

Ferris 50 Endurance Run

Runner Information Guide





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Welcome to the Ferris 50 Endurance Run. We're thrilled to have you join us and want to thank you for being part of this incredible event. This Runner's Information Guide is designed to give you everything you need to have a smooth, safe, and enjoyable race experience. Inside, you'll find important details about the course, aid stations, safety guidelines, logistics, and more. Please take a few minutes to read this information carefully so you're fully prepared for race day.

If you have any questions along the way, don't hesitate to reach out to the Race Directors or anyone at Visit Carson Valley — we're here to help. We can't wait to see you out on the course — let's make it a great race!

Event Overview

- **Date:** Saturday, November 8, 2025
- **Distances:** 50M • 50k • 15k



- **Travel Nevada Starting Line:**
 - The Starting Line, proudly sponsored by Travel Nevada through their Event Sponsorship Grant Program, sets the stage for an unforgettable race day. Located at the Douglas County Fairgrounds Arena (920 Dump Road, Gardnerville, Nevada), this iconic spot will host the start of all race distances, sending runners off on their Ferris 50 adventure.



- **Carson Valley Health Finish Line:**
 - The Finish Line, sponsored by Carson Valley Health, marks the grand conclusion of your Ferris 50 journey. Located at TJ's Corral at Carson Valley Inn (1627 US Highway 395 N., Minden, Nevada), this vibrant finish area will welcome runners as they complete their race, setting the stage for a well-deserved celebration at the Finish Line Festival.



Race Operations

- **Race Directors**
 - Marc Walling – (775) 450-2646 or walling.marc@gmail.com
 - Kelly Walling – (775) 781-7503 or kwinter1980@gmail.com
- **Visit Carson Valley Contacts**
 - Keith Lewis – (775) 443-5451 (cell) or keith@visitcarsonvalley.org
 - Josh Rudelbach – (775) 691-3137 or josh@visitcarsonvalley.org
 - Michelle Valdovinos – (510) 396-4295 or michelle@visitcarsonvalley.org
- **Emergency Contact**
 - The Ferris 50 Endurance Run provides course patrols and volunteer support; however, in the event of a life-threatening emergency, participants and crews must call 9-1-1 first. Contact staff only after emergency services have been notified.

Schedule & Key Times

- **Packet Pickup**
 - Date: Friday, November 7, 2025
 - Time: 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 - Location – TJ's Corral at Carson Valley Inn
 - If runners are not able to pick up their packet during the time-frame outlined, contact the Race Directors to make arrangements to receive a packet.
- **Race Briefing**
 - Date: Friday, November 7, 2025
 - Time: 6:00 PM
 - Location – TJ's Corral at Carson Valley Inn – this is highly recommended for all runners
- **50M & 50k Drop Bag Service**
 - Drop bags for the 50M and 50K will be collected and tagged during packet pickup and the race briefing. Runners may also drop bags at TJ's Corral on race morning prior to shuttle departure. Please bring the necessary supplies to tag your bag (e.g., athletic tape, Sharpie, etc.), as these will not be provided.
- **Race Day Start Times**
 - 50M – 6:00 AM
 - 50k – 7:00 AM
 - 15k – 10:00 AM
- **Race Cutoffs**
 - Cutoff Times
 - 50M – The race begins at 6:00 AM. There are no cutoffs at the 9-mile, 15-mile, or 22-mile marks. Cutoff times are as follows: 1:30 PM at the 29-mile mark (Aid Station 4), 3:30 PM at the 35-mile mark (Aid Station 5), 5:30 PM at the 41-mile mark (Aid Station 6), and 7:00 PM at the 46-mile mark (Aid Station 7). All runners must finish by 9:00 PM.



- 50K – The race begins at 7:00 AM. There are no cutoffs at the 9-mile or 15-mile marks. The recommended cutoff at the 22-mile mark (Aid Station 3) is 1:00 PM, and runners should depart Aid Station 4 (27 miles) by 2:30 PM. While these times are designed to help participants stay on pace to finish, we understand that every runner's day unfolds differently. We'll maintain some flexibility at all cutoff points, with the final cutoff extended to 4:00 PM if necessary to support as many runners as possible in reaching the Carson Valley Health Finish Line.
- 15K – There are no aid station cutoff times for the 15K race. However, there will be a hard stop at 2:00 PM, by which time all participants must complete the course.
- Cutoff Notes
 - Runners must check out of the aid station by the time cutoff in order to continue.
 - We'll conduct a headlamp check at Aid Station 4 on the 50K course and Aid Station 5 on the 50M course for any runners departing after 3:00 PM. In addition, headlamp checks will be required at Aid Stations 6 and 7 on the 50M course for all runners, regardless of the time, to ensure everyone is properly prepared as they head into the later sections of the race.

