



The Grindleford Gallop 2026: Race details

Hello

Whether you've done this race many times before or this is new, welcome to Grindleford and the Grindleford Gallop. We're a wholly volunteer run event, raising funds for our lovely local primary school. We do our best to put on a great event, please let us know if you have any feedback as we want to make sure we give everyone a good day out.

After feedback from previous years, we are going to trial **optional** flexible early start times in 2026 for anyone expecting to take over 4 hours. However, we can't ask volunteers to stand on checkpoints for an extra 2+ hours, especially as there are children from the school helping at a lot of them. **Please consider your start time carefully** and ensure you **don't reach checkpoints before they are open**. From extensive number crunching of previous results, here is some guidance:

Estimated Finish Time	Earliest Start Time	Pace Option
< 4 hours	10am	Mass Start (10am)
4 – 5 hours	9am	Mid Pace Start (8.30-9.30am)
5 – 6.5 hours	8.30am	Mid Pace Start (8.30-9.30am)
6.5 – 8 hours	8am	Relaxed Start (7.30-8.30am)
> 8 hours	7.30am	Relaxed Start (7.30-8.30am)

If you are at the faster end of a bracket, please start later in the available time slot.

There will be a back marshal setting off at the back of the runners so they can confirm with each marshal station that everyone has gone through, and keep in touch with us at the finish to let us know how everyone is doing. Please keep your numbers visible and **do not go off course for a picnic or a pub visit!**

Registration

- Registration opens at 7am.
- Please **bring your own safety pins** to speed things up.
- Numbers will not be preallocated, so please line up at any desk.
- You will collect any pre-purchased t-shirts or buffs at the same time as picking up your number and dibber.
- Any t-shirts or buffs not collected by the start of the race at 10am will be available for sale afterwards to ensure as little waste as possible.
- Please take care not to lose your dibber, if lost it will incur a £25 charge.

Checkpoints

You can **ONLY** dib between these times, please choose your start time carefully.

			Water Station		Feed Station		Water Station	
	Start	Eyam	White Rake	Longstone Moor	Hassop Station	Ballcross Farm	Baslow	Finish
Distance	0	4.8km	9.2km	11.7km	16.7km	19.2km	25.8km	33.8km
Open	7.30 onwards, mass start 10am	8:00	9:45	10:00	10:45	11:00	11:30	
Close		10:45	12:00	12:30	13:30	14:00	15:00	17:00

There will be marshals at every checkpoint. Please look out for the orange hi vis vests - this means you need to dib your timing chip!

Equipment

The weather can be very changeable over the day, and is likely to be different on the tops to in the valley. Please expect the worst weather and run or walk with **full FRA kit – i.e. waterproof coat AND trousers, hat** (a buff is fine), **gloves, compass, whistle, map and emergency food**. We also strongly recommend a spare layer. Don't think about what you need when moving, think about what you need to keep you safe should you be injured and need to stop.

We reserve the right to refuse entry to any competitors that we don't believe are adequately equipped and we will be doing spot kit checks. Should finishers be inappropriately equipped they may be disqualified.

Please DO NOT consider running the course in road shoes, the ground is likely to be wet and slippery underfoot and it would be dangerous to attempt to do so. Although some parts are liable to be very muddy, there are short sections of road or hard packed trail, so whether you go for trail or fell shoes would be personal preference.

There is no indoor shelter for competitors before and after the race, so please bring sufficient warm clothing for these times.

Kit Storage

There will be space for kit storage in the same tent where you can buy buffs and tshirts after the race. Any kit will be left at your own risk and the Gallop organisers will have no liability towards any loss.

Travel and Parking

Parking is limited in the village and is mostly road side – we will have marshals out and about to direct you to parking areas. DO NOT park in The Maynard hotel car park as you will get a £60 fine.

When planning your arrival at the registration area at the Pavilion note that **IT MAY TAKE YOU 15-20 MINUTES TO WALK THERE FROM WHERE YOU PARK.** Please take this into consideration and arrive earlier.

Parking areas are:

- Sir William Hotel car park (usually fills first), Sir William Hill Road
- Padley Road and Maynard Road
- Station Road approach – however this is pay and display (£2 for the whole day, use the RingGO app to pay)
- Roadside in the village – most spaces are found if driving in Calver direction on left hand side of the road

Please can you ensure that you park respectfully, and do not break the Highway Code, including:

You must not stop or park on a road marked with double white lines, even when a broken white line is on your side of the road.

If arriving by train the station is a 15-20 minute walk from the Pavilion (downhill on the way...).

