KENT DOWNS 50 ULTRA CHALLENGE®

Kent Downs 50 Ultra Challenge **10 October 2026**

CHALLENGE FACTSHEET

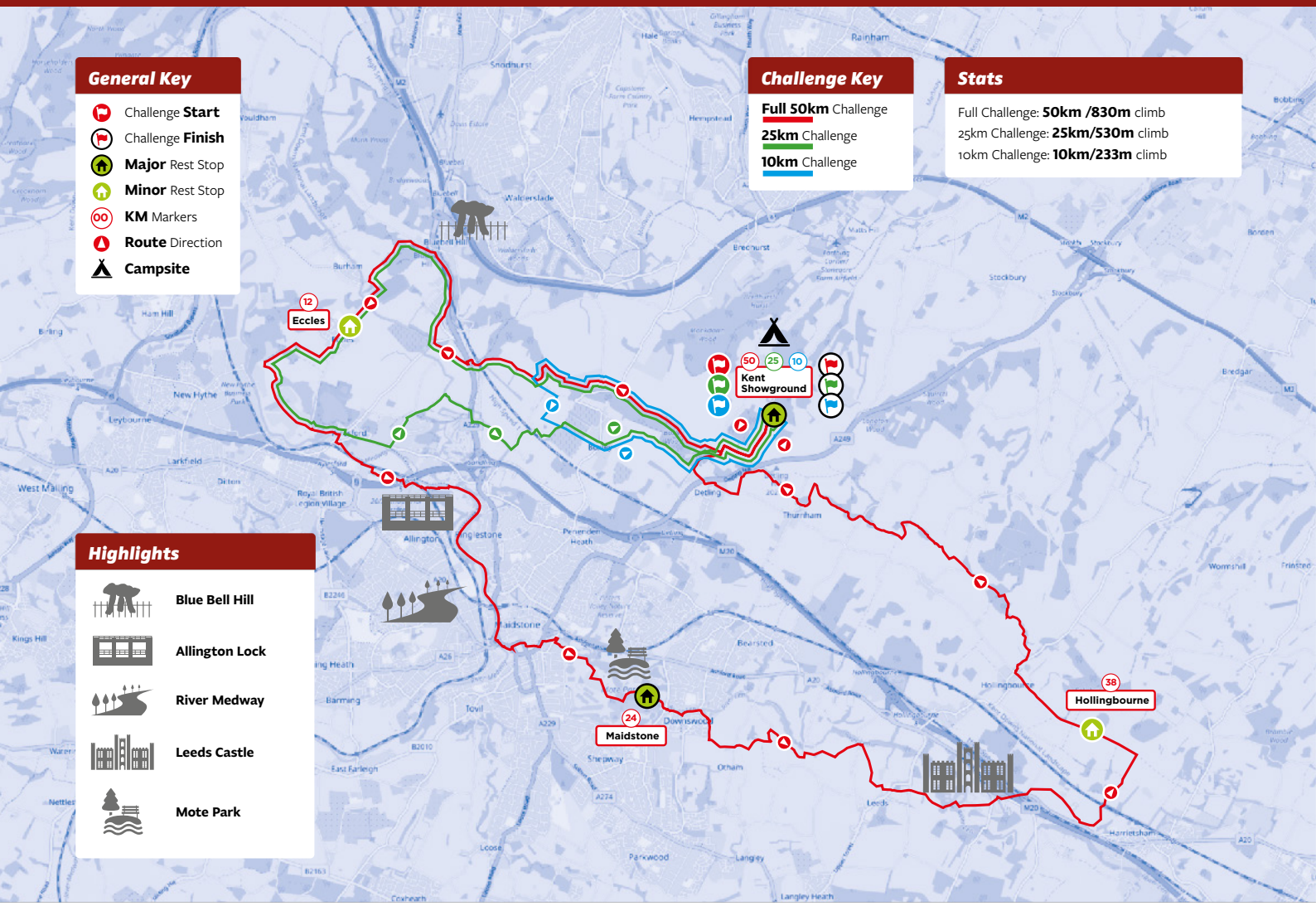


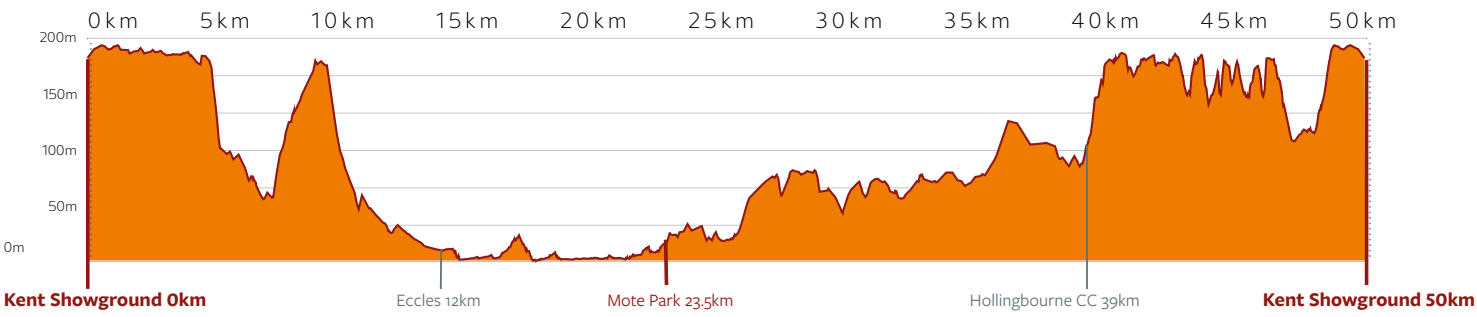
Part of the ULTRA CHALLENGE SERIES

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Kent Downs 50 Ultra Challenge **10 October 2026**

An end of season Ultra Challenge®– in the *'Garden of England'*. A basecamp near Maidstone, with parking & weekend camping options, the main 50km looped route heads anticlockwise around the Kent Downs – starting on the North Downs Way to Blue Bell Hill, around picturesque Aylesford, and following the River Medway to Mote Park at halfway for a picnic. Along the Len Valley Walk to the majestic Leeds Castle, then the North Downs Way back to the showground finish line and celebration. It's easily accessible; you'll get full support; and with 25km & 10km options also available, there's a Kent Downs Ultra Challenge® waiting for you!





CHALLENGE FACTSHEET

Distance options

Join us for the amazing Kent Downs 50 Ultra Challenge. The route takes you northwest along the North Downs Way towards Blue Bell Hill, southwards through the charming village of Aylesford, and along the River Medway to Maidstone. Continuing onto magnificent Leeds Castle, you'll rejoin the North Downs Way that guides you back to Detling where you'll cross the finish line at basecamp. The 25km route splits off at Aylesford onto the Augustine Camino towards Boxley, where it joins the 10km route before heading back to basecamp. The Kent Showground basecamp has Friday and Saturday night camping creating a fun event atmosphere for the Ultra Challenge season finale.