Parking & Shuttle Bus

We strongly encourage all runners to park at the Carson Valley Inn and take advantage of the free shuttle bus service to the start line at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. This helps reduce congestion and ensures a smooth race morning for everyone.

If you are not able to utilize the shuttle, limited race parking will be available in the far west parking lot at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Please plan accordingly and allow extra time if you choose this option. The shuttle is for runners only and will not be available after the race.

Shuttles will depart the Carson Valley Inn at the following times:

- 50M: 5:00 AM
- 50k: 6:00 AM
- 15k: 9:00 AM

Make the necessary arrangements to ensure you are on board your designated shuttle and ready for a smooth start to your Ferris 50 adventure.

Festival at the Carson Valley Health Finish Line



Celebrate your achievement at the Finish Line Festival, taking place at TJ's Corral at Carson Valley Inn, located at the Carson Valley Health Finish Line! All finishers of the 50M, 50k, and 15k will be welcomed with music,



food, drinks, vendors, and a vibrant post-race celebration. Fifty-mile finishers will receive the coveted Ferris 50 buckle, while 50k and 15k finishers earn a Ferris 50 medal. Every finisher will also receive a long-sleeve Ferris 50 shirt, plus bagged lunch, and beverage.

The festival will feature the 50M and 50k Awards Ceremony at 5:00 PM. Top three male and female 50M finishers will earn cash prizes (\$500, \$250, \$150), while the 50k podium will receive special merchandise prizes. Don't miss this chance to celebrate your accomplishment with the entire Ferris 50 community.

Course Details

The Ferris 50 features a challenging and scenic mix of dirt, gravel, sand, and pavement, giving runners a true taste of Carson Valley's varied terrain. The race takes place on active OHV and mountain bike trails, which will be patrolled throughout the day to ensure runner safety.

To help you prepare, course maps and elevation profiles are available through the Course Preview Video and online at AllTrails:

- **50M Map** - <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/custom-routes/ferris-50-mile-5c8e076>
- **50k Map** - <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/custom-routes/ferris-50k-6dcb94f>
- **15k Map** - <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/custom-routes/ferris-fifteen-0912d0f>

The courses will be clearly marked to keep you on track. Runners can expect ribbons, arrows, flags, and paint, with extra-dense markings at intersections. Each race distance will have its own color-coded system for easy navigation: **blue** for the 50M, **green** for the 50k, and **red** for the 15k.

While on the course, runners may encounter wildlife — including wild horses, coyotes, and other high-desert animals — as well as off-road vehicles. Please respect their space and continue safely along the trail.

Restroom facilities will be available at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, at Aid Stations 2 and 6, and at TJ's Corral. In the event that a runner must DNF, transportation will be provided back to TJ's Corral.

Carson Valley Health Aid Stations



Carson Valley Health Aid Stations will keep runners well-fueled and supported throughout the course. All 50M and 50k stations will offer water, electrolytes (Skratch Labs), energy chews, and a variety of traditional runner fuels such as cookies, chips, candy, peanut butter & jelly, broth, bananas, noodles, and potatoes. In addition, each station will feature unique items selected by the station hosts, adding a special local touch to the experience.

15k stations will provide water, Gatorade, and energy chews, maintaining the same reliable setup for quick and easy access.



We place a strong emphasis on consistency across all aid stations so runners know exactly what to expect at each stop. Runners with specific dietary needs or preferences are encouraged to pack their own items in drop bags to ensure their nutritional requirements are fully met throughout the race.

Aid Station Information

50M				
Station #	Mileage (Approx.)	GPS Coordinates	Station Host	Nutrition Available
1	9	38.939745,-119.591471	Pine Nut Mountains Trail Association	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie (No Warm Foods/Broths)
2	15	39.031662,-119.668938	Todd & Carola Leigh	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
3	22	39.032889,-119.669794	Knights of Columbus	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
4	29	39.086741,-119.706786	Carson Valley Health	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
5	35	39.042981,-119.695639	Douglas High School JROTC	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie (No Warm Foods/Broths)
6	41	39.031662,-119.668938	Todd & Carola Leigh	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
7	46	38.993717,-119.655014	Carson Valley Trails Association	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie

