MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON

RACE WEEKEND PARTICIPANT GUIDE

November 7 & 8, 2026

BY-THE-BAY 3K

PACIFIC GROVE LIGHTHOUSE 5K



BIG SUR MARATHON FOUNDATION

2026 MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON

EXPO & BIB PICK UP

Pick up your race bib with attached timing tags, participant shirt, and gear check bag (optional) at the Health & Fitness Expo on Friday, November 6th, or Saturday, November 7th. The Expo is located at the Monterey Conference Center, 1 Portola Plaza, Monterey. A photo ID is required for pick up. Hours are noon to 6 PM on Friday and 9:30 AM to 6 PM on Saturday. No dogs allowed at the Expo in the Monterey Conference Center (except service animals). For a detailed list of Expo events and activations, click here.

You will be emailed a check-in pass QR code associated with your registration. When you arrive at bib pick up, a volunteer will scan your QR code pass and verify your identity via your driver's license or other form of government-issued ID.

You must pick up your bib and race packet in person; no one else can pick up for you unless a Packet Pick-Up Authorization Form has been filled out.

START & CORRALS

The race starts at 7:00 AM on Del Monte Ave at Camino El Estero in Downtown Monterey. Half Marathoners will be in designated corrals "A" through "F" based on the predicted finish time given during registration. There will be a special Military Corral for Active Duty Military and Veterans between corrals A and B. Your corral letter is printed on your bib. Look for signs at the corral entrances with the letter of each corral. See page 5 for a start area map.

BIKE VALET

Free secure bicycle parking is available for runners and spectators in the Wharf parking lot near the Gear Check area between 5:30 and 11:30 AM.

OCEAN VIEW CHALLENGE

The Ocean View Challenge (OVC) is a special registration category to run Saturday's Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K and Sunday's Monterey Bay Half Marathon. OVC runners will have two bibs, one for the 5K and one for the Half Marathon, with different bib numbers. If you registered separately for the Half Marathon and 5K, this is not considered an Ocean View Challenge registration. OVC runners will have a special logo on their bib to make them identifiable to race personnel at the finish. Ocean View Challenge participants can pick up their special finisher's medallion at the OVC tent in the Runner Refreshment area near the finish line.

GEAR CHECK

There will be gear check areas adjacent to each corral gate along Del Monte Avenue. After the race, gear bags will be available in the lot next to the runners' food tent. See map on page 9 for locations. Gear check drop-off closes race morning at 6:45 AM. If you opt to use gear check, use only the bag provided to you at the Expo during packet pick-up or race morning at the start. Use the tear-off adhesive-backed "Gear Tag" found at the top of your race bib and affix it to the gear bag. Please do not put anything of value or any heavy liquids in your gear bag. We are not responsible for lost or stolen property. Items of clothing discarded at the start, on the course, or in any unclaimed gear bags will be donated to charity. Gear check closes at 11:30 AM.

AID STATIONS

There are eight aid stations on the course. Water and Precision Hydration PH 1000 are available at all stations. Precision Fuel PF 30 energy gels will be at miles 5.9 and 9.4. As part of our green initiative, all cups on the course are compostable. Please protect this beautiful coast by properly disposing of all gel wrappers at an aid station. Porta-potties and medical personnel will be at all stations. To minimize waste, we strongly encourage you to bring your own course hydration system. All aid stations are equipped with options to refill your personal hydration system. See page 4 for a course map.

COURSE TIME LIMIT

We support walkers and slower runners but they are subject to the 3-1/2 hour course time limit, a 16-minute-mile pace. The course time limit begins when the last person crosses the timing mat at the start (approximately 7:23 AM). To help everyone finish under the limit, there are three "cut-off" points on the course. Connect with the "Ask Me" Team at the Expo for details about the three cut-off" points along the course.

POST-RACE INFORMATION

After crossing the finish line, you will be given a finisher's medal. There will be a photo opportunity with MarathonFoto with the beautiful Monterey harbor in the background. Following that, you will pass through the food tent and then pick up your gear bag if one was dropped off at a gear check area at the start. From there, you will proceed to Custom House Plaza-Monterey State Historic Park where you can unite with family and friends, enjoy the Cheers Garden and hot soup, view results and check out race merchandise for sale. There will be a DJ in the festival area. Be sure and stop to ring the "PR Bell" if you set a personal record.

The Awards Ceremony begins at 10 AM in the Finish Village. The top 5 overall and age group winners will be recognized on the awards stage. 2nd and 3rd place age group winners will pick up their awards at the Awards tent in the festival area.

