11
3. Bedatu Hirpa Badane (ETH)	2:21:55

FOLL OF HONOUR

	DUBAI MAI	RATHON WINNERS ME	EN	DUBAI MARATHON WINNERS WOMEN		
Year	Time	Athlete	Nation	Time	Athlete	Nation
2000	02:12:21	Wilson Kibet	KEN	02:40:22	Ramilya Burangulova	RUS
2001	02:13:36	Wilson Kibet	KEN	02:37:07	Ramilya Burangulova	RUS
2002	02:13:04	Wilson Kibet	KEN	02:33:31	Albina Ivanova	RUS
2003	02:09:33	Joseph Kahugu	KEN	02:36:26	Irina Permitina	RUS
2004	02:12:49	Gashaw Melese	ETH	02:42:36	Lela Amman	ETH
2005	02:10:49	Dejene Guta	ETH	02:39:08	Diribe Hunde	ETH
2006	02:13:02	Joseph Ngeny	KEN	02:43:09	Delilah Osiago	KEN
2007	02:09:53	Willy Rotich	KEN	02:27:19	Askale Magarsa	ETH
2008	02:04:53	Haile Gebrselassie	ETH	02:22:42	Berhane Adere	ETH
2009	02:05:29	Haile Gebrselassie	ETH	02:24:02	Bezunesh Bekele	ETH
2010	02:06:09	Haile Gebrselassie	ETH	02:24:18	Mamitu Daska	ETH
2011	02:07:18	David Barmasai	KEN	02:22:45	Aselefech Medessa	ETH
2012	02:04:23	Ayele Abshero	ETH	02:19:31	Aselefech Medessa	ETH
2013	02:04:45	Lelisa Desisa	ETH	02:23:23	Tirfi Tsegaye	ETH
2014	02:04:32	Tsegaye Mekonnen	ETH	02:25:01	Mula Seboka	ETH
2015	02:05:28	Lemi Berhanu	ETH	02:20:02	Aselefech Mergia	ETH
2016	02:04:24	Tesfaye Abera Dibaba	ETH	02:19:41	Tirfi Tsegaye Beyene	ETH
2017	02:04:11	Tamirat Tola Adere	ETH	02:22:36	Worknesh Degefa Debele	ETH
2018	02:04:00	Mosinet Geremew Bayih	ETH	02:19:17	Roza Dereje Bekele	ETH
2019	02:03:34	Getaneh Molla	ETH	02:17:08	Ruth Chepngetich	KEN
2020	02:06:15	Olika Adugna Bikila	ETH	02:19:38	Worknesh Degefa Debele	ETH
		ORLD RECORD - ARATHON MEN		WORLD RECORD - MARATHON WOMEN		
	Time	Athlete	Nation	Time	Athlete	Nation
02	::01:09	Eliud Kipchoge	KEN	02:14:04	Brigid Kosgei	KEN
	WORLD	_D RECORD - 10km MEN WORLD RECORD - 10km WOMEN			MEN	
	Time	Athlete	Nation	Time	Athlete	Nation
00	:26:24	Rhonex Kipruto	KEN	00:29:14	Yalemzerf Yehualaw	ETH



DUBAI DUTY FREE: BUSINESS GIANT, SPORTING CHAMPION

Founded on December 20, 1983, Dubai Duty Free celebrated its 39th anniversary in December 2021 and recorded annual sales of Dhs6.339 billion or US\$1.74 billion. Now employing 4,852 people, the operation has consistently raised the benchmark for airport retailing and it continues to grow.

In 2022, Dubai Duty Free recorded over 17.3 million sales transactions which average at 46,912 sales transactions per day, while a staggering 47.302 million units of merchandise were sold.

The five top selling categories for the year included Perfumes followed by Liquor, Gold, Cigarettes & Tobacco and Electronics. Sales of Perfumes reached Dhs1.134 billion (US\$310.66 million) and contributed 18% of total sales. Liquor sales reached Dhs1.021 billion (US\$279.84 million) and accounted for 16% of the total annual sales. Meanwhile. Gold recorded sales of Dhs629.292 million (US\$172.41 million) and contributed 10% towards total revenue.

Cigarettes & Tobacco came in fourth place with sales

amounting to Dhs562.347 million (US\$154.07 million) and accounted for 9% of total revenue while Electronics came in fifth place with sales of Dhs502.201 million (US\$137.59 million) and accounted for 8% of total annual sales.

As part of its significant investment in development and expansion, Dubai Duty Free opened luxury boutiques at Dubai International Airport including Dior boutique in Concourse A and B, a Louis Vuitton retail outlet in Concourse B and a Cartier boutique also in Concourse B.

In addition to the retail division Dubai Duty Free operates a Leisure Division which includes The Irish Village both in Garhoud and Studio One Hotel, the Century Village, the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Stadium, home to the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships and The Jumeirah Creekside Hotel.

To date, Dubai Duty Free has received over 750 awards including its 21st consecutive Business Traveller Middle East Award for "Best Airport for Duty Free Shopping in the Middle East", the Gulf Business "Retail Company of the Year" award and the 16th consecutive Global Traveler Award for "Best Duty Free Shopping in the World."

Dubai Duty Free Executive
Vice Chairman & CEO, Colm
McLoughlin was also the
recipient of several personal
awards including being
honoured with the inaugural
Middle East & Africa Duty Free
Association (MEADFA) Lifetime
Achievement Award and was
named the "Most Inspiring
Leader - Retail (UAE)" at the
Global Brand Awards.

Whether it is on the golfing greens, the tennis courts, the racecourse or even the high-seas, sponsorship and the support of international events has been an integral part of Dubai Duty Free's marketing strategy since 1983. And more than just marketing the company itself, these sporting endeavors

have also helped to propel global perception of the emirate.

The 2022 sporting 'season' began in January with the Slync.io Dubai Desert Classic won by Norwegian Viktor Hovland. As a patron sponsor of the tournament, Dubai Duty Free took part in the Pro-am competition and entertained a limited number of guests in style at the Emirates Golf Club.

The 2022 Dubai Duty Free
Tennis Championships, owned
and organised by Dubai Duty
Free, also went fantastically well.
Held under the patronage of His
Highness Sheikh Mohammed
Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice
President and Prime Minister
of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai,



last year's tournament - which celebrated its 30th anniversary - was won by Jelena Ostapenko and Andrey Rublev who both claimed their maiden Dubai titles.

In horse racing, Dubai Duty Free regularly fl-ies the -flag in the UK in April and September at the historical Newbury Racecourse. Last June also saw the prestigious Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby held at The Curragh Racecourse in Ireland, which offered a rich purse of Euro one million. The race meeting marked the return of spectators in a full capacity crowd and was won by the Ralph Becketttrained 'Westover', ridden by Colin Keane.