50k				
Station #	Mileage (Approx.)	GPS Coordinates	Station Host	Nutrition Available
1	9	38.939745,-119.591471	Pine Nut Mountains Trail Association	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
2	15	39.031662,-119.668938	Todd & Carola Leigh	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
3	22	39.031662,-119.668938	Todd & Carola Leigh	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie
4	27	38.993717,-119.655014	Carson Valley Trails Association	Hydration Drinks Salt/Umami, Sweet/High Calorie

15k				
Station #	Mileage (Approx.)	GPS Coordinates	Station Host	Nutrition Available
1	3	38.915093,-119.696455	Suicide Prevention	Water, Gatorade, Energy Chews
2	5	38.936700,-119.700620	DC Parks & Recreation	Water, Gatorade, Energy Chews
3	7	38.939608,-119.744329	Minden Rotary	Water, Gatorade, Energy Chews

Aid Stations 2 and 6 on the 50M course, and Aid Stations 2 and 3 on the 50k course, are located at the same GPS coordinates: 39.031662, -119.668938. Drop bags will be available at this shared location. Crews are welcome here as well, though we kindly ask that each runner is supported by only one vehicle to help manage congestion. Please note that the final approximately one mile of the approach to Station 2 follows a shared OHV road that will also be used by runners. All crews traveling to this station should drive with extreme caution and remain alert for runners on the roadway.

Proudly sponsored by Carson Valley Health, these aid stations are staffed by local organizations, service groups, and dedicated volunteers who make the race experience possible.



Safety & Rules

Your safety is our highest priority, and the following rules are in place to ensure that every runner has a safe, fair, and enjoyable experience. It is essential that all participants adhere to these guidelines. Failure to do so may result in disqualification, but more importantly, ignoring these rules could put you or others at risk.

Pacers are not permitted on the course unless runners receive prior permission from the Race Directors before race day. Trekking poles are allowed and may be a helpful tool on the more challenging terrain.

Crew access is limited to the aid stations at Mile 13 (Aid Station 2) and Mile 39 (Aid Station 6), and each runner's crew is restricted to one vehicle at these locations to reduce congestion, disturbance of public land, and to ensure safety for all.

Drop bags will be available to 50M and 50k runners and will be collected and tagged during packet pickup and the race briefing. Runners may also drop bags at TJ's Corral on race morning prior to shuttle departure. Please remember to bring your own supplies to clearly tag and label your bags so they can be properly identified and returned to the Carson Valley Health Finish Line at the appropriate time.

Headlamps are required for all 50M runners after 4:00 p.m. Headlamp checks will be conducted at Miles 35 (Aid Station 5) and 41 (Aid Station 6) and 46 (Aid Station 7). We also recommend that both 50M and 50k runners start with a headlamp if beginning before sunrise.

For added safety, patrols on OHVs and mountain bikes will be on the course to provide support and respond quickly to any needs. Cut-off times will be enforced at aid stations.

Finally, while certain items are not mandatory, we strongly encourage runners to carry a hydration system to stay fueled between aid stations. Weather in Carson Valley can change quickly, especially at higher elevations, so we also recommend carrying a lightweight bivvy or emergency blanket to keep you safe if conditions turn cold or if you find yourself needing extra protection on the course.

Weather & Conditions

Race day is Saturday, November 8, 2025. In Carson Valley, the sun rises at 6:34 a.m. and sets at 4:50 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time), giving a little over ten hours of daylight for the course.

Early November in Carson Valley typically brings cool days and cold nights. Historical data show November daily highs trending from the low 60s°F into the upper 40s°F as the month progresses, with overnight lows near freezing—and it can be colder on clear nights. Be prepared for anything from crisp, sunny conditions to a chance of rain or early-season snow.

Pack layers, carry a reliable hydration system, and consider an emergency bivvy/blanket so you're ready if temperatures drop after sunset or at higher elevations.

Runner Support

Your race experience goes beyond just the miles you run. Along the course, Carson Valley Health Aid Stations will be stocked to keep you fueled and strong from start to finish. For the 50M and 50k races, stations will offer water, electrolytes (Skratch Labs), energy chews, and real food. For the 15k race, stations will provide



water, Gatorade and energy chews, but no food. Our aid station crews are experienced, friendly, and dedicated to helping you through the day—whether you need a quick refill, a boost of energy, or an encouraging word.

Once you cross the Carson Valley Health Finish Line, the celebration doesn't stop. The *Carson Valley Health Finish Line Festival* at TJ's Corral will feature music, food, drinks, vendors, and plenty of space to relax and connect with fellow runners, family, and friends. It's a chance to celebrate your achievement, swap stories from the trail, and enjoy the unique community spirit of the Ferris 50.

