

The 2018 Bridgestone Route 66 MTB Experience



The Bridgestone Route 66 Tips and Instructions

Hi there

Congratulations on having entered the 2018 edition of **The Bridgestone Route 66 MTB Experience**.

Kick off is in just over a week's time. We are really looking forward to hosting you as this event is one of our highlights of the year. It has been a really tough and challenging time for us as far as trail building goes as we had to rebuild almost 30km of trail.

Spare a thought to our own Dr Evil, Everd Vermeulen. He and his team have been working for over a month clearing trails, rebuilding trails, working with landowners and much more.

All I can say is that preparing the trails has been interesting, but I know they will be looking great next week.

There are some really important things to take note of, especially with all the logistics involved in this event, so please do read everything carefully.

This mail has been prepared for all riders, so please take note of which day pertains to you.

RACE NUMBER PICKUP & INDEMNITY FORMS

Race Number Pickup will take place at the **Baron on Main in Bryanston** on **Wednesday the 21st of February** from **12h30 to 17h00**.

[Click here for Map and Directions](#)

You need to collect your race number and "goodie" bag at **The Baron on Main in Bryanston**.

The good news is that if you entered online, you have already completed your indemnity form, so no additional admin there.

As you arrive, we will be asking you to fill in a brief questionnaire, so please do assist us. There will be a lucky winner selected and he or she stands a chance of winning a prize courtesy of Bridgestone.

THE ROUTE AND START TIMES

The most important thing to take note of is that **Day 1 (Friday the 23rd)** will start at the **Kloofzicht Lodge in The Cradle of Humankind**. [Click Here](#) for directions.

Rider briefing will be at the start of each stage, so you need to be in the start chute at least 20 minutes before the start.

Friday 23rd of February

An 85km "warm up" starting at **Kloofzicht Lodge** and taking you through **The Cradle of Humankind** to the **Maropeng**. (Ironically, Kloofzicht is only 15km away from Maropeng – as the crow flies)

(Start Time 06h00) Please note we are starting early to hopefully give you some respite from the predicted hot weather.

Saturday 24th of February

This is a tough and challenging 75km route kicking off from **Maropeng**. Please note that the distance may change slightly but we will advise on race day – we have had a few challenges with some of the landowners.

Don't be fooled by the first section of tar. It gets tougher from then on. You'll need to negotiate more than a couple of "men from the boys" climbs before returning to **Maropeng** in the Cradle of Humankind. **(Start Time 07h00 for 3 day riders, 07h30 for 2 day riders)**

Sunday 25th of February

Get ready for a fun 65km burst from **Maropeng** back to **Kloofzicht Lodge**. **(Start Time 08h00 for 3-day riders, 08h15 for 2 day riders and 08h30 for 1-day riders)** Please note that Sunday is a "Fast & Furious" route, so if your legs are up to it after two hard days, expect a PB.

225 km later - you're now ready to relax. Kick back and enjoy a fun lunch, compliments of **Bridgestone** and **The Leverage Corporation** while you relax and soak up the sun in the relaxing company of family and friends.

WATER TABLES

Friday: We will have at 4 water tables

Saturday: we will have 4 water tables

Sunday: We will have 2 water tables

Details of exact distances will be communicated to you at race briefing. But in the mean while, check out everything on the website: www.route66mtb.co.za

So in Summary

Start Times for all three events

3 Day Experience

Day 1 - Friday – 06h00 – 4 start batches

Day 2 - Saturday – 07h00 – 3 start batches (C& D will combine)

Day 3 - Sunday – 08h00 – 3 start batches (C& D will combine)

2 Day Weekend Experience – voluntary seeding

Day 1- Saturday – 07h30

Day 2 – Sunday – 08h15

1 Day Mini Experience – voluntary seeding

Day 1 – Sunday – 08h30

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR FRIDAY RIDERS

On Friday after Waterpoint 2, you will access the Hartebeeshoek Radio Observatory facility – also known as The Telkom Satellite Station.

The HartRAO facility is a “radio quiet zone”, and an implication of this is that cellphone, WiFi and Bluetooth devices cannot be switched on within the boundaries of the property. There is signage on the access road that indicates this.

The facility will be running an international radio astronomy experiment over the period of the race, and any Bluetooth, WiFi or cellphone transmission will be detectable by their telescope and will potentially ruin the experiment.

In short, this will mean that you will need to turn off your cellphone upon entering the facility. You will be stopped by our staff to ensure that this does happen. This experiment is costing millions, and as a condition of using the facility and land, we need to adhere to their request.

They are able to track cellphone signals and have informed us that they will provide us with a list of transgressors.

PLEASE NOTE: All transgressors will be disqualified from the 2018 Route 66 and will not be allowed to start the next day.

I know this sounds harsh, but these are their conditions.

NOW DOWN TO THE NITTY GRITTY START LOGISTICS

Bus Shuttle Service

Once you finish on Friday and Sunday, there is a complimentary bus service, courtesy of **Luxliner Coaches**, that will take you back to the start on Friday and on Sunday. Buses will leave every 30 minutes or when full.