In July, the operation returned to Ireland as an official partner for the Horizon Irish Open held at Mount Juliet Estate and Golf Club, and won by Poland's Adrian Meronk, who claimed his maiden DP World Tour title.

Meanwhile, the world's premier international jockey's challenge, the Dubai Duty Free Shergar Cup took place at Ascot Racecourse in August. Representing Great Britain and Ireland, Europe, Rest of the World and The Ladies team in a thrilling eight-race showdown, the event was won by Great Britain and Ireland team.

The distinctive Dubai Duty Free branding returned to Newbury

Racecourse for the two-day racing event of the Dubai Duty Free International Weekend in September, marking the season finale of the operation's horseracing sponsorship in 2022.

Back in Dubai, the airport retailer returned to the high seas for the second Dubai Duty Free Sailing League Regatta held at Dubai Offshore Sailing Club from November 30-December 3.

Other sports that benefit from Dubai Duty Free's support include the Dubai Duty Free Golf World Cup, the Emirates Airline Dubai Rugby 7s and, of course, the Dubai Marathon.

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Full of surprises.



DUBAI SPORTS COUNCIL - PLANNING A DECADE OF SPORTING GROWTH

The Dubai Sports Council, the official government body responsible for the development of the sports sector in the Emirate of Dubai, has approved a ten-year strategy for developing Dubai's sporting sector.

With a mandate that includes promoting sport, developing sporting infrastructure, creating awareness and nurturing talent, as well as encouraging the active participation and empowerment of women in sports, and creating equal sporting opportunities for People of Determination with the aim of turning Dubai into the most physically active place in the world, the Dubai Sports Council has a pivotal role to play in society.

And with the guidance of its chairman, His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, the Dubai Sports Council will soon host 1,000 sports events per year and aims to double the sector's contribution to annual GDP within the decade.

Dubai will also look to host more training camps, more international



events and more private sector sports events as it looks to become a global sporting hub in the next ten years.

His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Mohammed Al Maktoum outlined the goals as part of a new 2023-2033 sport strategy at the first meeting of the Dubai Sports Council in 2023.

His Highness highlighted the importance of implementing initiatives to achieve sustainability in the sports sector, in line with the vision of the UAE leadership and the directives of UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who announced 2023 as the 'Year of Sustainability'.

"The announcement reflects the UAE leadership's commitment to implementing sustainability-focused initiatives that seek to ensure a better tomorrow for future generations," said Sheikh Mansoor. "In line with the directives of the UAE President, we remain committed to promoting sustainability in the sports sector."

During the meeting, he issued directives to increase the number of sports events held annually in Dubai to 500 with a view to progressively increasing this figure to 1,000 events annually.

Sheikh Mansoor added: "The new 2023-2033 strategy announced by the Council will seek to enhance the role of the sports sector in realising the vision of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and the objectives of the Dubai Economic Agenda (D33). The strategy will also contribute to raising Dubai's profile as a global sporting destination and a hub for attracting talent."

It's a strategy that includes several initiatives and programmes that seek to keep pace with global developments in the sporting sector.

Among the objectives is to raise the annual contribution of the sports sector to Dubai's GDP from two to four per cent with the organising and hosting of local, regional and international events and sports camps being a key factor.

His Highness added that the strategy also aims to increase the percentage of sporting events hosted in partnership with the private sector to 90 per cent.

This year will also build on the success of 2022, which saw the launch of several global tournaments including the Dubai Super Cup and the World Tennis League, while Sheikh Mansoor also issued directives to develop incentives for promoting sports in collaboration with the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) and the Dubai Health Authority (DHA), as well as directives to launch an award for recognising schools that have implemented measures to enhance the health and wellbeing of students through sports.

While Dubai is firmly established as a favourite destination for athletes from around the world, the Dubai Sports Council continues to develop policies aimed at attracting athletes to the city and will again continue to review Dubai's calendar of events and tournaments for 2023.

23

AWARDS AND BONUSES - MARATHON

Marathon Open

MEN		WC	OMEN
	USD		USD
1st	80,000	1st	80,000
2nd	40,000	2nd	40,000
3rd	20,000	3rd	20,000
4th	10,000	4th	10,000
5th	5,000	5th	5,000
6th	4,000	6th	4,000
7th	3,000	7th	3,000
8th	2,500	8th	2,500
9th	2,000	9th	2,000
10th	1,500	10th	1,500

Sponsored by



Marathon UAE Nationals

MEN		WC	MEN
	AED		AED
1st	5,000	1st	5,000
2nd	3,000	2nd	3,000
3rd	2,000	3rd	2,000
TOTAL	10,000	TOTAL	10,000

Marathon Push Chair UAE Nationals

MEN		WO	MEN
	AED		AED
1st	5,000	1st	5,000
2nd	3,000	2nd	3,000
3rd	2,000	3rd	2,000
TOTAL	10,000	TOTAL	10,000



Marathon Push Chair Open

MEN		WC	MEN
	AED		AED
1st	25,000	1st	25,000
2nd	15,000	2nd	15,000
3rd	10,000	3rd	10,000
TOTAL	50,000	TOTAL	50,000

AWARDS AND BONUSES - 10km

10km Open

MEN		WO	MEN
	AED		AED
1st	4,000	1st	4,000
2nd	2,000	2nd	2,000
3rd	1,000	3rd	1,000
TOTAL	7,000	TOTAL	7,000

10km UAE Nationals

MEN		WOMEN	
	AED		AED
1st	4,000	1st	4,000
2nd	2,000	2nd	2,000
3rd	1,000	3rd	1,000
TOTAL	7,000	TOTAL	7,000







ATKINS PRODUCTS ENSURES YOU'LL STAY ON A LOW CARB AND LOW SUGAR TRACK WHILE ENJOYING YOUR FOOD. FROM PROTEIN BARS TO PROTEIN SHAKES, PROTEIN COOKIES AND TREAT BARS THERE'S AN ATKINS PRODUCT TO FIT YOUR INDIVIDUAL TASTES, LIFESTYLE NEEDS, AND NUTRITION GOALS.





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Customize your marathon t-shirt through adiClub for free at the DXB Lab in the adidas flagship store. This can include your name, initials and more.

VISIT THE STORE NOW



BIB PICKUP

Dubai runners, get ready to pick up your race pack at the adidas Flagship store at Dubai Mall (next to the ice rink)



8 Feb 3pm - 10pm 9 Feb 10am - 10pm 10 Feb 10am - 10pm 11 Feb 10am - 5pm



Make sure you have your registration email with the QR code ready and a photo ID.



UNLOCK 3 MONTHS RUNNING MEMBERSHIP

You now have a chance to claim a three-month adidas Running Premium Membership with your Dubai Marathon bib. Scan the QR code to redeem the membership on adidas running app.

