



FAQ

Are there specific SwimRun rules?

Wetsuits are compulsory. There are no transition areas to get changed in, what you wear must be suitable for both running and swimming. All rules are stated in the separate 'RULES' document.

Do you have to carry all your equipment with you for the duration of the race or are there stations you can leave and collect equipment/kit at?

The ethos of SwimRun is everything you need you carry. Leaving anything behind or getting anything from external support is against the rules and will sadly lead to disqualification.

Are there different distances I can compete in?

Yes, two. The short Swimrun distance is just over 12km and the Swimrun just under 24km.

Is there an age limit?

Short Swimrun is 16 years old. Swimrun distance is 17 years old.

Do I need to compete in a pair?

No, both distances are for individuals.

What will I receive from Great SwimRun in my finish pack?

You'll receive a goody-bag with edible treats, special offers, technical t-shirt and medal.

Are there water stations at various points during the race?

Yes, there are feed stations at various points on course. These can be seen on the course maps, and each station will have water, bars, bloks and energy gels.

During the race what should I eat and drink?

It's entirely your decision on what you eat and drink during the race. You will be on course for a prolonged period so you should make sure you stay hydrated and take on board sufficient energy. Use the feed stations on route and feel free to carry additional food and drink with you. Many people choose to take a water bladder with them and carry energy bars and gels in their wetsuit.

What is the terrain like?

The terrain will be mixed and at times difficult. Please take care and look out for each other. You will be running on trails and paths that are shared with the general public. Please respect them and give way if required. Take particular care when on footpaths adjacent to roads and traffic, ensuring both competitors and the public do not need to step on the road. If you need to stop: stop.

How is the event split up between swimming and running?

There will be approximately 15% swimming and 85% running - however, depending on the distance chosen this will vary slightly.

How good at swimming do I need to be?

You must be able to swim a minimum of half a mile, unaided, in open water in a variety of conditions.

How good at running do I need to be?

We recommend choosing your distance based on the following:

- Short: you should be able to run a 10k
- SwimRun: you should be able to run a half marathon

Can I take part in more than 1 SwimRun event on the same day?

No. Taking part in more than one event will not be possible.

How are the events timed?

Your timing chip will attach to your ankle and the timing mats will be placed at the start and the end of the race.

What is the water quality like?

The water in the Lake District is generally of a high quality for open water swimming, however regular tests are carried out in the run up to event day. Should the quality not reach our minimum standards, alternative plans will be in place and will be communicated to all participants.

What are the elevation profiles?

It depends on the distance you choose. The elevation ranges from 200 metres to 1200 metres. More detail can be viewed on the maps in the race manual.

What are the cut off times?

There is no cut off time for Short Distance. For Swimrun there is only one point where we will be enforcing a cut off on safety/medical grounds if necessary. This is at Brathay Hall. Anyone taking part in the mid-distance who takes longer than 4 hours to reach Brathay Hall will only be allowed to continue if deemed fit enough to do so by the medics.

What kind of kit do I need? Can you recommend kit?

See our 'Great SwimRun gear guide' for more information, but it is essentially up to you. A wetsuit is compulsory and of course you'll need trainers for running and swimming in, but after that you are welcome to bring what you need.

Do I really swim in my trainers and run in my wetsuit?

Yes, it's a unique experience but once you get going it feels entirely normal. Some choose to take their trainers and stash them in their wetsuit for the swim, but like many things, this is entirely your decision. We recommend trying different things in training to help you decide.

Do I need a specific type of wetsuit/ trainers?

There are various bits of SwimRun kit out there that you can buy, which are specifically designed for the demands of SwimRun. You can also choose to use equipment you already have and modify it if necessary. Many people use a standard 'shorty' wetsuit and trail shoes that drain well. Read our 'gear guide' online for more info.

Can spectators come and watch me race?

Spectators are welcome to view from anywhere on course. It is advisable they plan their route in advance to enable them to see you as much as possible.

Can I have a copy of the race route?

These are available on the website and will be handed out at the pre-race briefing. Please note the final route is subject to change until the day of the event.

Is there somewhere I can leave valuables before the race?

There are baggage and changing facilities on site near the finish areas.

What can we expect at the finish area?

The finish area at Brockhole on Windermere will be the perfect place for your family and friends to meet you. There are also a number of places to enjoy a selection of hot and cold food and drink options, as well as a number of charity and merchandise stalls.

Is the route marked out, or do you need to navigate to the finish yourself?

The route will have clear waymarkers for you to follow, however you will be supplied with a course map and the onus is on you to navigate your way around. The essential equipment list includes a compass, and you will need to have basic competency in map reading.

Do I need any specialist training or qualifications before competing?

No, none. We do advise that you have trained in your wetsuit and trainers, and you are sufficiently fit and healthy to take part come race day.

Can I have sponsors/ charities marked on my race gear?

This is no problem however you must always wear your race bib over the top.

What's the correct procedure for carrying out a transition?

There is no procedure as such. You must swim in your swim hat and wetsuit, but it is up to you what you keep on and what you carry for the running sections.

Disqualification

Anyone in breach of the above points will be disqualified.