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WATERFRONT
HALF MARATHON

19 APRIL 2026

2026 EVENT GUIDE

Welcome to the 2026 ASICS Waterfront Half Marathon

Welcome to the 2026 ASICS Waterfront Half Marathon - the grand finale of the Auckland Half Marathon Series, and a morning built for big goals, fast times, and unforgettable moments. From the shores of St Heliers to the heart of Downtown Auckland and back again, this event brings together thousands of runners on fully closed roads for one of the most iconic running experiences in New Zealand.

This year's event is all about taking things up another level. With a new St Heliers venue, a stunning point-to-point style journey into the city, and a course designed to be flat, fast, and seriously memorable, the 2026 edition is ready to deliver everything from first-finish-line feelings to personal best performances. Along the way you'll run Auckland's famous waterfront, pass through the Eastern Bays, hit the bright energy of the downtown loop around The Cloud, the Ferry Building and Te Komititanga, and then drive yourself home to the finish line back in St Heliers.

Whether you're here for the Half Marathon, 10K, 5K or Kids' Dash, you're part of something special. This is a day built on atmosphere, energy and achievement, with live timing, entertainment on course, big event production, and a finisher medal waiting for every athlete who gets the job done.

We're proud to welcome you to the start line of New Zealand's premier half marathon. Race hard, soak it all in, and enjoy every step of your 2026 ASICS Waterfront Half journey.

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More energy to move body and mind

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Race Weekend **Schedule**

Saturday

10-11am	ASICS Shakeout run
1-4pm	Race number collection

Sunday

5:30am	21km race number collection
5:45am	Final bus leaves Vic. Park
7:00am	All race number collection
7:00am	**21km Half Marathon Start**
7:05am	21km competitive walk
8:00am	**10km Classic Run Start**
8:05am	10km competitive Walk
9:00am	**5km Fun run & Walk Start**
10:00am	**2km Kids' Dash Start**
10:20am	Spot prize mats open
10:30am	Awards ceremony
11:15am	**Event close (approx.)**

Race Numbers & **Merchandise**

Race Bib Collection

Every athlete in the Waterfront Half Marathon must wear their official race bib on the front of their top.

If you entered with an AHMS Series Pass, you already have your race bib and are good to go.

If not, you'll need to collect your race bib in person from Vellenoweth Green, St Heliers on race weekend.

Collection times:

Saturday, April 18
1:00pm – 4:00pm

Sunday, April 19 (Race Day)
From 5:30am — 21km athletes only
From 7:00am — 10km, 5km and 2km athletes

If you registered during race week, head to the Late Pickup line. Otherwise, line up according to your surname.

Singlet Collection

All single race 21km & 10km entrants can collect a free 2026 Waterfront Half Marathon singlet.

If you selected one, your singlet size will be printed on your race bib. Head to the yellow Singlet Collection tents, show your bib, and your singlet will be handed over.

Please note: no size swaps.

If you want to wear your singlet on race day, **make sure you register and collect it on Saturday.**

Late Entries

The 2026 ASICS Waterfront Half Marathon **is a complete sell-out event**, and no on-the-day entries will be available.

If you haven't already entered, please do not come to the venue expecting entry to be available.

Merchandise Collection

If you ordered merchandise, it can be collected from the orange Merch tent at the race venue:

Saturday: 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Race Day: from 7:30am

Just show your race number at the tent.

Your Race Bib

You must not take part in the event unless you are wearing an official race bib registered in your name.

You must not let anyone else use your race number unless it has been officially transferred to them through the my.runningevents portal.

Anyone found breaching this rule may be disqualified and could face a lifetime ban from our events.

Scan to see your results

Raspberry & Lime
Sparkling Water
visra
No Sugar 330mL
Raspberry & Lime
Sparkling Water
visra
No Sugar 330mL
Raspberry & Lime
Sparkling Water
visra

Getting ready **to race**

Toilets

Toilet locations are marked on the venue map later in this Race Guide.