Event Start

The start is from the field (go over the bridge then turn right). Please stick to the gravel footpath beyond the first stream crossing as this field is owned by the Butterfly House who have invested time and money in reducing the path erosion as part of their efforts to encourage biodiversity.

Food and allergies

There will be water and sweets at the White Rake checkpoint and a feed station with hot drinks, squash, cake and more at the Hassop checkpoint. There will be water at Baslow with sweets, biscuits and fruit. As the cakes are all provided by volunteers, we cannot guarantee they will be allergen free (although we have some gluten free cake which will be kept separately and baked by someone who has celiac in a safe kitchen, so please ask for this if zero traces of gluten is

important to you). We also aim to have vegan options available. We recommend you carry a supply of food to keep you going and in case of an emergency.

Hot soup and drinks will be available on your return to the pavilion.

We are making efforts to be more sustainable so we are asking again for you to **please bring your own mugs if you want squash/tea/coffee/soup**.

The Route

There is a map, detailed route description and downloadable GPX file on the [website](#). The course remains the same as last year. Please remember that the course is a fixed route – largely due to environmental reasons and landowner permissions - and anyone found to be taking short cuts between checkpoints will be disqualified.

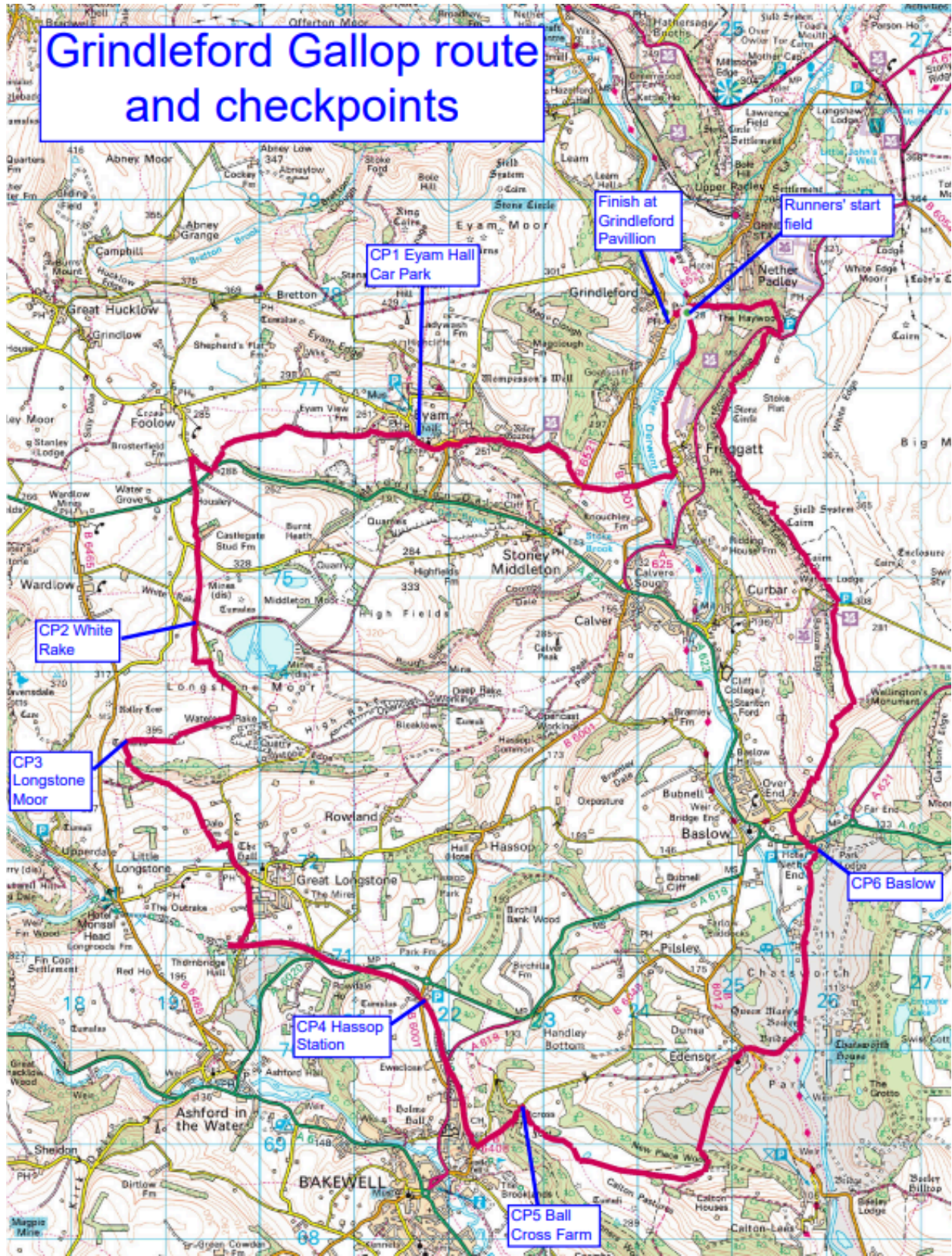
The route is **partially marked** (with A4 signs and black arrows) and competitors should ensure that they have a map and compass. There are no signs through the Chatsworth Estate at the request of the owners. There are 6 checkpoints at which you will need to dib in with your dibber. This is not a fell race run under FRA rules so there is no ban on using navigational aids on your watch/phone. This race is not designed to be a navigational challenge and we do not wish to be out searching for people who have missed a turning so if you haven't reced the route and you want the security of knowing you are on track, feel free to use the assistance of your watch/phone.

