

Course Description

**Badwater Basin, Death Valley (280ft / 85m below sea level),
Mile Zero (Start Line)**

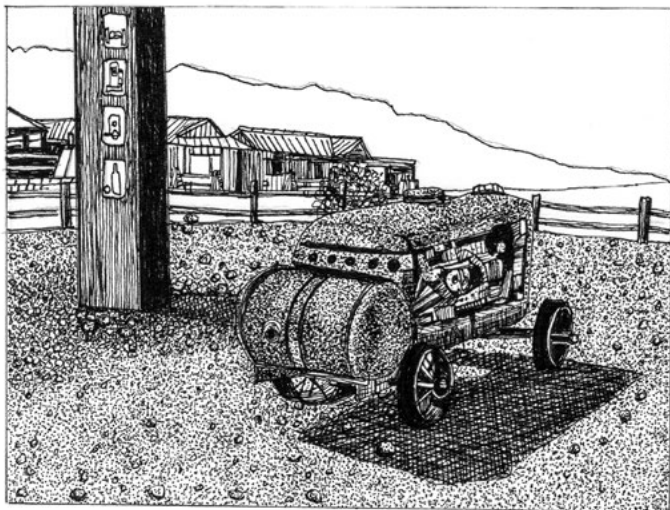


The race begins here adjacent to a pool of saltwater located at the lowest place in North America. There are toilets, but no other services.

**Furnace Creek Ranch (170' / 51m below sea level),
17.5mi / 28.2km (Time Checkpoint #1)**

The first oasis in our journey. Two hotels, gas station, general store, restaurants, camping, and ice are available. Stock up here on ice, water, food, supplies, and gas both before the race and when you pass through during the race!

Stovepipe Wells (Sea Level), 42.2mi / 68km (Time Checkpoint #2)



A general store, gas station, restaurant and motel. Location of the race's Medical HQ for most of first 15 hours of the race. It is critical that you stock up on ice, water, food, supplies, and gas when you pass through here during the race!

**Towne Pass (4956' / 1511m), 58.7mi / 94.5km
(Time Checkpoint #3)**

From Stovepipe Wells, it's 17-mile long ascent with 5000' of elevation gain to the highest point of the race course. From the summit, it's a 10-mile long descent with 3000' feet of elevation loss into the Panamint Valley. On both sides, it's a steep and narrow road with limited opportunities to park. Support vehicles, crews, and runners must be cautious and extra aware of the traffic.

**Panamint Springs Resort (2000' / 610m),
72.7mi / 117km (Time Checkpoint #4)**



Gas station, mini-mart, plus restaurant and motel. We rent out "The Cottage" as a way station for any and all race entrants and crews to use during the race: Bring your own towel, soap, and shampoo and make a big effort to keep the room and bathroom tidy. After passing Panamint Springs, a long, steep climb follows on a steep and narrow road with limited opportunities to park. Support vehicles, crews, and runners must be cautious and extra aware of the traffic, and ONLY park in the eight designated parking zones between Panamint Springs Resort and unmarked "Panamint Pass" at mile 84.9.

Father Crowley's Turnout (4000' / 1219m), 80.65mi / 130km

The bathrooms and parking lot that designate this viewpoint are not the top of this ascent, though you may hope so. The road continues to rise to 5000' / 1524m over rolling hills, then eventually descends into the Owen's Valley.

**Darwin Turn-Off (5050' / 1540m), 90.6mi / 146km
(Time Checkpoint #5)**

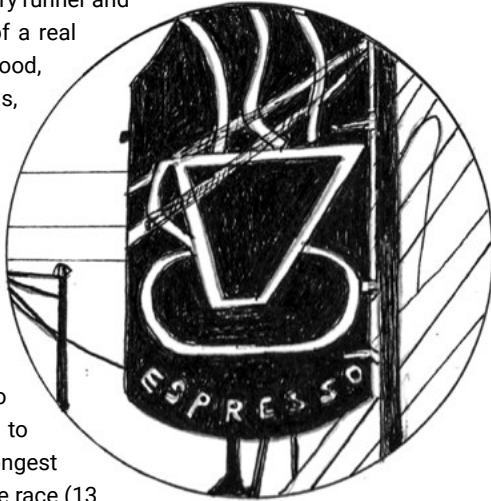
There are no services here, but just a few miles to the south of our route is the small inhabited ghost town of Darwin, the website for which touts "NO broadcast TV; NO AM/FM radio, NO cell signal; NO stores; NO restaurants." The Darwin time station is where the race usually starts to get serious for all entrants. Look for "gunsite notch" about 9.3 miles ahead to indicate your 100-mile mark! The generally flat or slightly downhill stretch ahead can be tedious and demoralizing; Mt. Whitney is visible ahead and never seems to get closer!