We strongly encourage all participants - especially those in the Half Marathon - to use a toilet before arriving at the venue where possible.

Race Number

Your official race number, with timing tag attached to the back, must be worn on the front of your top throughout the event.

Do not fold or crumple the electronic tag.

Keep your bib after you finish if you want to be included in the spot prize draw.

Competitive Walk

To be included in the 21km or 10km Competitive Walk results, athletes must be entered in the CW category, start on the designated walk start gun, and walk at all times while completing the course.

Walkers will begin approximately 3–5 minutes after runners, so listen carefully for announcements.

Gear Drop & Key Check

A self-service Gear Drop area will be located behind the Race Pack Pickup tents.

Show your race number to enter and exit via the red Gear Drop tents, then place your bag in one of the numbered aisles.

If you only have keys to leave, a Key Drop container will be available at the entrance.

To speed things up, please arrive with your bag or keys already labelled with your race number.

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Half Marathon
Course Detail

The Half Marathon course at the Waterfront Half Marathon breaks into four key sections: The Beaches, The Causeway, the Downtown Loop, and on the return leg, the Ngapipi Boatsheds out-and-back.

Important: This course has been officially measured and is World Athletics / AIMS Certified as accurate.

KM 0 / The Start
The race begins on Tamaki Drive in central St Heliers, near Goldie St and just metres from the main event venue and finish line. With the sun rising over the Waitematā Harbour and Rangitoto behind you, it's a spectacular place to start. Make sure you know your start zone and assembly time before race morning.

KM 0–5 / The Beaches
A short opening section takes you around the headland and into Kohimarama, where the first band appears opposite the Kohimarama Yacht Club and the 1km arch arrives quickly. There is a public toilet just past 1km.

Approaching 2km, the turn around Pipimea Head opens up views of Mission Bay and Bastion Point. You'll pass the Mission Bay shops, cafés and famous fountain — the old finish line from 2018–2025. Just beyond it is the first aid station and another public toilet.

From there, the course wraps around Bastion Point, with more live music near Tāmaki Yacht Club, before opening up your first clear look at downtown Auckland. You'll head past Okahu Bay Wharf and Kelly Tarlton's, then through Okahu Bay where another aid station and toilet sit mid-bay. At 5km, opposite Ferg's Kayaks, you are one quarter of the way done.

KM 5–7.5 / The Causeway
Leaving Okahu Bay, Tāmaki Drive opens out. You'll cross the Ngapipi overbridge — short and gentle rather than daunting — and move onto the causeway between Hobson Bay and the Waitematā Harbour.

At 6km, boats line one side while harbour views stretch out on the other. Near the Parnell overbridge you'll find another aid station and the 7km arch. Up ahead, the road rises slightly over the rail overpass into the city, rewarded with one of the best skyline views on the course.

KM 8–12 / Downtown Loop
Passing under the 8km arch, you head into the city with the Ports of Auckland on your right and Spark Arena on your left. By 9km, you're fully city-bound on Quay Street.

Just before the Ferry Building, the course turns through the red gates onto Queens Wharf. You'll run between The Cloud and Shed 10 to the end of the wharf before looping back out to Quay Street. From there, the route brushes the Ferry Building again, heads through Te Komititanga, then winds through Galway Street, Takutai Square, Tyler Street and Commerce Street before returning to Quay Street and beginning the run back east.

KM 11–14.3 / Heading Back East
You'll retrace your steps past Spark Arena, over the Parnell overpass, through Mechanics Bay, and back across the causeway toward the Ngapipi bridge.

KM 14.3–15.3 / Ngapipi Boatsheds
After the bridge, the course turns into Ngapipi Road for a flat, fast 1km out-and-back along the edge of Whakataka-taka Bay. Early in the section, you'll pass the iconic Ngapipi Boatsheds — heritage-protected waterfront buildings that have become some of Auckland's most exclusive addresses.

The turnaround sits outside number 10. On the way back, you'll pass under the 15km arch and timing point before turning right onto Tāmaki Drive for the final stretch to St Heliers.