There are a number of road crossings so please take care. The B6001 next to Stoke Hall will be marshalled and traffic stopped for short periods so please follow the instructions from the marshals.

The course crosses through a golf course. There is a bell to ring before you enter to alert any golfers on the course, please make sure you ring it. It was reported to us previously by concerned golfers that many runners didn't ring the bell!

Please remember that **no dogs** are permitted on the course.

Grindleford Gallop route and checkpoints



Leave No Trace

Please be considerate of the environment whilst out in the beautiful Peak District and try to minimise your impact wherever possible. Failure to do so may jeopardise the future of the event, and other similar events.

Please stick to the paths wherever possible and try to avoid widening them – if the choice is a muddy path or running to the side of it to avoid getting muddy, please go for the muddy option! There are a number of walls with stiles around the route that can suffer from the cold weather and may lose some of their stability. Take care when using any of these. Please DO NOT climb over walls, it can be frustrating having to wait but that's no excuse for damaging a dry stone wall, we had reports of this happening previously and it could prevent landowners allowing us access in future.

Please ensure that you are careful and do not drop rubbish - especially gel wrappers and cling film from the cakes – take it all home with you or drop it off at a manned checkpoint.

Dropping out

If you have to drop out, please get to the next checkpoint and return your dibber to a marshal. If you just decide to go home and we cannot contact you, our working assumption will have to be that you are lost / injured off route and we will need to implement an escalation process.

First aid and emergencies

If you need first aid whilst at the start/finish area by the pavilion please ask at registration/the finish line where to go.

If you have an emergency on the course and clearly need the emergency services, please call 999. Remember if you are away from a road and therefore need Mountain Rescue call 999 and ask to speak to the Police who will then contact Mountain Rescue. The ability to give a 6-figure grid reference will help the emergency services to find you, and OS Locate is an excellent free app that makes this easier. Once you have contacted the emergency services, if you are able to, please inform the organiser on the number below.

If you have a minor injury that doesn't require the emergency services but means you are unable to carry on, please let the volunteers know at your next checkpoint, or call the organiser on the number below, and we'll endeavour to arrange a lift back to Grindleford for you.

Contacting the organiser on the day

If you need to contact the race organiser on the day please call:
Helen 07801 599839

Results and prize ceremony

The results will be displayed after the race online. We will have a live feed of race positions on a monitor at the pavilion, and an old school board and pen to display the winners.

The prize ceremony will be held at about 1.45pm with prizes from our race sponsors Rab and Outside. The Gallop is part of the Rab Winter Race Series
<https://www.outside.co.uk/outside-winter-race-series>

We have first prizes for male and female categories.

- Open
- V40

- V50
- V60
- V70

Pre-event changes

If you need to switch pace you can edit your entry on SIEntries.

If you can't join us, you don't need to email to let us know, just log in to SIEntries, click on 'my entries/memberships' and click 'cancel' under Grindleford Gallop.

Thank yous

Some of our volunteers put in long shifts on the day and we couldn't do it without the support from the village and school community, a massive thank you to all of them. Unless they're busy on a call out, you may see Edale Mountain Rescue here on the day. They provide that safety net that we all hope we won't need but are very glad it exists, please consider leaving them a donation.

Thank you to the following companies for their support of the Grindleford Gallop:

- **Outside** - this is outdoor equipment and clothing shop just 5 mins down the road in Hathersage <https://www.outside.co.uk/>
- **Hassop Station Café** – Thank you to the Hassop Station Café for letting us set up a checkpoint there <https://www.hassopstation.co.uk/café/>

We look forward to seeing you on the 14th March.

Thank you for entering the event and supporting our fantastic primary school!

Grindleford Gallop Team