

PRESS RELEASE

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The countdown begins: The Great Wall Marathon 2018 quickly approaches

Copenhagen, Denmark – (May 9, 2018) - Adventure seekers and athletes from more than 80 countries and 5 continents will begin making their way towards China, where the original Great Wall Marathon soon approaches its 19th edition. On May 19, close to 2,500 runners will take on the Great Wall for one of the most adventurous and challenging marathons, announced Albatros Adventure Marathons from their headquarters today.

Every year since 1999, enthusiastic and adventurous runners from around the globe have stood shoulder to shoulder awaiting the start of The Great Wall Marathon. “The segment of the marathon on the wall is surely the most scenic part of this incredible adventure marathon... However, when talking to finishers, they equally highlight the parts running in the small villages where they gave ‘high fives’ to the children living there,” commented Anders Taunø, Commercial manager.

Overcoming the harsh conditions, such as a demanding terrain, elevation changes, and thousands of steps along the Great Wall is the ambition of many runners across varying experience levels, who through months of preparation, have trained for this event.

A race for all runners

The Great Wall Marathon is held in the picturesque and rural Huangyaguan in Tianjin Province, China. Three distances are available – marathon, half-marathon, and 8.5K Run Race. Along each route, runners should expect many staircases, rolling trails, historic cobblestone paths, unpaved terrain, and steep ascents and descents.

The courses highlight China’s natural surroundings and typical countryside villages with supportive locals lining the route, both of which give runners a well-deserved break. Marathoners will face the Great Wall two times for a total of 5,164 steps on the Great Wall. Half-marathoners and Fun Race Runners take on the Great Wall one time. Race capacity is limited to 2,500. During recent years, The Great Wall Marathon has sold out well in advance of the standard registration period.

An additional incentive

This year, Albatros Adventure Marathons has announced a new collaboration with **Mikkeller Brewery**, a Danish-founded company that operates in various locations around the globe and is internationally acclaimed as one of the most innovative and cutting edge brewers in the world. The beer, a sought-after conjunction created especially for renewing the runners’ energies and spirits, will be available free to participants after the marathon.

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About: Albatros Adventure Marathons, a division of Albatros Travel, organizes five annual races, each characterized by locations of exceptional natural beauty and historical significance. These remarkable courses will challenge even the most experienced runner — The Great Wall Marathon, The Big Five Marathon, The Petra Desert Marathon, The Polar Circle Marathon and The Bagan Temple Marathon. The concept offers race entry along with a tour package. It is the aim of Albatros Adventure Marathons to provide a lifetime experience while creating responsible tourism, raising awareness for these remarkable areas and giving back to the local communities.

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