March 16, 2024



BLACKWATER GRAVEL COUNTRY 2024 RIDE GUIDE



















porc.org







SCRATCH ANKLE GRAVEL *RIDE GUIDE 2024*

Contact us: porc@porc.org

REGISTRATION

https://www.bikereg.com/scratch-ankle

DOWNLOAD ROUTE TO YOUR DEVICE

https://ridewithgps.com/collections/2290446

EARLY PACKET PICKUP

- Date: Friday, March 15, 2024
- Location: Beardless Brewhaus, 5139 Elmira St, Milton, FL 32570
- Time: 4:30pm 7:00pm (Stay for a beer)

DAY OF PACKET PICKUP

Please arrive **1 hour before your start time**. Everyone will need to check-in and sign a waiver if we don't have one on file (unless you did online or at the early packet pick-up). You will need to pick-up your number plate (20, 60 & 100) and t-shirt if ordered before the deadline.

START TIMES (* estimated time)

- 7:00am: 200-Mile
- 7:30am: 100-Mile
- 9:00am: 60-Mile
- 10:00am: 20-Mile
- 12:00pm 5:00pm: Food services & Social*
- 2:00pm: Podium/Awards*

COST

- \$60 Fun Ride
- \$45 XL Self-Supported Ride (Trackleader registration required: \$22 for privately owned device or \$70 for SPOT Trace rental, batteries included)
- \$90 60 and 100-mile races Proceeds after costs will go to the Pensacola Off-Road Cyclists and Gulf Coast Youth Mountain Bike Association.

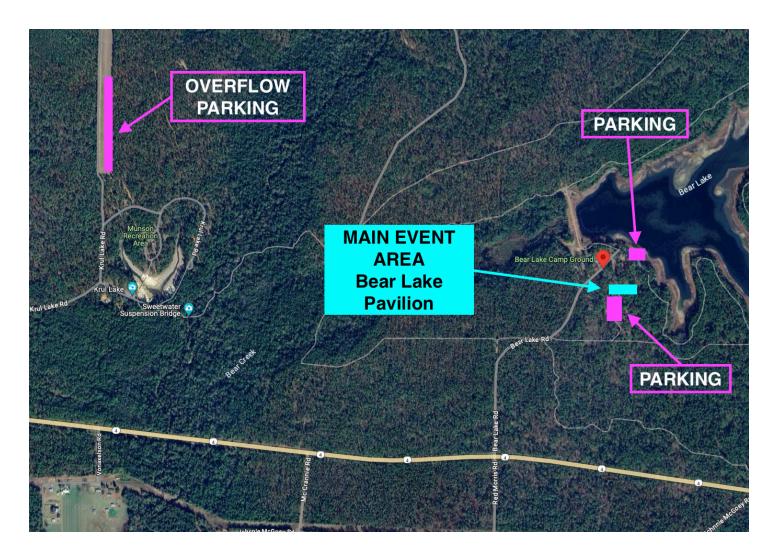
START LOCATION

Bear Lake Rd, Milton, FL 32570

PARKING

Bear Lake: Pavilion lot, parking along the main road off to the side, and overflow parking at Krul Lake on the airfield. Look for volunteers and see parking map included on the following page.





PARKING

Parking options include the Bear Lake Campground pavilion lot, parking near the boat ramp, parking along Bear Lake Rd (PLEASE PARK OFF THE ROAD), and overflow parking at Krul Lake along the grass airfield. Note that for overflow parking at Krul Lake, you will need to return to the start/finish area on your own.

Upon arrival, please seek out our volunteers who will guide you to your designated parking spot.

Please note that your event registration includes day use fees in the park.

Ensure you arrive with sufficient time to park and complete registration. While we anticipate minimal queues for parking or registration due to staggered start times, please be prepared for any unforeseen delays.

SAFETY & RIDER NOTES

HELMETS REQUIRED: Helmets are mandatory at all times while riding in the event.

WAIVERS: Digital waivers are signed during registration, which will suffice for participation. Everyone must check-in, and if a waiver isn't on file, signing one is required (unless completed online or at early packet pick-up).

RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK: Riders understand and accept the inherent risks of cycling on public roads. Participants are ultimately responsible for their personal safety.

SAFETY FIRST: Safety is paramount. Participants must adhere to all traffic laws, yield to pedestrians, and ride defensively.

ROUTE & NAVIGATION: Courses are unmarked, requiring participants to use GPS devices or printed cue sheets, which are mandatory. Routes must be pre-downloaded due to limited cell service. Strict adherence to designated routes is necessary to avoid disqualification. Riders should study routes in advance to familiarize themselves with road names, support stops, and key intersections.

RIDER CONDUCT: Respect all fellow participants, volunteers, officials, and spectators. No unsafe riding behavior will be tolerated. Any such behavior may lead to disqualification.

START/FINSIH: Exercise caution on Hwy 4 from Bear Lake to Krul Lake. Neutral lead-outs will be provided for the 60 and 100-mile races. Please follow and obey their directions. The finish line will be approximately 200-300 yards from where the route files end and will be clearly marked.