EVENT SAFETY

The Monterey Bay Half Marathon operates on an Event Alert System (EAS) to help ensure participant safety.

On race week, the event will announce an anticipated EAS level for event day. Please review EAS levels and stay tuned for EAS announcements on race week.

ALERT LEVEL	EVENT CONDITIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS
EVENT CANCELLED Follow Official Event Instructions	Extreme conditions Event cancelled	Participation stopped/ follow official event instructions
HIGH Potentially Dangerous Conditions Follow Official Event Instructions	Dangerous conditions	Slow down/ observe course changes/ follow official event instructions/ consider stopping
MODERATE Be Aware of Worsening Conditions	Use Caution	Slow down/ be prepared for worsening conditions
LOW Enjoy the Event	Good conditions	Enjoy the event/ be alert

- Please check the event safety page on the website during race week for the race day weather forecast.
- Trained medical personnel will be on-site for the event
- MBHM maintains close contact with public safety officials. There are no current safety concerns.
- Any updates involving weather or safety concerns will be communicated to participants via email and social media. Please also check the event safety page on the website during race week.

RACE DAY PARKING
SHUTTLES TO START AND FROM FINISH
RUNNER DROP-OFF LOCATION



MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON

TO DOWNTOWN PARKING GARAGES PARKING ----

GARAGE PARKING BEFORE 5:30 AM AND AFTER 9:00 AM

From Highway 1 take exit 399B (Munras Ave.) for garage parking (prior to 5:30 AM). From Pacific Grove, turn left on Franklin St., left on Washington St., and left on Del Monte to Tyler.

TO MONTEREY PENINSULA COLLEGE (MPC) PARKING ----

PARKING FROM 5:00 AM TO 6:15 AM

Take exit 401A from Highway 1, both north and southbound for MPC parking.

TO DEL MONTE CENTER (DMC) PARKING ----

PARKING FROM 5:00 AM TO 6:15 AM

Take exit 399B (Munras Ave.) from Highway 1 for Del Monte Center parking.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP LOCATIONS

On Pacific St., near Monterey City Hall.

- Free parking (until 11 AM) at Downtown Garages prior to 5:30 AM or after 9:00 AM.
- Free shuttles from Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) from 5:00 to 6:15 AM – arrive there by 6:00 AM
- Free shuttles from Del Monte Center (DMC) from 5:00 to 6:15 AM – arrive there by 6:00 AM
- Free return shuttles to MPC and DMC from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM; pick-up at Dust Bowl Brewing parking lot
- Private vehicle drop-offs on Pacific Street near Jefferson (near City Hall)

COURSE MAP

MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON

COURSE/MILES
AID STATION
WATER STATION
MUSIC
SPECTATOR VIEWING

PACIFIC OCEAN
PACIFIC GROVE GOLF LINKS
ESPLANADE PARK
OCEANVIEW BLVD
LOVERS POINT
SUNSET DR
ASILOMAR STATE BEACH
GEORGE WASHINTON PARK
HAYWARD PARK
PACIFIC GROVE
BYOB REFILL STATION
LINKS AT SPANISH BAY
17 MILE DR
CENTRAL AVE
17TH ST
CONGRESS AVE
LIGHTHOUSE AVE
FOREST AVE
FOUNTAIN AVE
1ST ST
POINT CABRILLO
MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM
DAVID AVE
CANNERY ROW
DRAKE AVE
REC. TRAIL
FOAM ST
SAN CARLOS BEACH PARK
FISHERMAN'S SHORELINE PARK
MONTEREY FISHERMAN'S WHARF
PRESCOTT AVE
PRESCOTT LN
PEBBLE BEACH
CUSTOM HOUSE PLAZA
FINISH
TUNNEL
MONTEREY STATE HISTORIC PARK
TYLER ST
E FRANKLIN ST
WASHINGTON ST
ALVARADO ST
PACIFIC ST
PEARL ST
START
DEL MONTE AVE
MONTEREY STATE BEACH
EL ESTERO LAKE
EL ESTERO PARK
CAMINO AGUAJITO
PRESIDIO
VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
MONTEREY
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL
MONTEREY PENINSULA COUNTRY CLUB
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HALF MARATHON COURSE INFORMATION

The Half Marathon begins on Del Monte Avenue at Camino El Estero in downtown Monterey. You will run east on Del Monte and then turn right on Camino Aguajito and turn right again on Third Street. After crossing Camino El Estero, Third Street becomes Pearl Street. You'll continue on Pearl until Alvarado Street, where you'll turn right, and then make another right onto Franklin Street. You will turn left on Washington Street, cross Del Monte and pass through the Custom House Tunnel, which will feature a fun light and music show!