50KM *Challenge* - Kent Downs Loop

Saturday 10 October | 7:00-9:00am Start

DISTANCE:
50km & 830 m elevation

DETAILS:

- ✓ Start: Kent Showground, *nr Maidstone*
- ✓ Start times: 06:45 for Trailblazerz, 07:00 for runners, 07:30 – 09:00 for joggers & walkers 08:30 for Ultra March walkers
- ✓ Finish: Kent Showground
  - › Snacks & drinks – every 10-15km
  - › 24km – picnic lunch & fizzy drinks
  - › 50km – glass of fizz, hot meal, medal & t-shirt

Maidstone 10KM *Challenge*

Saturday 10 October | 10:30am Start

DISTANCE:
10km & 233 m elevation

DETAILS:

- ✓ Start: Kent Showground, *nr Maidstone*
- ✓ Start times: 10:30am runners setting off first, followed by joggers & walkers
- ✓ Finish: Kent Showground
  - › Well equipped finish line: changing rooms, medics, rest areas, hot drinks & snacks
  - › Finish – discounted hot meal available to purchase, glass of fizz, medal & t-shirt

25KM *Challenge* - Kent Downs Loop

Saturday 10 October | 8:30-9:30am Start

DISTANCE:
25km & 530 m elevation

DETAILS:

- ✓ Start: Kent Showground, *nr Maidstone*
- ✓ Start times: 7:00am for runners, 8:30am – 9:30am joggers & walkers
- ✓ Finish: Kent Showground
  - › 12km – snacks & drinks
  - › 25km – glass of fizz, hot meal, medal & t-shirt

FOR RAPID RUNNERS... ULTRA TRAILBLAZERZ

A NEW CATEGORY – for competitive runners who can complete 50km in sub 6 hrs (male) / sub 6.5 hrs (female).