SCAN QR CODE AND REDEEM



50% OFF RUNNING GEAR

adiClub members get a special offer this Dubai Marathon. Get 50% off on adidas premium running collection and get ready for the race day.

> SCAN AND SHOP NOW

/// LEADING ELITE MEN



Tsegaye Mekonnen (Ethiopia) Born: June 15, 1995 Marathon PB: 2:04:32 (Dubai 2014)

Tsegaye Mekonnen caused a major upset by winning the 2014 Dubai Marathon on his debut aged just 18. His time of 2:04:32 still stands as the unofficial world junior record (World Athletics does not ratify junior records in the marathon) and was also one of the fastest debuts at the time. In 2017, he won another major international at the Hamburg Marathon. Now 27, the Ethiopian has not finished a marathon since November 2018 when he was second in Shanghai in 2:09:18. "I had injury problems and then the pandemic played its part as well, so I did not run a marathon for three years," he said, before the Munich Marathon in October 2022 where he dropped out through injury. When he was 16, Mekonnen agreed to race his older brother with the winner allowed to pursue a running career, while the other would concentrate on his education.

Most S	Most Significant Results				
2018	Shanghai Marathon	2nd	2:09:18		
2017	Hamburg Marathon	1st	2:07:26		
2016	Dubai Marathon	3rd	2:04:36		
2014	London Marathon	5th	2:08:06		
2014	Dubai Marathon	1st	2:04:32		



Abera Kuma (Ethiopia) Born: August 31, 1990 Marathon PB: 2:05:50 (Rotterdam 2018)

Abera Kuma is one of many world-class Ethiopian athletes who have made their marathon debuts in Dubai. In 2014 he produced a fine performance in a top field and finished tenth in 2:09:53. Abera Kuma then opted for another very fast course and ran his second marathon in Berlin, where he improved by almost four minutes. Taking third place he clocked 2:05:56, which remains his second fastest time at the distance. He has claimed a big marathon victory in Rotterdam in 2015 and clocked his personal best of 2:05:50 three years later, finishing in second place just six seconds behind the winner. Like other elite runners, Abera Kuma had very few opportunities to race internationally during the pandemic and in the past two years he ran just two marathons: In 2021 he was 14th in Barcelona and last year he finished eighth in Malaga.

Most S	ignificant Results		
2019	Ottawa Marathon	2nd	2:08:14
2018	Rotterdam Marathon	2nd	2:05:50
2017	Valencia Marathon	4th	2:06:44
2015	Rotterdam Marathon	1st	2:06:47
2014	Berlin Marathon	3rd	2:05:56

DUBAI MARATHON 2023



Gebretsadik Abraha (Ethiopia) Born: July 16, 1992 Marathon PB: 2:06:09 (Ljubljana 2022)

Gebretsadik Abraha has plenty of marathon experience and the Ethiopian will travel to Dubai full of confidence since his most recent race was probably his best ever. In October he won the Ljubljana Marathon in Slovenia in 2:06:09, finally improving a personal best set a decade ago. It was in Amsterdam in 2012 when he ran a very promising debut of 2:06:21 for second place. He ran consistently well in the years following his debut with a number of sub-2:09 times and victories in Prague, Marrakech and Guangzhou. The pandemic then interrupted his career, and he did not compete in 2020 and 2021. Coming back last year he then ran three marathons, winning two of them – Lens in France and that stunning success in Ljubljana. Fully focussed on the classic distance Gebretsadik Abraha has not competed internationally in a shorter race since 2013.

Most S	Most Significant Results				
2022	Ljubljana Marathon	1st	2:06:09		
2019	Guangzhou Marathon	1st	2:08:04		
2018	Ljubljana Marathon	2nd	2:08:38		
2017	Prague Marathon	1st	2:08:47		
2017	Marrakech Marathon	1st	2:08:55		



(Ethiopia)
Born: September 11, 1998
Marathon PB: 2:06:13 (2022)

Still only 24, Fikre Bekele - known as Fikre Tefera until a few years ago - is a young marathon runner who has run just six international marathons during his career with victories in five of them. His first two marathon victories came in in 2018 in Vadodara and Bilbao. The following year, he claimed fourth with in Seoul and was the surprise winner of the Frankfurt Marathon where he outkicked his rivals with 300m to go. Last year, he won in Rome (2:06:48) and then set a personal best of 2:06:13 in Linz, Austria – on each occasion he smashed the course record. Bekele comes from rural Ethiopia and grew up in a farming family. He is no relation to fellow countryman and distance champion Kenenisa Bekele.

Most	Significant Results		
2022	Linz Marathon	1st	2:06:13
2022	Rome Marathon	1st	2:06:48
2019	Frankfurt Marathon	1st	2:07:08
2018	Bilbao Marathon	1st	2:17:01
2018	Vadodara Marathon	1st	2:20:12



Julius Tuwei (Kenya) Born: September 26, 1993 Marathon PB: 2:07:43 (Enschede 2022)

Julius Tuwei is the only Kenyan elite runner in Dubai's marathon field this year and will try to challenge the Ethiopians. He started his international career in 2016 and hasn't competed in any event other than the marathon. Since 2016, Tuwei has run 17 marathons, winning three of them. However, he ran his marathon debut in Kenya much earlier, in 2013. At the age of 20 he entered the race in Eldoret in high altitude and finished in 27th position with 2:27:33. Three years later he ran the same race again, this time finishing 10th in 2:24:52. He then got the opportunity to compete in Danzhou, China where he won with 2:16:12. In spring 2017, Tuwei improved this PB by over six minutes to 2:09:52 when he was runner-up in another Chinese race in Chongqing. His best performance came in last year's Enschede Marathon, when he won with a PB of 2:07:43.

Most S	Most Significant Results			
2022	Lisbon Marathon	4th	2:08:23	
2022	Enschede Marathon (NED)	1st	2:07:43	
2019	Jilin Marathon (CHN)	1st	2:14:28	
2017	Chongqing Marathon (CHN)	2nd	2:09:52	
2016	Danzhou Marathon (CHN)	1st	2:16:12	



Gebru Redahgne (Ethiopia) Born: March 23, 2000 Marathon PB: 2:05:58 (Barcelona 2022)

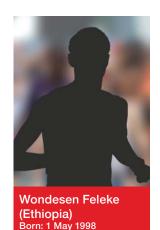
Gebru Redahgne is still a newcomer to international road running. And despite his young age of 22 years, he has already focused on the marathon distance. The Cape Town Marathon in 2021 was not only his debut at the distance but at the same time his first race outside Ethiopia. Finishing second there he then improved significantly by over four minutes in his second marathon where he was the runner-up again: in Barcelona he clocked 2:05:58. Coming to the Frankfurt Marathon in October, he hoped to improve this time further, but it wasn't to be his day and he crossed the finish line in 2:12:49. Dubai's super-fast course now gives him a very good opportunity to attack his PB again.

