



Press release - Chamonix (France), Tuesday 15 October 2024

## An epic Mexican adventure awaits on the UTMB World Series circuit, where mountains meet the ocean through the jungle at Puerto Vallarta México by UTMB



Set against the backdrop of the **Sierra Madre Occidental mountains**, Puerto Vallarta México by UTMB® will welcome **over 1,500 runners** to the **vibrant city** on **Mexico's Pacific coast**, in the state of Jalisco on **November 7-9**.

With trail running continuing to grow in popularity in Latin America, local athletes will get the chance to test themselves against international competition at the second edition of the event. The tagline “**where mountains meet the ocean through the jungle**” gives a glimpse of the beauty runners will discover.

PUERTO VALLARTA MEXICO					
RACE	DISTANCE	ELEVATION	START	FINISH	START DATE
WIXÁRIKA - 100M	100KM	5,500 ft	100K M	100K M	07 NOV 2024
HUKU - 100K	100KM	5,500 ft	100K M	100K M	08 NOV 2024
NAKAWÉ - 50K	50KM	4,500 ft	50K M	50K M	07 NOV 2024
HARAMARA - 20K	20KM	3,500 ft	20K M	20K M	08 NOV 2024
ERENO - 20K	20KM	3,500 ft	20K M	20K M	07 NOV 2024
PATA SALADA - 8KM	8KM	3,500 ft	8KM	8KM	09 NOV 2024

[Download race information](#)

Traversing **deep canyons and the rugged peaks** of Mexico's largest mountain range, participants will also experience **lush jungle, wild nature** and **agave fields** as they wind towards the **vibrant boardwalk** of Puerto Vallarta and its **stunning beaches**.

The **timeless charm of Mexican culture** and **Wixárika heritage** shines in every corner and every smile along the route, creating a truly unique event. The names of each of the six race distances also capture the spirit, nature and heritage of the event: **Wixárika 100M**, meaning ‘**deep-hearted person**’, **Hikuri 100K**, symbolizing ‘**the wise man**’, **Nakawé 50K**, translating to ‘**mother water**’, **Haramara 20K**, meaning ‘**the ocean goddess**’, **Ereno 20K**, which means ‘**sea foam**’ and **Pata Salada 8km**, signifying ‘**salty feet**’.

### Elite Runners

In the **100M** race, **Drew Mueller** (USA, [UTMB Index 766](#)) returns to the event for the third-time and will be vying for the top position in the men's race. Meanwhile, **Alyssa Clark** (USA, [UTMB Index 704](#)) makes her debut at Puerto Vallarta México by UTMB. With two UTMB World Series victories to her name already, she looks to be the one to beat.

An international podium is on the cards in the **100K** race, with **Paddy O'Leary** (IRL, [UTMB Index 799](#)), **Julián Vinasco Marin** (COL, [UTMB Index 786](#)) and **Jason Schlarb** (USA, [UTMB Index 783](#)) heading into the race as the top-ranked in the men's race. With Schlarb recently finishing **3<sup>rd</sup> at Hardrock Hundred Mile Endurance Run**, it will be incredible to see him back where he belongs after a tough few years battling a knee injury.

**Arden Young** (CAN, [UTMB Index 710](#)) looks to be the one to beat in the women's race, while **Sandra Yagüe** (ESP, [UTMB Index 607](#)) is also on the hunt for her first UTMB World Series podium.

The talent of women signed up to race continues in the **50K** race, including **Sara Alonso** (ESP, [UTMB Index 780](#)), **Allie McLaughlin** (USA, [UTMB Index 773](#)) and **Madalina Florea** (ROU, [UTMB Index 778](#)). Having finished third at the last two editions of the 50K, local Mexican runner **Nayeli de la Torre** (MEX, [UTMB Index 667](#)) will also be looking to move up the podium positions in 2024.