Awards & Finisher Swag

Every runner who crosses the Carson Valley Health Finish Line at the Ferris 50 deserves recognition, and we're proud to honor your accomplishment.

50M finishers will receive a long-sleeve Ferris 50 shirt and a finisher's buckle, a timeless symbol of endurance and grit. In addition, podium finishers will earn cash prizes: \$500 for 1st place, \$250 for 2nd place, and \$150 for 3rd place in both male and female divisions.

50k finishers will also take home a long-sleeve Ferris 50 shirt and a finisher's medal, with the top three male and female runners receiving special merchandise prizes.

15k finishers will be awarded a long-sleeve Ferris 50 shirt and a finisher's medal, with the top three finishers recognized during the post-race awards ceremony at TJ's Corral.

Our awards celebration is more than just handing out prizes—it's a chance to applaud every runner's journey, share in the community spirit of the event, and highlight the incredible dedication it takes to train for and complete these distances.

Official Hotel of the Ferris 50



Stay right at the heart of the action! The finish line at TJ's Corral is located on the Carson Valley Inn property, just steps from your room. Enjoy post-race relaxation with an indoor pool shaped like the state of Nevada, hot tubs, and dining options to suit every craving — from casual fare at Katie's Country Kitchen to fine dining at CV Steak. Job's Perk is also on-site to keep your coffee and caffeine needs covered.

The room block has expired, but special rates are still available by calling Carson Valley Inn directly at (800) 321-6983. Be sure to mention that you're participating in the Ferris 50 and reference group code 5145 to receive the discounted rate.

Carson Valley Inn is proud to support the Ferris 50 — learn more about the official hotel at carsonvalleyinn.com.



Social Media

We love to see your race journey – from training miles to the Finish Line Celebration at TJ's Corral. Share your photos, videos, and stories with our community.

- **Official Hashtag:** #Ferris50
- **Tag Us:**
 - Instagram: @VisitCarson Valley
 - Facebook: Visit Carson Valley
 - Twitter/X: @VisitCV
- **Tips for Posting**
 - Snap a photo at the start line, an aid station, or the finish festival
 - Share your medal, buckle, or team/crew photos
 - Tag your crew and fellow runners
 - Use Instagram Stories or Reels to capture the energy of the day.
- **Photo/Video Disclaimer** – by attending and participating in the Ferris 50 Endurance Run, you consent to the use of event photography and videography that may feature you, for promotional purposes.

Photo Service Information

Comet Creations is the official photographer of the Ferris 50 Endurance Run. A photographer will be out on the course and at the Travel Nevada Starting Line and the Carson Valley Health Finish Line capturing race-day moments. All photos will be free to download after the Ferris 50 is complete.

We'll share a gallery link on this page and via post-race email once images are uploaded. Feel free to download and share your favorites with friends and family.

Policies

Please note that all race entries are non-refundable. However, runners who withdraw 30 days or more before race day will receive a 75% credit toward a future Ferris 50 event. This process must be completed through UltraSignup.

In the event of a cancellation due to force majeure (such as extreme weather, fire, or other unforeseen circumstances), no refunds or credits will be issued.

The race route is subject to final approvals and may change if required for safety or permitting reasons. Any adjustments will be communicated as early as possible.

For those registering late, please keep in mind that you must sign up by October 20, 2025, to be guaranteed a race t-shirt. There will be no race-day registration, and online registration will close on November 5, 2025.

We appreciate your understanding of these policies, which allow us to create a safe, well-organized, and memorable event. Thank you for being part of the Ferris 50 community—we can't wait to see you at the start line!



About the Race Directors

Race Directors **Kelly and Marc Walling** are competitive OCR athletes and avid endurance runners, favoring 50k and 50M distances sprinkled with obstacles when possible. Among their favorite races to date are the Orcas 100, LOVIT 100, Spartan Killington Ultra, Spartan Tahoe Ultra, and America's Toughest Mudder. Kelly and Marc have achieved podium status for distances spanning 5k to 50M, but they often participate in races as non-competitors, finding pure joy in the spirit and camaraderie of events that bring all versions of runners together to push themselves to accomplish their personal goals and find their "why" along the way. Kelly and Marc love to be ready at any moment for someone to ask, "Hey, wanna run 50 miles with me next weekend?" and are often found pacing endurance runners for Tahoe 200 and Moab 240.