Most Significant Results			
2022	Frankfurt Marathon	11th	2:12:49
2022	Barcelona Marathon	2nd	2:05:58
2021	Cape Town Marathon	2nd	2:10:17



Deresa Geleta (Ethiopia) Born: N/A Marathon PB: 2:07:30 (Frankfurt 2022) Deresa Geleta, who is also known as Deresa Ulfata, will run the Dubai Marathon for the first time. In his most recent race, he produced the best performance of his career: the Ethiopian made the podium in the Frankfurt Marathon with a big personal best of 2:07:30 for third place. Now coming to the flat course of Dubai, Geleta might be able to improve significantly again. Since he started competing internationally, he very much focused on the marathon. He ran his debut in Xichang, China, where he was runner-up with 2:17:57 in 2017. He then improved in the following years and broke 2:10 for the first time in 2021, taking third place in Rome with 2:08:42.

Most Significant Results			
2022	Frankfurt Marathon	3rd	2:07:30
2022	Lagos Marathon	1st	2:11:58
2021	Rome Marathon	3rd	2:08:42
2019	Nagano Marathon	2nd	2:10:42
2018	Beirut Marathon	3rd	2:12:33



Marathon PB: 2:07:32

(Marrakech 2020)

Wondesen Feleke is relatively new to the marathon running scene, having run just two events, but his results so far do him credit and suggest even better performances could be in store. He won on his debut at the distance in 2019, taking the title at Chengdu in China in 2:09:52. The following year he improved by over two minutes in finishing second in Marrakech. Insiders of the sport will note that his personal best for the half marathon of 64:54 for eighth place was set at the Egmond event in the Netherlands in 2015. It is arguable whether this is a cross country rather than road event since the "road" crosses the local beach and sand dunes with winds from the North Sea often sweeping that part of the coast. Dubai should provide a very different contrast in weather.

Most S	Most Significant Results			
2020	Marrakech Marathon	3rd	2:07:32	
2019	Chengdu Marathon (CHN)	1st	2:09:52	



Gebretsadik (Norway)

Born: November 12, 1986

Marathon PB: 2:09:14

(Rotterdam 2014)

The Dubai Marathon offers Weldu Negash Gebretsadik the chance to prove that he can still run fast times by taking advantage of its super-fast course. The 36-year-old, born in Eritrea, has competed for Norway since July 2017. His marathon best came three years previously when he ran sub-2:10 for the only time in his career: 2:09:14 for fifth place in Rotterdam. He has twice run in the region of 2:10, finishing runner-up in Warsaw in 2013 and seventh in the Daegu event in South Korea in 2018.

Most Significant Results			
2018	Daegu Marathon	7th	2:10:39
2016	Frankfurt Marathon	7th	2:12:20
2014	Rotterdam Marathon	5th	2:09:14
2013	Warsaw Marathon	2nd	2:10:37



Abraraw Misgenaw (Ethiopia) Born: 1988 Marathon PB: 2:09:47 (Ljubljana 2016)

The 35-year-old Ethiopian returns to the Dubai Marathon after an interval of nine years. Abraraw Misgenaw finished 10th in the 2014 event in 2:10:22, the second fastest performance of his career so far. He has broken 2:10 just once, clocking 2:09:47 for fourth place in the 2016 Ljubljana Marathon in Slovenia. His long marathon career has been marked by solid performances in terms of finishing places rather than spectacular times. A return to Dubai offers the chance to attack the 2:10 barrier, a target he almost achieved in Portugal last year when finishing second.

Most Significant Results			
2022	Porto Marathon	2nd	2:10:29
2016	Ljubljana Marathon	4th	2:09:47
2016	Gold Coast Marathon	5th	2:11:39
2016	Lodz Marathon	1st	2:13:24
2015	Marrakech Marathon	6th	2:10:41



Teressa Nyakora (Ethiopia) Born: February 16, 1995 Marathon PB: 2:11:30 (La Rochelle 2022)

Teressa Nyakora has just recently turned to the marathon. The Ethiopian ran his debut last autumn in La Rochelle, France. He took third place with 2:11:30 and the Dubai Marathon will now become his first major challenge at the classic distance. Teressa also ran his first half marathon in 2022, and his time of 60:12 in Barcelona in April, where he placed sixth, suggests he should be capable of running a much faster marathon than he did in France. A time well under 2:10 should be possible in Dubai. In his first four international years he only competed in Japan. Since he only ran track events, covering distances from 1,500m to 10,000m, he will most likely have received a scholarship. Quite a number of Kenyan runners have benefitted from such a move, but it is not common with Ethiopian athletes.

Most S	ignificant Results		
2022	La Rochelle Marathon	3rd	2:11:30



Adamu Girma (Ethiopia) Born: November 10, 1992 Marathon PB: 2:12:07 (Yangling 2016)

Adamu Girma started his marathon career in 2016 and since then has fully focussed on the classic distance. Internationally he has not competed in any other event. The Ethiopian ran his first five races, stretching from 2016 to 2018, in China. He won the Yangling Marathon in 2016 where he set his personal best of 2:12:07. It was the only time so far when he ran sub 2:15. Due to the pandemic it was not possible for him to compete in China again. His most recent marathon was in Rome last year, when he clocked 2:15:53 on a course that is not considered particularly fast.

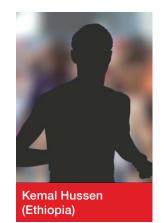
Most Significant Results			
2022	Rome Marathon	11th	2:15:53
2018	Hengshui Marathon (CHN)	6th	2:15:55
2017	Dongying Marathon (CHN)	9th	2:15:33
2017	Xiamen Marathon (CHN)	6th	2:15:17
2016	Yangling Marathon (CHN)	1st	2:12:07

33



Marathon Debut

Abdisa Tola will run his marathon debut in Dubai. So many Ethiopian debutants have excelled here and achieved brilliant victories. It remains to be seen what Tola might be able to do on the fast course. The 22-year-old is still a newcomer to the international road running circuit. He has competed only three times outside Ethiopia so far. But he started his international career with a bang: at that time completely unknown, he won the traditional Rome Ostia Half Marathon in 2021. The course is not record eligible, but his winning time of 59:54 suggests that Tola could run a very good debut marathon. In 2022 he was sixth in the Paris Half Marathon with 63:27. Then he went for one of the very few top 25k races, possibly to bring him a little nearer to the marathon distance. In Kolkata he was fifth in December with a time of 1:14:27.