COURSE CONDITIONS: Be prepared for various terrain conditions, including gravel, sand, dirt, mud, and water crossings. Ride cautiously in these conditions. Be mindful of wildlife and natural surroundings. Leave no trace behind; preserve the environment.

PASSING ETIQUETTE: When overtaking, clearly communicate and pass on the left, giving audible warnings when necessary. Yield to faster riders when possible and safe to do so.

EVENT TIMING (60/100 MILE ONLY): Timing and scoring will be based on the official race start and finish times. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each category listed on the registration page, based on overall time. Winners will be the first three riders back per registered category.

AID STATIONS (60/100 MILE ONLY): Aid stations will be available along the route. Respect the environment and dispose of waste appropriately.

SAG SUPPORT: Aid stations will be available on the 60 and 100-mile routes. Support vehicles will roam the courses later in the day. In case of non-repairable mechanical issues, contact **Arc 850-889-3767, Yves Cote 850-291-8687, or Brett Liles 850-232-5043**. Mechanical assistance should be the last resort.

CONT... SAFETY & RIDER NOTES

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: In case of emergencies or accidents, seek immediate medical assistance and notify event officials.

EVENT CONDUCT: Any behavior that brings disrepute to the event, its organizers, or sponsors may result in disqualification.

WEATHER CONSIDERATION: Be prepared for variable weather conditions. This event will proceed rain or shine, barring any conditions that pose significant risks to participants

CELL SERVICE: Cell service on the courses will be very limited. Please be aware of this limitation. At the Start/Finish location, AT&T and T-Mobile services have been observed.



20 MILE - FUN RIDE

1. Download this route to your GPS device.

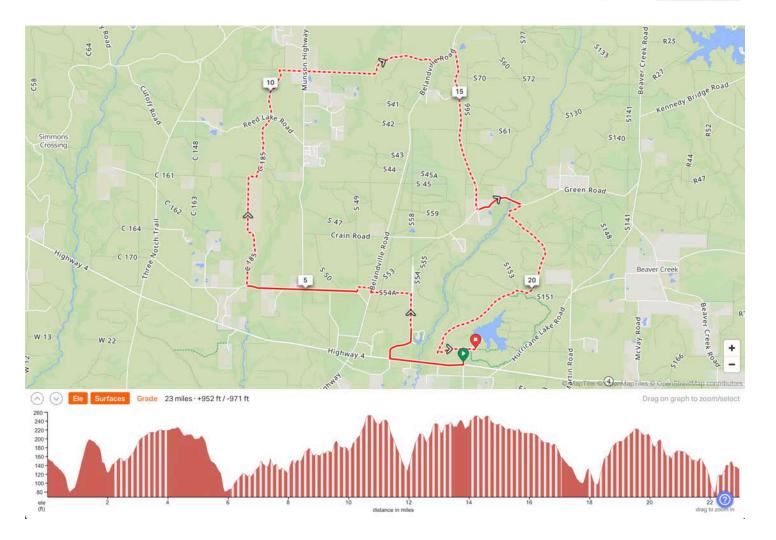
https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45382014

- 2. Courses will NOT be marked.
- 3. This is a RIDE not a race. Please connect with other riders and work together to navigate and complete the route.
- 4. Volunteers will be helping lead and sweep the ride.
- 5. There are no aid stations along the route. Make sure to bring enough food and water for about 2.5hr ride.
- 6. Remember this is an open course and while the traffic is very limited, you are responsible for obeying all traffic laws.

ScratchAnkle-SM20-2024

Santa Rosa County, FL 22.9 mi 943 ft 🕒

January 17



60 MILE - RACE

1. Download this route to your GPS device.

https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45382500

- 2. Course will NOT be marked.
- 3. Please connect with other riders and work together to navigate and complete the route.
- 4. Remember this is an open course and while the traffic is very limited, you are responsible for obeying all traffic laws.
- 5. There is **one aid station** along the route located approximatley at **mile 35**. We will have Tailwind Nutrition, Water, and a few snacks to help fuel you to the finish.