For seasoned Ultra runners, or accomplished marathon participants switching to trails & upping the distance – with the support services that Ultra Challenge® events are famous for!

FOR HASTY HIKERS... THE ULTRA MARCH

Join an intrepid group attempting to Walk 50km in under 12 hours.

An Ultra March® is about WALKING at a brisk & consistent pace with like minded challengers – a bit like a march! – but taking in the great rest stops & services of an Ultra Challenge!

Bookable extras

Bookable extras are designed to make the planning for your challenge as easy as possible – providing options for your joining & leaving arrangements and are summarised below. As some participant's travel & logistics may involve parking, transfers, and even camping – please check that the combination you book makes sense!!

Camping Packages

Camping - Friday / Saturday - Kent Showground – options for single or twin on either:

Inclusive Package: pre-pitched tent & roll mat. Breakfast must be booked separately.

Self-pitch Package: bring your own tent & equipment. Breakfast must be booked separately.

Parking

Parking for your vehicle is available at the main Kent Showground start / finish venue.

There is also a **Supporter Parking Pass** available so friends/family can park at Kent Showground basecamp.

Pre Challenge Transfer

We have a regular shuttle service running from Maidstone East train station to your start line at Kent Showground. Maidstone East train station is the closest rail link and runs on the Southeastern Railway.

Post Challenge Transfer

We've organised a bookable shuttle service to take you from your finish line at Kent Showground back to Maidstone East Station should you need to catch a train.

Baggage Transfers

We've a baggage service to store your bags safely at Kent Showground (basecamp) – for a change of clothes or shoes, extra layers for after your challenge, or those extra post event snacks you can't do without!

Baggage services will be paid in cash/card on the day – and you cannot pre book (quoted prices are per bag).

Extra Meals

- **Friday Night Snacks** – available for anyone staying at Kent Showground on Friday night. NOT pre-bookable - available on the day only.
- **Saturday Morning Breakfast** – available for participants starting their challenge on Saturday morning at Kent Showground. NOT pre-bookable - available on the day only.
- **Maidstone 10km Finishers Hot Meal** – available for 10km challengers at the Kent Showground finish line (optional).



Funding & Cost options

OPTION 1
Self Funding Do It For Yourself

Pay for your place in full. Look forward to a great challenge with no fundraising!

50km CHALLENGE
£139 Fee paid online as
& no fundraising commitment.

25km CHALLENGE
£89 Fee paid online
& no fundraising commitment.

10km CHALLENGE
£49 Fee paid online
& no fundraising commitment.

OPTION 2
Full Charity Sponsorship

Pay a small Reg Fee & Fundraise for a chosen Charity (who pay for your place)

50km CHALLENGE
£40 Reg Fee & at least
£375 fundraising/sponsorship

25km CHALLENGE
£30 Reg Fee & at least
£275 fundraising/sponsorship

10km CHALLENGE
£15 Reg Fee & at least
£150 fundraising/sponsorship

OPTION 3
Mixed Funding For Charity

Pay for half your place cost & fundraise less for Charity (who pay half of your place cost)

50km CHALLENGE
£75 Reg Fee & at least **£225**
fundraising/sponsorship

25km CHALLENGE
£50 Reg Fee & at least
£150 fundraising/sponsorship

10km CHALLENGE
£25 Reg Fee & at least
£100 fundraising/sponsorship

OPTION 4
Own Place Charity Fundraising

Pay for your place & fundraise whatever you can for a Charity (with just an admin fee for the charity)

50km CHALLENGE
£139 Fee paid online
& fundraise whatever you can

25km CHALLENGE
£89 Fee paid online
& fundraise whatever you can

10km CHALLENGE
£49 Fee paid online
& fundraise whatever you can

Fundraising Deadlines At least 50% of the Sponsorship target (for either the Sponsorship for Charity or Mixed Funding option) should be with your Charity by 3 weeks prior to the Challenge. At this time your Charity will pay a Fee for your place to the Organiser (similar to the Self Funding cost). Failure to meet the 50% target may result in cancellation by your charity. The remaining 50% should be with your Charity 4 weeks after the Challenge.