Keeler (3610' / 1100m), 108.1mi / 174km (Time Checkpoint #6)

This is a small mining town with no facilities which abuts the Owens Dry Lake Bed on the left of the highway. Amazing views of Mt. Whitney and the Sierra Nevada abound. A dirt road to the right ascends to Cerro Gordo, an authentic ghost town high in the mountains.

Lone Pine (3610' / 11km), 122.7mi / 197.5km (Time Checkpoint #7)

Lone Pine offers the weary runner and crew all the amenities of a real town: café fare, fast food, pizza, restaurants, motels, gas stations, a grocery store, and much more, not to mention our Race Headquarters at the Dow Villa. Restock here for the climb to Whitney Portal as there no services after Lone Pine. Turn left onto the Whitney Portal Road to begin the final leg, the longest and steepest climb of the race (13 miles or 21km with 5000 feet or 1524m of elevation gain). Temperatures will steadily decrease during the ascent (though depending on time of day). As you ascend Mt. Whitney, be sure your support vehicle is always parked completely off of the road and that you do not block traffic, not even for a moment.



Portal Road / Base of the Switchbacks (6890' / 2100m), 131.1mi / 211km (Time Checkpoint #8)

After the turn from Hwy 395 in Lone Pine, it's 8.3 miles or 13.4km to the final Time Checkpoint, located at the start of the switchbacks. For nighttime finishers, be prepared with extra layers of clothing; at night it can approach freezing temperature. The Portal Road is steep and very narrow: please drive and park extra carefully all the way to the finish!

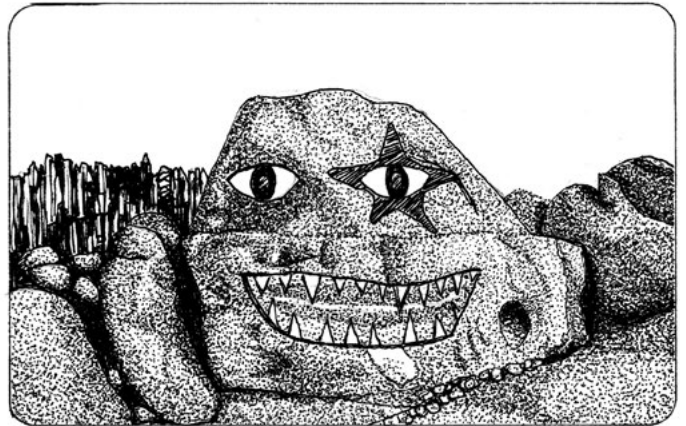


For more of Badwater athlete Rich Peer's art, follow his Instagram @RichPeersArt

Mt. Whitney Trailhead, (8360' / 2548m), 135mi / 217km



Congratulations! You have finished The World's Toughest Foot Race! A small burger shack / shop are open during daylight hours. There is also a stocked fishing pond and a campground (because, of course, after running 135 miles, you really want to go fishing and camping!).



TOILET LOCATIONS ALONG THE ROUTE

- 14.5 Golden Canyon (top end of parking lot; right side of road)
- 17.6 Furnace Creek Gas Station (left side of road)
- 40.2 Sand Dunes Parking lot (right side of road)
- 42.2 Stovepipe Wells Gas Station (right side of road, and at the hotel on the left)
- 51.2 Wildrose Station (parking lot on Towne Pass; right side of road)
- 72.7 Panamint Springs Resort (left side of road)
- 80.6 Father Crowley's Point (right side of road)
- 121-122.8 Various locations along Hwy 395 in Lone Pine (restaurants and hotels)
- 135 Mt. Whitney Portal / Finish Line