Acknowledgements

Sponsors

The Ferris 50 Endurance Run would not be possible without the generous financial and in-kind support of our sponsors. Their contributions make everything possible—from fully stocked aid stations and on-course safety patrols to runner swag, post-race festivities, and the overall experience of the event.

At the Visionary Level, our highest tier of sponsorship, we are deeply grateful to **Carson Valley Health**, **Comet Creation**, **Carson Valley Inn**, and **Travel Nevada** for their extraordinary support. Their commitment ensures we can provide a race that is safe, welcoming, and memorable for all participants. Travel Nevada's event sponsorship grant plays a vital role in the creation and success of the Ferris 50 Endurance Run.

At the Advocate Level, we recognize the **Carson Valley Trails Association** and the **Nevada Offroad Association**. Their ongoing work to maintain and protect the trails we run on, and their support for this event, are invaluable.

In addition to our financial sponsors, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the businesses and organizations that have provided in-kind donations and race personnel in support of both the runners and our volunteers. These contributions—whether through supplies, services, or hands-on assistance during planning and race day operations—are essential to the event's success. Special thanks to **Visit Lake Tahoe**, **Pine Nut Mountains Trail Association**, **Raley's**, **All Star Rentals**, **Douglas County Community Services**, **Great Basin Brewing**, **Cucina Lupo**, **Holiday Inn Club Vacations**, **David Walley's Hot Springs Resort**, **Reno Running Company**, **Unnhibited**, **Shoe Tree Brewing Company**, and **1862 Restaurant** for their generosity and partnership.

Equally important are our Friend Level Sponsors—**Datafy**, **Sierra Rec Magazine**, **Carson Valley Golf Course**, **JT Basque Bar and Dining Room**, and **Healing Hands Physical Therapy**. The support of these businesses and organizations is essential to the success of the Ferris 50. Their contributions of resources, energy, and community spirit directly enhance the race experience for every runner.

Together, our sponsors embody the heart of Carson Valley and the strength of community partnerships. We encourage all runners and crew to not only thank them for their commitment to endurance running and to the Carson Valley community, but also to show their support by visiting, dining with, and engaging with these local businesses. Your patronage helps keep this vibrant community thriving.



Volunteer Recognition

The Ferris 50 Endurance Run simply would not be possible without the incredible dedication of our volunteers. From the aid station crews and safety patrols to the course marshals and finish line festival staff, their energy and commitment are what make your race day experience possible.

We encourage every runner to show their appreciation by respecting our volunteers and, if you can, offering them a smile and a heartfelt “thank you” along the way. Your gratitude goes a long way in making this event memorable for everyone involved.

Planning Committee

The Ferris 50 Endurance Run is the result of a dedicated planning committee whose hard work made this event possible. The team included Visit Carson Valley staff—Keith Lewis, Josh Rudelbach, and Michelle Valdovinos—along with Race Directors Marc and Kelly Walling. Special thanks go to Keith Cole for coordinating aid stations, Deputy John Meyer for overseeing race safety, and Lorna Doerr, Heather Jackson, and Minka Brown for leading volunteer coordination. We also appreciate the contributions of Erica Roselius and Laura Ammons from the Carson Valley Trails Association, Mathew Giltner from the Nevada Offroad Association, and Eric Wamback with the Pine Nut Mountains Trails Association.

Within Visit Carson Valley, Josh Rudelbach, a veteran of 49 Spartan races, developed the Ferris 50 courses, while Michelle Valdovinos coordinated sponsorships. Their vision, combined with the effort of every committee member, brought this event to life.

This has truly been a multi-organization effort, and the involvement and collaboration of the Carson Valley Trails Association, Nevada Offroad Association, Pine Nut Mountains Trails Association, and Douglas County reflect the collaborative spirit of Carson Valley—where organizations work together seamlessly to create something extraordinary for the community.

Thank You Runners

We are incredibly grateful for each and every one of you who chose to be part of the inaugural Ferris 50 Endurance Run. The first year of any event is always the most challenging, as we don't know what to expect in terms of participation—but you showed up alongside a wonderful community of fellow runners, and together you will make this first year truly special. Your collective energy and enthusiasm means the world to us as we prepare for exciting and competitive races.

Most of our participants hail from right here in the Reno–Carson City–Carson Valley region, but we are also honored to welcome runners from California, Washington, and as far away as West Palm Beach, Florida, and El Paso, Texas. By committing to this first-year event, you've helped lay the foundation for something we hope will grow into a lasting tradition—and we sincerely hope to welcome you back to Carson Valley to run with us for many years to come.

Keith Lewis
Executive Director, Visit Carson Valley