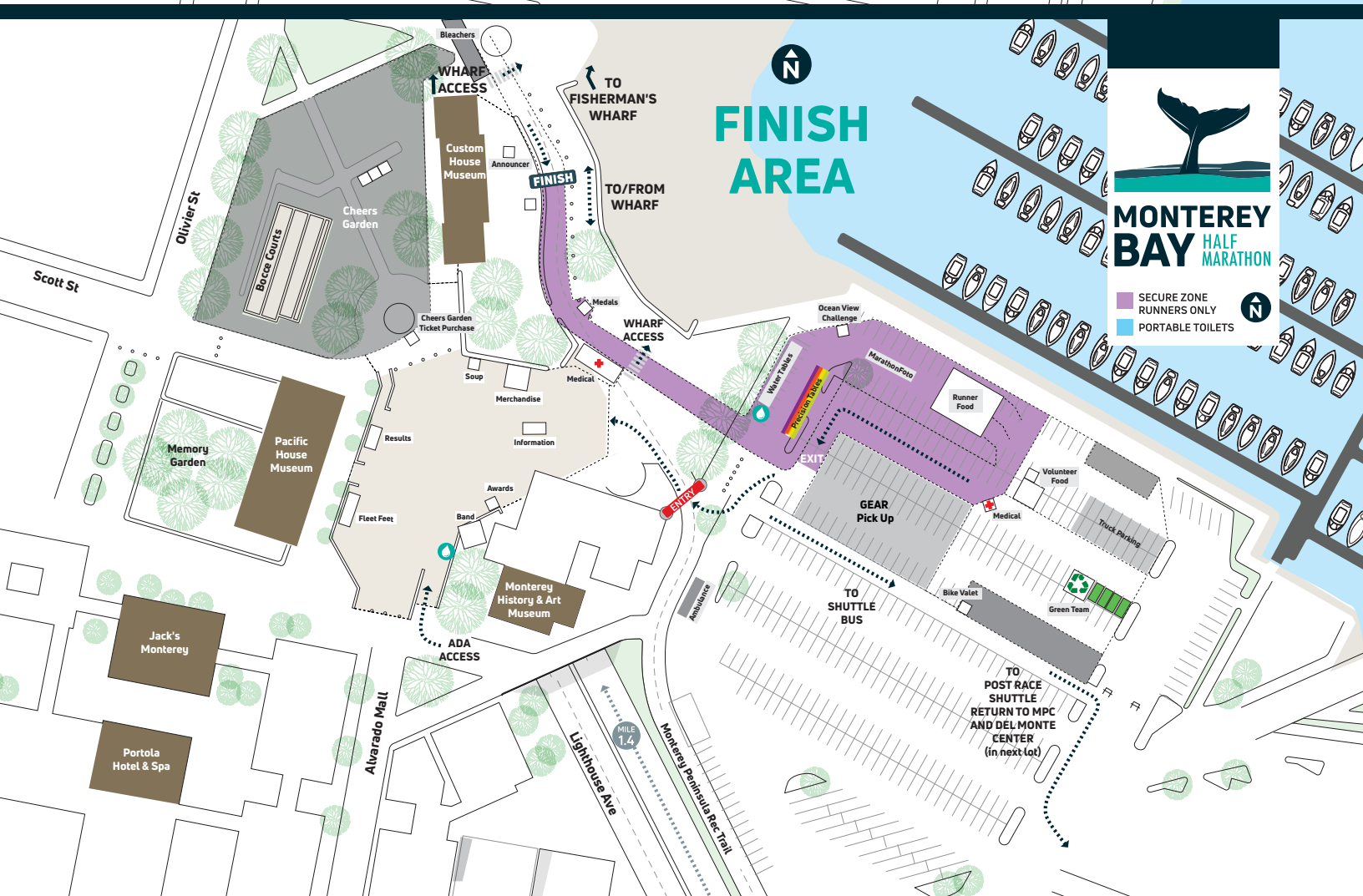
After emerging from the tunnel, you'll veer right onto Foam Street. From Foam it is a right turn onto Drake Street and then left onto Cannery Row. From Cannery Row, you will turn right on Wave Street which becomes Ocean View Blvd. in Pacific Grove. At Fountain Avenue, you will turn left and proceed to Lighthouse Avenue in downtown Pacific Grove and turn right then take another right at Central Avenue. At 17th Street, you will turn left and continue down to Ocean View Boulevard and Lovers Point.