Having finished **4<sup>th</sup> at the 2024 HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc OCC**, Sara Alonso is excited to race in a new location. She said, “*Just moments after crossing the line at the OCC this year, I knew that I wanted to be back. I saw Puerto Vallarta by UTMB and **knew straight away that I would be there**. I have been wanting to go to Mexico for a long time and I am excited to **discover the trails, the community and the food** there - while also trying to **qualify for the 2025 OCC**.*”

In the men's race, athletes to watch include the two Canadian runners, **Christopher Levesque Savard** (CAN, [UTMB Index 801](#)) and **David Jeker** (CAN, [UTMB Index 770](#)). As the first Chilean to cross the finish line at the HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc OCC, **Nicolás Palacios** (CHL, [UTMB Index 781](#)) is eager to keep testing himself on the international stage, aiming for a top spot in Latin American territory.

Other athletes to watch include Colombian athletes **Yeni Paolo Morales Pulido** ([UTMB Index 613](#)) and **Jhoan Sebastian Rivera Alape** ([UTMB Index 781](#)) in the Haramara **20K**, plus **Paula Nazal Labrin** (CHL, [UTMB Index 606](#)) and **Ashley Brasovan** (USA, [UTMB Index 734](#)) in the Ereno **20K**.

Race Director Irving Zavala added, “*On a competitive level, Puerto Vallarta by UTMB has established itself as an event that always brings surprises to the podium. Each year, we observe an increase in the participation of elite Mexican and Latin runners, who have the opportunity to share the trails with elite athletes from around the world.*”

Alongside **Nayeli de la Torre** ([UTMB Index 667](#)), other locals to watch include **Roberto Vargas** in the 50K, **Jeff Rosas** ([UTMB Index 779](#)) in the Haramara 20K and **Ricardo Mejia Hernandez** ([UTMB Index 649](#)) in the Ereno 20K.

The event promises to be a one-of-a-kind celebration, highlighting the vibrant trail running community and the rich cultural heritage and spirit of Mexico.



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Follow all the action from Puerto Vallarta México by UTMB [here](#).

### Upcoming events on UTMB World Series international circuit:

- 17 - 20 October: Ultra-Trail Ninghai by UTMB® - China
- 30 October - 3 November: Mallorca by UTMB® - Spain
- 1 - 2 November: Kullamannen by UTMB® - Sweden
- 7 - 9 November: Puerto Vallarta México by UTMB® - Mexico
- 8 - 10 November: Translantau by UTMB® - Hong Kong
- 15 - 17 November: Malaysia Ultra-Trail™ by UTMB® - Malaysia

More information can be found at the UTMB World Series [website](#).

### Images

UTMB World Series images can be downloaded [here](#).

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### Note to editors

#### About UTMB® World Series

UTMB® World Series is the world's ultimate trail-running circuit that unites the sport's biggest stars and passionate runners through the best, leading international events in the most stunning locations. Built on a passion for the mountains with sustainability at its heart, UTMB® World Series gives all trail runners the chance to experience the UTMB® adventure across the world, with events taking place across Asia, Oceania, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. It is the only place where runners can begin their quest to HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc, where the prestigious UTMB® World Series Finals will be held. Launched in May 2021 through the collaboration between the UTMB Group and The IRONMAN Group, the UTMB World Series circuit brings together many of the best international trail-running events on the planet. For more information, visit <https://utmb.world>.

#### About UTMB Group

Since the creation of HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc in 2003 by a group of passionate friends, UTMB Group has been the driving force behind the development of trail running. The HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc is the sports pinnacle event, and every year, 10,000 runners earn their place on the start line. UTMB Group also pioneered the LiveTrail® technology, an innovative digital service that supports the management of endurance races. Revered by hundreds of thousands of athletes, UTMB® has become a global, premium, and leading brand. In May 2021, UTMB Group partnered with The IRONMAN Group to launch the UTMB® World Series, which brings together many of the best international events on the planet to provide exclusive access to the sport's pinnacle event, HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc. The UTMB® World Series is built on the founding principles of HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc: surpassing oneself; fair-play; respect for people and the environment; and solidarity. Find out more at <https://utmb.world>.

### UTMB Group media enquiries

[presse@utmb.world](mailto:presse@utmb.world)

French enquiries:

Agathe Bougan - Head of communication

T: +33 6 30 97 98 58

International enquiries:

Sabina Mollart Rogerson - International Press Officer

T: +44 7922 140148

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