Most S	ignificant Results		
2022	Jeddah Half Marathon (Saudi Arabia)	8th	63:22



Most Significant Results			
2020	Dubai Marathon	20th	2:12:08
2014	Lens Marathon	4th	2:18:32
2013	Casablanca Marathon	7th	2:16:14



/// LEADING ELITE WOMEN



Ruti Aga (Ethiopia) Born: January 16, 1994 Marathon PB: 2:18:34 (Berlin 2018)

Ruti Aga ran in Dubai once before, but things went wrong for her in 2017. On a very fast course, she finished far away from the podium places in 13th place and clocked 2:46:14, by far her slowest marathon time. After a good debut in Vienna in 2016 and a runner-up spot in Berlin in the same year Dubai proved to be a one-off. Ruti returned to Berlin and clocked 2:20:41 in 2017 and was then runner-up for a third Berlin race in a row a year later, when she achieved a world-class time of 2:18:34. A year later, she won a major marathon when she took Tokyo in 2:20:40. At the start of her international career, she was among the world's leading junior track runners. She won silver in the 5,000m at the Junior World Championships in 2012 and became African Junior Champion at this event a year later.

Most S	ignificant Results		
2022	Chicago Marathon	4th	2:21:41
2019	New York Marathon	3rd	2:25:51
2019	Tokyo Marathon	1st	2:20:40
2018	Berlin Marathon	2nd	2:18:34
2017	Berlin Marathon	2nd	2:20:41



Gutemi Shone (Ethiopia) Born: November 17, 1991 Marathon PB: 2:20:11 (Dubai 2020)

Gutemi Shone Imana returns to Dubai where she clocked her current personal best of 2:20:11 in 2020. Her next major target on the flat Dubai course seems obvious: to break the 2:20 barrier for the first time. Shone is a very experienced runner who has competed in 18 marathon races over the last ten years. The Ethiopian never ran on the track and instead turned to road running from the start. After improving to 68:59 in the half marathon in late summer 2013, she ran her debut at the classic distance a month later in Amsterdam. She achieved her breakthrough at the beginning of 2015, when she was runner-up in Houston in 2:23:32. Just two months later she won the Seoul Marathon (2:26:22) and in her most recent race she produced another strong performance, when she clocked 2:22:28 in Berlin.

Most S	ignificant Results		
2021	Prague Marathon	2nd	2:21:46
2020	Dubai Marathon	2nd	2:20:11
2019	Sevilla Marathon	1st	2:24:28
2017	Ottawa Marathon	1st	2:30:18
2015	Seoul Marathon	1st	2:26:22



Gelete Burka Bati (Ethiopia) Born: January 23, 1986 Marathon PB: 2:20:45 (Dubai 2018)

It was in Dubai that Gelete Burka Bati ran her fastest marathon, an impressive 2:20:45 for sixth in 2018. Before moving to the marathon, she was a force on the track, winning silver at 10,000m in the 2015 World Championships in Beijing and finishing fifth at 5,000m in the 2012 Olympic Games in London. She continued to feature prominently in Olympic track competition, taking eighth in the 10,000m in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. She has been equally successful indoors at shorter distances, winning 1500m gold at the 2008 World Championships in Valencia. She has played a significant role in Ethiopia's powerful teams for the World Cross Country Championships, helping the women win four team golds. Burka Bati has continued to produce consistent results for the marathon distance, both in terms of finishing position and times, with victories in Paris and Ottawa.

Most Significant Results			
2022	Toronto Marathon	3rd	2:24:31
2019	Chicago Marathon	3rd	2:20:55
2019	Paris Marathon	1st	2:22:47
2018	Dubai Marathon	6th	2:20:45
2018	Ottawa Marathon	1st	2:22:17



Siranesh Yirga (Ethiopia) Born: September 11, 2000

PB: 2:21:08 (Ljubljana 2022)

Still a young athlete with massive potential, 22-year-old Siranesh Yirga has entered just three marathons in her short career – and has won every one of them. She sprang to prominence in Slovenia last year when she took the tape in what was just her third outing at the marathon distance. Her win at the Ljubljana Marathon in October saw her also clock a personal best of 2:21:08, shaving more than three minutes off her previous best set just six months earlier when she won the Madrid Marathon in April. That Slovenian win was her third marathon victory in just eight months as she started the year in style by winning the Lagos City Marathon in Nigeria. In less than a year, she has cut more than 12 minutes off her marathon best and will come to Dubai brimming with confidence after an outstanding 2022 campaign.

Most Significant Results			
2022	Ljubljana Marathon	1st	2:21:08
2022	Madrid Marathon	1st	2:24:37
2022	Lagos City Marathon	1st	2:33:54



Born: October 26, 1996

Marathon PB: 2:21:45

(Dubai 2018)

Dera Dida could be in a position for a breakthrough performance in Dubai. A successful cross country and track runner, she has run only three marathons so far, two in Dubai and the other one in Frankfurt. Her debut time of 2:21:45 in Dubai 2018 remains her personal best, but she has shown great consistency. Dida also clocked sub 2:23 results in the other two marathons. During the corona pandemic she hardly raced at all, so the Dubai Marathon 2023 will be her first major international competition since she last raced here three years ago. Her greatest career achievement so far came at the World Cross Country Championships 2019 in Aarhus, Denmark where she won silver. She also took a bronze in the 10,000m final of the 2019 All African Games in Rabat. Dida has strong personal bests of 14:42.84 and 30:51.86 for 5,000m and 10,000m respectively.

Most Significant Results			
2020	Dubai Marathon	5th	2:22:52
2018	Frankfurt Marathon	5th	2:22:39
2018	Dubai Marathon	7th	2:21:45



Bedatu Hirpha (Ethiopia) Born: April 28, 1999 Marathon PB: 2:21:32 (Frankfurt 2018)

Bedatu Hirpha has come a long way since she won the 2015 World Youth 1500m title as a 15-year-old in Cali, Colombia, both in terms of achievement and the length of her prime event. So far, the 2020 edition of the Dubai Marathon has been the pinnacle, where Hirpha ran her personal best of 2:21:55 for third place. At only 23, her progress is all the more impressive since she needed persuasion by a non-running friend to concentrate on road rather than track running. She has featured in a number of high-profile races since her marathon debut in Madrid in 2017, finishing outside 2:30. Dubai is a very different proposition to the rugged course of Athens where she achieved her only marathon win so far, but Hirpha also looks to have the edge of speed to profit from its fast course.

Most S	Most Significant Results		
2021	Prague Marathon	4th	2:22:58
2020	Dubai Marathon	3rd	2:21:55
2018	Frankfurt Marathon	5th	2:21:32
2018	Seville Marathon	3rd	2:25:54
2017	Athens Marathon	1st	2:34:18



Waganesh Mekasha (Ethiopia) Born: January 16, 1992 Marathon PB: 2:22:45 (Dubai 2019)

Waganesh Mekasha has shown brilliant consistency during her marathon career. The Ethiopian has so far competed in eleven races over the classic distance and never finished lower than fifth place. Three times she was the winner and on another three occasions she finished on the podium. Before she turned to the marathon, Mekasha had some success in the half marathon. In 2013 she was the winner of the Marrakesh Half Marathon where she clocked her PB of 68:48. A year later she won her debut marathon in the tough conditions of Singapore. Despite further victories in Padua (Italy) and Hengshui (China) in 2018 her breakthrough performance came in the Dubai Marathon in 2019. She placed fourth in the high calibre event and improved to 2:22:45. After a fine fifth place in the Chicago Marathon in October, she now returns to Dubai.