The next six miles are run next to the Monterey Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Ocean View becomes Sunset Drive just past Asilomar Boulevard. You will turn around just past Asilomar Beach and then return the same way but in the ocean-side lane. At Lovers Point, you will turn onto the Recreation Trail and proceed east. You will turn left onto Cannery Row and again run down the Row to Drake then return to the Recreation Trail for a flat final half-mile. The course begins and finishes at sea level and is mostly flat with gently rolling hills. The total elevation gained and lost is 370 feet. The largest climb is about a 1/4-mile steady grade from 40 to 104-foot elevation at mile 3.7.

Due to liability and safety concerns and the nature of the course, there are no animals, unofficial pacers, skates, skateboards, bikes, wheelchairs, hand cranks, strollers, knee scooters, baby joggers or children in backpacks, permitted on the course.




DEL MONTE BEACH
START AREA
MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON
CORRALS
PORTABLE TOILETS
CORRAL ENTRANCE
GEAR CHECK
TO FISHERMAN'S WHARF
TO MUNICIPAL WHARF
TO FINISH VILLAGE
RETURN SHUTTLES TO MPC & DMC
Depot PARKING AREA CLOSED
MEDICAL
RACE MORNING INFO
FLEET FEET
Water
Precision Hydration
PARKING AREA CLOSED
Monterey Beach House
Monterey Bay Coastal Trail
Monterey Bay Kayaks
Del Monte Ave
NO CORRAL ACCESS ON THIS SIDE
NO CORRAL ACCESS ON THIS SIDE
TRAIL CLOSED
TRAIL CLOSED
PEDESTRIAN ROUTE FROM PARKING GARAGES
Monterey Sports Center
Lopez Taqueria
Fenced Lot
Harbor Dental
Figueroa St
Taufner Ln
Monterey Credit Union
Cortes St
PARKING AREA CLOSED
McDonald's
Camino El Estero
WALKING ROUTE FROM SHUTTLE DROP-OFF
E Franklin St
Military Veterans
MV
ANNOUNCER
ELITE
START
ELITE
Del Monte Ave


FINISH AREA
MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON
SECURE ZONE RUNNERS ONLY
PORTABLE TOILETS
Bleachers
WHARF ACCESS
TO FISHERMAN'S WHARF
Custom House Museum
Announcer
FINISH
TO/FROM WHARF
Olivier St
Cheers Garden
Bocce Courts
Scott St
Cheers Garden Ticket Purchase
Medals
WHARF ACCESS
Ocean View Challenge
Water Stop
Precision Stop
MarathonFoto
Runner Food
Soup
Medical
Merchandise
Results
Information
Memory Garden
Pacific House Museum
EXIT
ENTRY
Awards
Band
Fleet Feet
GEAR Pick Up
Volunteer Food
Medical
Truck Parking
Bike Valet
Green Team
Ambulance
TO SHUTTLE BUS
Monterey History & Art Museum
ADA ACCESS
Jack's Monterey
Portola Hotel & Spa
Alvarado Mall
Lighthouse Ave
MILE 1.4
Monterey Peninsula Rec Trail
TO POST RACE SHUTTLE RETURN TO MPC AND DEL MONTE CENTER (in next lot)

BY-THE-BAY 3K & PACIFIC GROVE LIGHTHOUSE 5K

Saturday, November 7, 2026

START & FINISH LOCATION

Both races start and finish on Ocean View Boulevard at Lovers Point Park in Pacific Grove. See the next page for a course map and start/finish venue map.

START TIME

The 3K begins at 8:00 AM and the 5K at 8:30 AM in two waves. Wave 1 is for those expected to run under a 10-minute mile pace and Wave 2 is for over a 10-minute pace.

EVENT REGISTRATION

Bibs and participant shirts can be picked up at the Health & Fitness Expo on Friday, November 6th. A photo ID is required for packet pick up. The Expo is located at the Monterey Conference Center at 1 Portola Plaza in Monterey. Hours are noon to 6:00 PM on Friday. No dogs allowed at the Expo in the Monterey Conference Center (except service animals). If you are unable to pick up on Friday, there will be race morning pick up at Lovers Point Park beginning at 6:30 AM. If you are running the Ocean View Challenge, race morning pick up will be for your 5K bib only; you'll need to pick up your Half Marathon bib and shirt at the Health & Fitness Expo between 9:30 AM and 6:00 PM.