KM 15.3–21 / The Run Home
From there, it's a straight retrace through Okahu Bay, Mission Bay, Kohimarama and back into St Heliers.

KM 21.1 / The Finish
After the final live entertainment point at the eastern end of Kohimarama, you'll round the corner into St Heliers and hear the finish line ahead. Stay focused as you leave the road and transition onto the grass reserve. The finish chute is lined with spectators, with Rangitoto perfectly framed behind for a memorable finish-line photo.

Get your hands in the air — you made it.

HALF MARATHON
COURSE MAP
FERRY BUILDING
THE CLOUD
SPARK ARENA
MECHANICS BAY
PARNELL BATHS
LILLIPUTT
NGAPIPI BOAT SHEDS
OKAHU BAY
KELLY TARLTONS
BASTION POINT
MB FOUNTAIN
MISSION BAY
KOHIMARAMA
ST HELIERS
START
FINISH
DOWNTOWN AUCKLAND LOOP
PRINCES WHARF
THE CLOUD
HYDE ST
QUEENS WHARF
CAPTAIN COOK WHARF
QUAY STREET
FERRY BLD
TEAM PURE
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WATERFRONT
HALF MARATHON

10K CLASSIC
COURSE MAP
FERG'S KAYAKS
OKAHU BAY
KELLY TARLTONS
BASTION POINT
MB FOUNTAIN
MISSION BAY
KOHIMARA
ST HELIERS
START
FINISH
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HALF MARATHON

5K FUN RUN & WALK

COURSE MAP

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WATERFRONT
HALF MARATHON

2K KIDS' DASH

COURSE MAP

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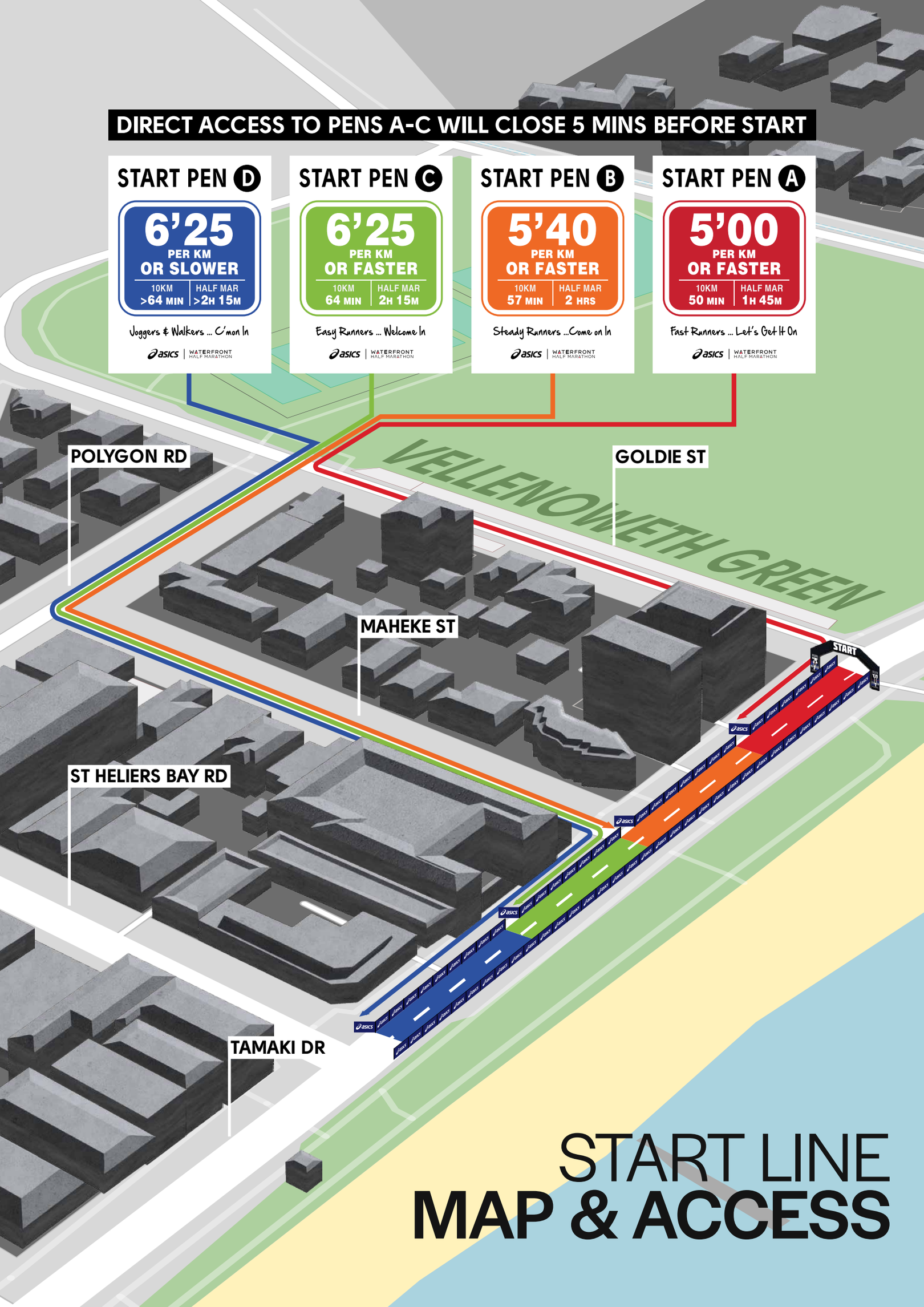
WATERFRONT
HALF MARATHON