Most Significant Results			
2021	Paris Marathon	4th	2:26:36
2019	Shanghai Marathon	2nd	2:25:37
2019	Dongying Marathon (CHN)	2nd	2:23:19
2019	Dubai Marathon	4th	2:22:45
2018	Hengshui Marathon (CHN)	1st	2:25:57



Bekelech Gudeta (Ethiopia) Born: October 11, 1997 Marathon PB: 2:22:56 (Prague 2022)

Bekelech Gudeta arrives in Dubai after the strongest year of her career. The Ethiopian, who placed eighth in the World Half Marathon Championships in 2018, established three very good personal bests in 2022: first she finished third in the Istanbul Half Marathon with 66:35, then she clocked 31:10 for 10k in Herzogenaurach, Germany where she placed sixth in an elite-only race and followed that by smashing her marathon PB and storming to her biggest career win so far at the Prague Marathon with 2:22:56 in May. In the autumn she then ran in Berlin where she finished in 2:23:37 which is her second fastest marathon time. "I dream of winning more marathons," she said. The 25-year-old Ethiopian will be among the favourites in Dubai on Sunday.

Most S	Most Significant Results			
2022	Berlin Marathon	14th	2:23:37	
2022	Prague Marathon	1st	2:22:56	
2021	Barcelona Marathon	4th	2:24:51	
2020	Houston Marathon	5th	2:29:22	
2019	Toronto Marathon	8th	2:27:40	



Amente Sorome Negash (Ethiopia) Born: November 25, 1997 Marathon PB: 2:29:46 (Florence 2017)

Amente Sorome Negash probably ran the best race of her career when she competed in the Lisbon Marathon last October. She finished in second position with 2:25:57. However the course is reported to have been short and because of this World Athletics does not list her result in the top list for 2023. So officially her personal best remains at 2:29:46 which she ran in her debut marathon in Florence. Amente Sorome Negash also finished in second place in that race. The Dubai Marathon now gives her the perfect opportunity to bounce back from the Lisbon disappointment and establish a fine personal best.

Most Significant Results			
2022	Lisbon Marathon	2nd	2:25:57 *
2022	Lens Marathon (FRA)	2nd	2:36:01
2019	Rennes Marathon (FRA)	3rd	2:32:03
2018	Venice Marathon	2nd	2:38:59
2017	Florence Marathon	2nd	2:29:46

^{*} course reported to be short



Wude Ayalew (Ethiopia) Born: July 4, 1987 Marathon PB: 2:24:03 (Abu Dhabi 2019)

Wude Ayalew, who was also known as Wude Ayalew Yimer, returns to Dubai, where she ran her debut back in 2014. The Ethiopian experienced a day to forget when she finished in just under three hours. Her next marathon was much better running half an hour quicker, taking third place in Shanghai with 2:27:08. But Ayalew never really got going in the marathon despite an improvement to 2:24:03 in Abu Dhabi in 2019. Taking into account her speed at shorter distances with PBs of 31:07 for 10k and 67:58 in the half marathon, she should be able to run much better in the marathon. Additionally, she did very well in major championships winning bronze in the 10,000m at the 2009 World Championships and achieving superb results in the tough World Cross Country Championships (5th in 2006 and 2009 as well as 6th in 2011).

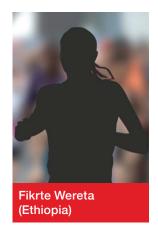
Most S	ignificant Results		
2021	Abu Dhabi Marathon	8th	2:47:29
2019	Abu Dhabi Marathon	2nd	2:24:03
2017	Shanghai Marathon	7th	2:30:12
2017	Rome Marathon	7th	2:36:02
2016	Shanghai Marathon	3rd	2:27:08



Born: N/A

Marathon Debut

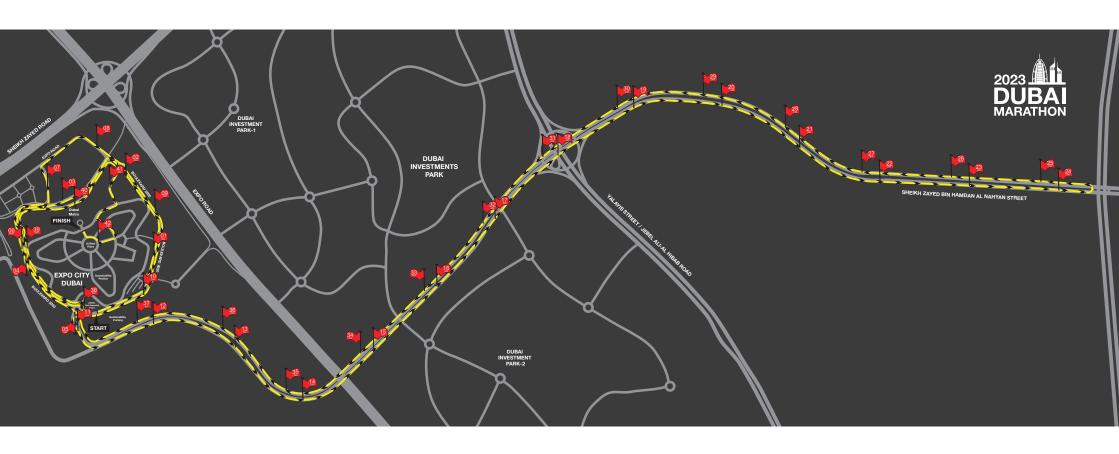
A marathon debut for a runner who has already demonstrated her high level of performance at a shorter distance on the road is an interesting prospect. Ethiopia's Tigist Getnet has chosen the fast course of the Dubai Marathon for her first attempt at the distance. Her brief experience of international competition has produced solid results. Her first race at the half marathon distance was at Elche in Spain in October 2021. She finished runner-up in 71:14 and this remains her personal best. The next half marathon came just a week after her debut, also in Spain and again with a second-place finish, this time in 72:34 in Seville. Her last outing was in a 25k race last December when she finished seventh in Kolkata, India, in 1:23:13.