PARKING & RUNNER DROP-OFF

There is parking available in the public lots in Pacific Grove or on the city streets. Be sure to note any parking enforcement signs and hours of enforcement. **Runner drop off is located at the intersection of Ocean View and Forest Ave.**

PETS, STROLLERS & HEADPHONES

For safety reasons, please leave the dogs, strollers/baby joggers, and headphones, iPods, or earbuds at home. Thank you.

COURSE

Both the 5K and 3K courses begin just west of Lovers Point Park on Ocean View Boulevard in Pacific Grove and are out-and-back. On the outbound section, you are in the water-side lane; after turning around, you are in the land-side lane. 5K runners turn around at Point Pinos near Lighthouse Avenue. 3K runners turn around at Coral Street. A detailed course map can be found on the next page.

AID & WATER STATIONS

There will be two water/aid stations on the 5K course at 1.2 miles and 2.3 miles. The 3K station is on Ocean View Boulevard after the turnaround at Coral Street.

There will be water and post-race refreshments after the finish in Lovers Point Park.

POST-RACE ACTIVITIES

The 5K awards ceremony begins at 9:30 AM at Lovers Point Park. Awards go three deep in five- year age divisions after 5–8, 9–11, 12–14 and 15–19. Awards are also presented to the overall male and female winners. Awards are determined by chip time. All 5K and 3K finishers receive medallions. The 3K is timed but non-competitive. There are no overall or age division awards in the 3K.

Pacific Grove Kiwanis sponsors a $10 pancake breakfast and Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula will offer interactive activities for children and youth.




MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON
5K/3K START & FINISH AREA
BY-THE-BAY 3K START TIME: 8:00 AM
PACIFIC GROVE LIGHTHOUSE START TIME: 8:30 AM
SECURE ZONE RUNNERS ONLY
PORTABLE TOILETS
Naiad St
Ocean View Blvd
START
FINISH
Marine St
Borg's Motel
Neptune Ave
SPECTATORS
Medals
BIBS & SHIRTS
Lovers Point Park
INFO Medical
Water Tables
Food Tables
Ocean View Blvd
Stage
Lover's Point Inn
Mermaid Ave
TO STAGE
KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Beach House Restaurant
Portable Toilets (30)


COURSE MAP
Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K & By-The-Bay 3K
MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON
COURSE/MILES
AID STATION
WATER STATION
OCEAN VIEW BLVD
PACIFIC GROVE GOLF LINKS
5KU-TURN near Lighthouse Ave
3K U-TURN at Coral St
Asilomar Ave
Coral St
ESPLANADE PARK
OCEAN VIEW BLVD
Lighthouse Ave
PACIFIC OCEAN
68
Lighthouse Ave
PACIFIC GROVE GOLF LINKS
START
FINISH
LOVERS POINT
PACKET PICK-UP AND CHECK IN
DOWNTOWN PACIFIC GROVE
Jewell Ave
Lighthouse Ave
Ocean View Blvd
Sunset Dr
CALEDONIA PARK
17th St


PACIFIC OCEAN
N
PARKING
Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K & By-The-Bay 3K
OCEAN VIEW BLVD
START
FINISH
Mermaid Ave
Neptune
LOVERS POINT PARK
Pre and Post race activities, including registration and packet pick-up, portable toilets, awards, and refreshments
CLOSED INTERSECTIONS
NO PARKING ANYTIME
20 MIN–TWO HOUR PARKING (beginning at 9:00 am)
90 MIN–TWO HOUR PARKING (beginning at 9:00 am)
PUBLIC PARKING LOT
PRIVATE PARKING LOT
Briggs St
Jewell Ave
Bayview Ave
RUNNER DROP OFF
CALEDONIA PARK
Pacific Ave
Grove
20th St
Caledonia St
Union St
FOREST AVE
Grand Ave
Fountain Ave
15th St
OCEAN VIEW BLVD
Park Pl
JEWELL PARK
Central Ave
Lighthouse Ave
Wood St
Short St
Lobos Ave
Cypress Ave
19th St
18th St
LOT 4
LOT 5
Rickets Row
14th St
13th St
12th St
Carmel Ave
LOT 2
LOT 3
LOT 1
Congress Ave
Park St
17th St
Pine Ave
Laurel Ave
16th St
Spruce Ave