You will also **not be allowed to take your bike on the bus**.

One last request – we would appreciate it if you would tip the drivers.

Race Timing & Seeding – 3 day riders only

Timing will be done by **Red Robot Timing**, and we will be operating on a chip and a seeding system. Your seeding will be based on previous Route 66 results, and thereafter from the **National Seeding Index**.

Remember that **number boards** should not be affixed to your bike when you leave home, as these have in some instances blown off in the past. The timing chip in your number board will endanger your race status if the board blows away en route to the race.

Seeding will be up on the website shortly.

If you have any queries regarding your seeding, please take this up with the officials at registration.

Please do NOT contact the race office in this regard.

Massage Facilities

Bookings are essential, and can be done by emailing Sandra Botes on sandra.sportsmassage@gmail.com

Alternatively you can book on the day.

Bike Service Packages – The Bicycle Boffs

The Bicycle Boffs will be the official Bridgestone Route 66 onsite mechanics. You can chat to them on each day for service and assistance.

There will also be a **Tech Zone** at the start of each stage and on the route each day. You can book your service package with them by emailing them on johnp@bicycleboffs.co.za or you can meet them at registration.

Tog Bag Transport

Luxliner Coaches has kindly provided a tog bag service where you can drop off your tog bag at the start and collect it from the finish each day.

You will be able to load your bags in the buses at the start and they will take them through to the finish for you.

Be sure to pack a change of clothes and a towel so you can enjoy a refreshing shower at the finish.

Shower Facilities

We have made shower facilities available and these will be at the finish of each stage. Details will be communicated to you at each venue.

Meal Voucher – Wrist band – Very Important!!!

As part of your entry fee, we will have a complimentary lunch for you on Sunday at the finish at Kloofzicht Lodge. Meals on Friday and Saturday will be for your account.

There will also be a beer tent on Friday and Saturday, and Mogallywood Breweries will be in the house. Maropeng will run a normal bar service, so you can sit back, relax and enjoy one or two cold ones.

If you would like a significant other to join you on Sunday, please book and pay for this at Race Registration.

The cost per adult is R140. This can be paid when you collect your race number at Registration. **Please note that we will not be selling lunch vouchers after rider registration, and definitely not during the race or at Kloofzicht Lodge.**

Feel free to mail irene@leveragecorporation.co.za to book your tickets.

If you have unexpected guests wanting to join on the Sunday, they can order off the menu at Kloofzicht.

Please note that in your "goodie" bag, you will find your Wrist band which is also your race village access and Sunday meal voucher. **No wrist band, no lunch. This is extremely important.**

GENERAL

The Route

In many instances, we are riding on private land. We travel over 75 privately owned farms and the trails have been opened to us exclusively. Kindly treat these trails with respect.

Special Note: You will note that there are some sections where we will have to ride on tar or on the road reserve. Sadly this is as a result of some riders abusing the landowners right to privacy. Need we say any more?

Littering

We are riding through **The Cradle of Humankind**, which is a **World Heritage Site**, so there are some sensitive areas - bear this in mind at all times. This means that we have a strict no littering policy and if you are caught littering, you will be asked to leave the course and immediately be disqualified. If you are reported for littering, you will also be disqualified.

Marshals

There will be a number of Think Bike marshals on the route as well as Mogale Metro and ER 24 in attendance. Please obey their instructions at all times. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.

Rules of the Road

Please obey all instructions and please remember that if you are riding on a dirt or tar road, you need to obey the rules of the road. We do not have road closure, you **DO NOT** have right of way.

Cut Off Times

Please note that we will be enforcing cut off times this year, but as you can see, they are quite generous.

Cut off times are as follows:

Friday: 85km - There will be a cutoff at the 56km table (Water Table 2) at 11h00.

Saturday: 75km – There will be a cutoff at Water Table 3 (57km) at 12h30 for all riders. There will also be a cut off at Water Table 4 (64km) at 13h15.

Sunday: 65km – There will be a cutoff at Water Table 2 (45km) at 11h30.

Please note that the Think Bike marshals reserve the right to cut you off after the cut off points should they feel that it is necessary.

I hope you have been training for this one. Friday and Saturday are tough and technical but they promise to be a rewarding experience. You do not get much better riding in Gauteng.

Our advice is to have as much fun as possible.

Please respect the MTB Code. You aren't the only one out there riding. Have a look at our **TLC Code of Conduct** – [CLICK HERE](#) to read.

The riding is superb, and we hope you will have as much fun participating as we did in putting **The Bridgestone Route 66 MTB Experience** together.

For information please visit our [website](#) or contact us on irene@leveragecorporation.co.za

Regards

Rob Jackson

and The Leverage Corporation Team

Sponsors



Upcoming Events - Jan to April 2018



23 - 25 Feb 2018



17 - 18 March 2018



14 - 15 April 2018



28 - 30 April 2018

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