Most S	ignificant Results		
2022	Hamburg Marathon	2nd	2:26:15

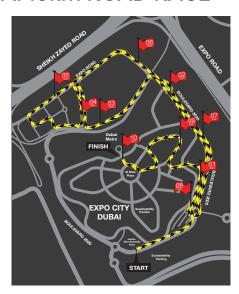


42.195km MARATHON



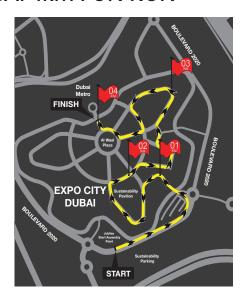
COURSE MAP

DUBAI 10km ROAD RACE



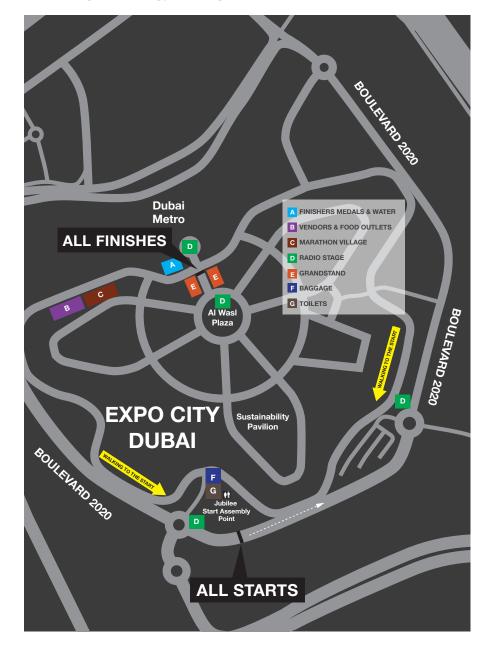
COURSE MAP

DUBAI 4km FUN RUN





START & FINISH







NORQAIN SWISS MADE WATCHES

NORQAIN CLOCKS ON! NEW OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPING PARTNER FOR DUBAI MARATHON

Swiss watchmaker NORQAIN will take on the role of Official Timekeeping Partner when the long-awaited Dubai Marathon returns to the global sporting scene on February 12.

A family-owned and independent watch brand, NORQAIN comes to Dubai fresh from a similar role at the New York City Marathon in November and the brand's commitment to the Middle East's oldest international marathon has been warmly welcomed by Event Director Peter Connerton.

"We are pleased to welcome NORQAIN as our Official

Timekeeping Partner," he said.
"It's a dynamic brand that
reflects the ambitions and values
of the Dubai Marathon itself. We
are flattered that their direction
towards marathon running saw
them target events in New York
City and Dubai and we take
great pride in welcoming them to
the Dubai Marathon family."

Runners in the region who have followed NORQAIN's involvement in New York will be excited to discover that the Swiss manufacturer is also ready to introduce a Limited-Edition Dubai Marathon watch, just as they did for the US race in New York.

To commemorate its role as an official partner of the Dubai Marathon, NORQAIN will launch a unique timepiece with a specially designed dial relevant to the event itself. And, like its New York predecessor, the watch will be based on the NORQAIN Wild ONE collection.

But while the manufacturer produced 262 watches in New York (based on the 26.2-mile distance of the Marathon), in all just 22 of the Dubai Marathon watches will be produced – to mark the 22nd edition of the event itself – making them a highly attractive proposition for ardent runners and watch collectors alike.





Marathon has benefitted from the gracious support of a

For many years, the Dubai number of government bodies, including the Dubai Police and the Dubai RTA.

Staging an international road race featuring some of the best and fastest long-distance runners in the world takes careful planning with traffic management, public safety and road closures being among the biggest considerations. And thanks to the solid work and input of many government departments, the race continues to go from strength to strength.

With the news that the event was being moved to Expo City Dubai, long hours of planning took place as course measurers, traffic managers and road experts came together to come up with a route around the area beside the sprawling Expo site. Also playing a key part were the Dubai Police

and the RTA as they quickly rubber-stamped plans to get a new 42.195km route on the world marathon map.

In addition, the decision to temporarily alter the opening hours of the popular Dubai Metro to cater for the event has been warmly welcomed.

On race day itself, the Dubai Metro will become operational at 4am and provide transport to and from the venue for runners of all ages and abilities. And as an added benefit, registered runners complete with their run number will be able to enjoy free transport along with their accompanying family.

It's a move that should ease traffic issues around the venue, although drivers who choose to take their own vehicles are encouraged to use the Mobility and Opportunity parking areas at Expo City Dubai.



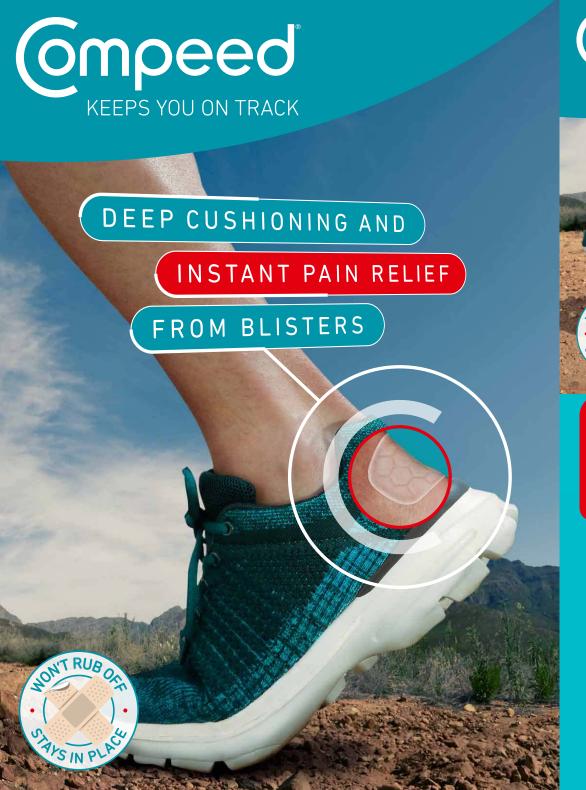
"We are very excited to partner with the Dubai Marathon as the Official Timekeeper." said NORQAIN CEO Ben Küffer. "Together with our strategic retail partner Ahmed Seddigi & Sons, we want to underline our commitment to the UAE and further develop our brand in this great market. We are looking forward to a strategic long-term partnership."

Developed by NORQAIN together with industry legend Jean-Claude Biver, the Wild ONE collection boasts a robust, ultra-

DUBAI MARATHON 2023

light case and symbolic design, and is considered the absolute ultimate watch for an active lifestyle and a perfect souvenir for Dubai Marathon runners.

Born in the Swiss Alps, NORQAIN is a watch brand that dares to go its own way. Based in Nidau (Biel/Bienne), at the heart of Swiss watchmaking, the brand is driven by the excitement that comes with exploring the outdoors. NORQAIN is very proud to be a family-owned and independent company with a sustainable long-term vision.







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DUBAI MARATHON, YALLAGIVE IN MAJOR BOOST FOR INTERNATIONAL **AND LOCAL CHARITIES**

Sixteen international and local charities are getting a welcome boost from the 2023 Dubai Marathon thanks to a special partnership between the race and its Official Fundraising Partner YallaGive.