DIRECT ACCESS TO PENS A-C WILL CLOSE 5 MINS BEFORE START
START PEN D
6'25
PER KM
OR SLOWER
10KM
>64 MIN
HALF MAR
>2H 15M
Joggers & Walkers ... C'mon In
asics | WATERFRONT HALF MARATHON
START PEN C
6'25
PER KM
OR FASTER
10KM
64 MIN
HALF MAR
2H 15M
Easy Runners ... Welcome In
asics | WATERFRONT HALF MARATHON
START PEN B
5'40
PER KM
OR FASTER
10KM
57 MIN
HALF MAR
2 HRS
Steady Runners ...Come on In
asics | WATERFRONT HALF MARATHON
START PEN A
5'00
PER KM
OR FASTER
10KM
50 MIN
HALF MAR
1H 45M
Fast Runners ... Let's Get It On
asics | WATERFRONT HALF MARATHON
POLYGON RD
GOLDIE ST
VELLENOWETH GREEN
MAHEKE ST
START
ST HELIERS BAY RD
TAMAKI DR
START LINE
MAP & ACCESS

The 2026 ASICS Waterfront Half Marathon **Finisher Medal**

You're finished, **now what?**

Finisher Medal

The only fitting reward after your extraordinary effort is one of our beautiful Waterfront Half Marathon finisher medals. Collect from the table at the end of the finish chute.

Grand Slam Medal

If you qualified for the Grand Slam, your award can be collected from the yellow tent next to MERCH.

Please make sure you check your name on the Grand Slam Qualifiers list on the AHMS website before race day.

No list = no award.

Refuelling

As you leave the finish chute, you'll receive a can of Vista drink and a banana.

Water will also be available at the tent just outside the chute.

Reward Yourself

Got time before the awards? Have a wander through vendor village and check out brands including ASICS, Garmin, Goodr, Feetures, Ultimate Direction, Lorna Jane and The Running Store.

Awards & Spot Prizes

The Awards Ceremony starts at 10:30am sharp on the main stage.

Come along to celebrate some of the standout performances of the day, and you could also take home a share of over $5,000 in spot prizes.

To be eligible for spot prizes, you must be present in person and register on the spot prize mats.

The awards ceremony will run for approximately 45 minutes.

DISPLAY BRIGHTNESS DOES NOT REFLECT ACTUAL USER EXPERIENCE

SEE YOU ON THE ROAD.