Nat

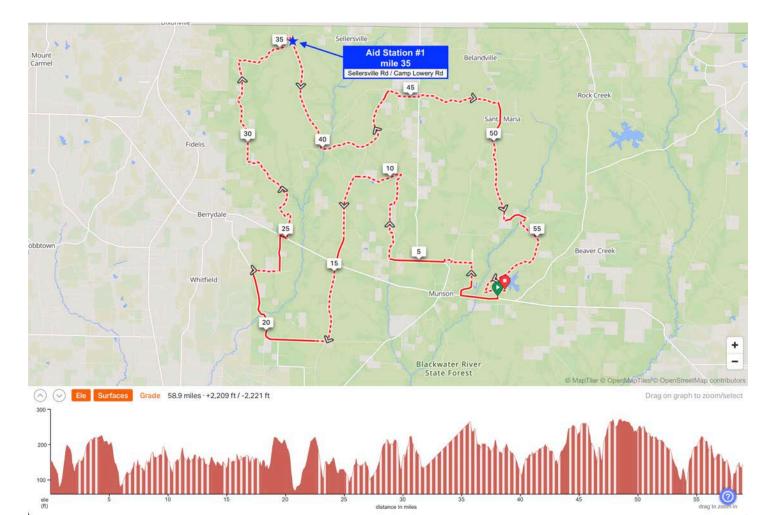
Blackwater Rive

6. The last 200 yds to the finish line will be taped and marked to guide you.

ScratchAnkle-MD60-2024

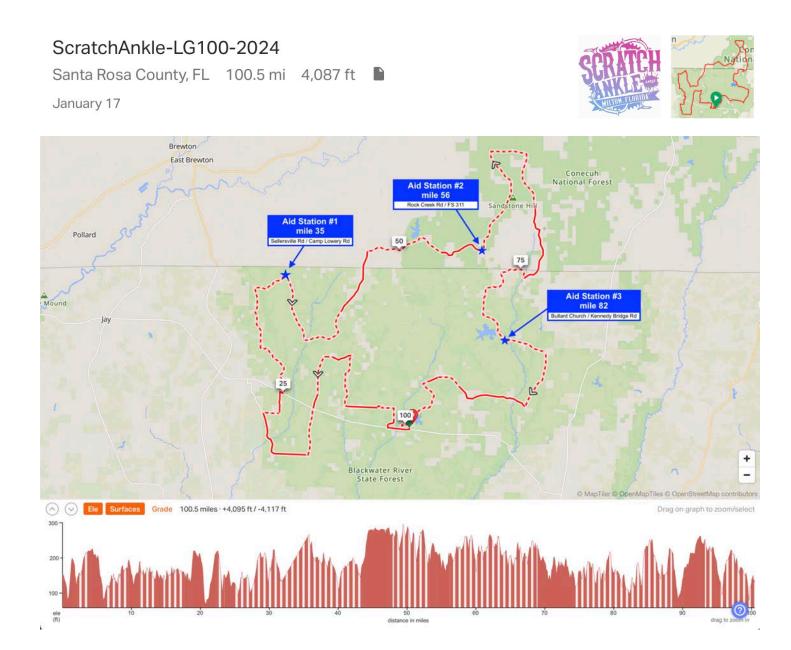
Santa Rosa County, FL 58.9 mi 2,252 ft

January 17



100 MILE - RACE

- 1. Download this route to your GPS device. https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45383175
- 2. Courses will NOT be marked.
- There are three aid stations along the route located at approximatley miles 35 / 56 / 82. We will have Tailwind Nutrition, water, and a few snacks to help fuel you to the finish.
- 4. Remember this is an open course and while the traffic is very limited, you are responsible for obeying all traffic laws.
- 5. The last 200 yds to the finish line will be taped and marked to guide you.
- 6. Have Fun!



XL - SELF-SUPPORTED RIDE

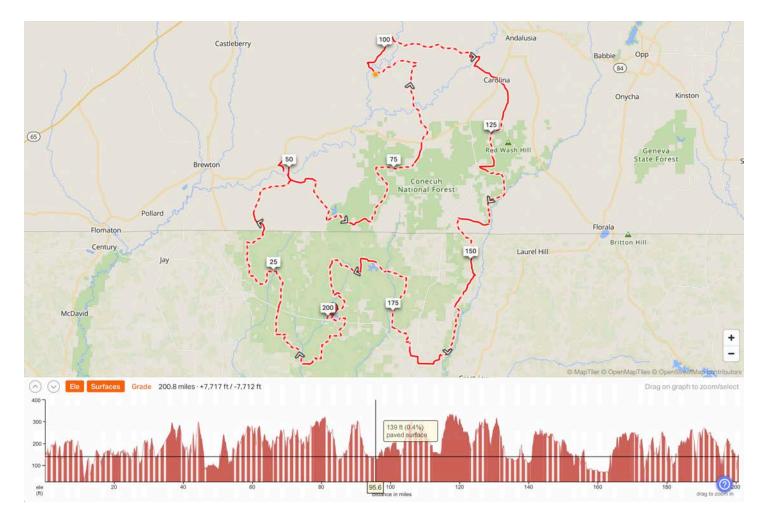
- 1. Download this route to your GPS device: https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45407370
- 2. This is a completely self-supported ride. You must start and finish under your own power, without any outside assistance.
- 3. Share the Scratch Ankle XL 2024 Live Tracker with friends & family:
- http://trackleaders.com/scratchankle24
- 4. Please note, the course includes country highways and county roads. Traffic is limited, but exercise caution. Obey all traffic laws. The north section of the course is very remote.
- 5. Suggested resupply points:
 - a. mile 48 Maxwell Quick Mart gas station 6AM 10PM
 - b. mile 95 Boggs and Boulders is 1/2 mile off route, cafe 8AM 8PM
 - c. mile 117 Carolina MAXX FOODMART gas station 6AM 9PM
 - d. mile 132 Open Pond Recreation Area
 - e. mile 144 Wing gas station is 0.8 mile off route 6AM 8PM
 - f. mile 168 Baker has a dollar general closes 10PM, a grocery store, and a few other places off route.

ScratchAnkle-XL200-2024

Santa Rosa County, FL 200.7 mi 7,709 ft

January 21





THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!



PORC.ORG/SCRATCH-ANKLE