The new initiative allows any runner competing in the Dubai Marathon on February 12 to raise funds for any one of the 16 charities by joining or creating their own campaign.

Runners taking part in the 4km Fun Run, 10km Road Race and the Marathon itself are invited to visit the special platform created by YallaGive at its website yallagive.com.

"YallaGive is proud to be the official fundraising partner of the Dubai Marathon which is the first of its kind in the United Arab Emirates," said YallaGive's Director of Strategy Nabil Boubker.

"The partnership allows for Individuals, companies and schools wishing to take part in the marathon to fundraise for

our charity partners by creating a fundraising campaign where they may share their journey, fundraising goals and purpose,"

"YallaGive offers fundraisers the platform to create inspiring campaigns for causes which are dear to their heart. Once the campaign is created, they may promote it with their friends and family as well as through social media to garner support and donations."

According to YallaGive, this is the first occasion multiple

YALLAGIVE

charities both local and international are able to participate in fundraising in an event such as the Dubai Marathon.

"It was always our aim to come back with new angles and initiatives and this agreement with YallaGive is a perfect example of that - we are pleased to welcome them

as the Dubai Marathon's first Official Fundraising Partner," said Dubai Marathon Event Director Peter Connerton.

"As the first licensed online donation and crowdfunding platform in the Middle East, YallaGive enjoys an international presence with great reach. Hopefully, the

generous help of Dubai Marathon runners and their supporters will provide funds for the great work being done by the sixteen charities."

The 16 charities in the scheme are listed below - and with the permit running until March 1 charities are permitted to fundraise after the Marathon is over.

NAME OF CHARITY	WEBSITE
Al Jalila Foundation	https://www.aljalilafoundation.ae/en/
Noor Dubai Foundation	https://www.noordubai.ae/
Emirates Red Crescent	https://www.emiratesrc.ae/
BRING HOPE HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION	https://www.bringhopefoundation.org/
Gulf for Good	www.gulf4good.org
CHILDREN'S CANCER CENTRE OF LEBANON (CCCL)	https://www.cccl.org.lb/home/en
KINDER HUT INTERNATIONAL	https://www.kinderhut.org/
Doctors Without Borders (MSF)	https://www.msf-me.org/
PROJECT MAJI	https://www.projectmaji.org/
SMILE TRAIN Middle East	www.smiletrain.org/
THE CITIZENS FOUNDATION	www.tcf.org.pk
THE FRED HOLLOWS FOUNDATION	https://www.hollows.org/ae-en/home
THE WATER PROJECT	www.thewaterproject.org
The Sparkle Foundation	https://sparklemalawi.org/
Dubai College Foundation	https://www.dubaicollegefoundation.org/about
Surge for Water	https://surgeforwater.org/



JUBAI MARATHON RUNSWITH GYMNATION

GymNation, the UAE's leading gym chain, is the Official Gym Partner of the 22nd Dubai Marathon.

The multi-year partnership will help to ensure that all participants are race-ready by providing them with free access to work out 24/7 at any GymNation facility before, and after the race.

"GymNation have grown rapidly to become the largest gym chain in the UAE and have contributed significantly to making fitness more accessible and affordable for everyone in the country," said Race
Director Peter Connerton.

"We are seeing this increase
in demand for people to be fit
and healthy reflect in our own
participant registrations, which
are already up on previous years.

"We are looking forward to the partnership with GymNation, putting on events that their members can participate in, and providing benefits with them for all of our other race participants."

Ant Martland, CCO of GymNation added: "Supporting mass participation and community-based events is a key part of our marketing strategy. The Dubai Marathon is the region's longest running mass participation running event, and one of the most recognisable events on the UAE sports and fitness calendar, for both elite and amateur runners.

"GymNation are looking forward to working with Dubai Marathon to further grow the popularity of the event, and ultimately continue to contribute to an increase in the health and wellness of UAE residents.

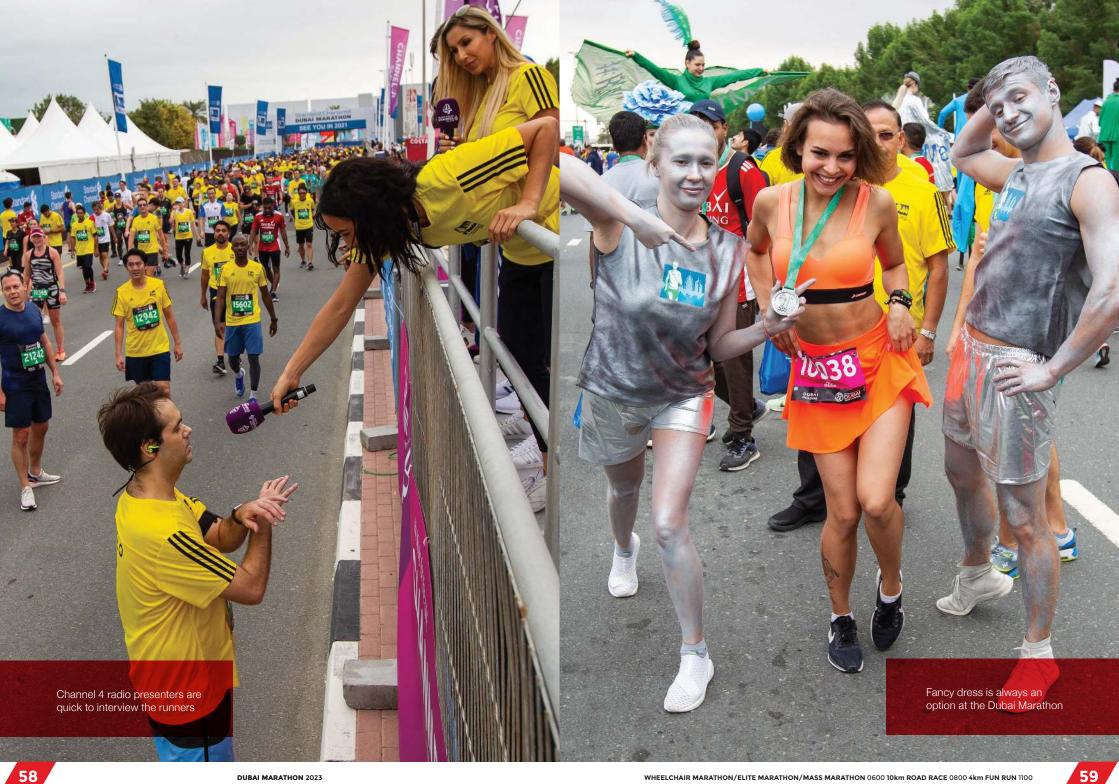




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From beachside stays to Burj Khalifa views, we've got it all.



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R O V E





www.dubaimarathon.org