



PARIS 2024



THE PARIS 2024  
**OLYMPIC  
MARATHON**

OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2022

# EDITO

**S**pectacular and challenging: the Paris 2024 Olympic Games marathon route is revealed.

From Paris to Versailles, and from Versailles to Paris, in the footsteps of the Women's March of 1789, the Paris 2024 Olympic Marathon pays tribute to those who made France the country of human rights and who defended the values of humanity and freedom. These values have guided Paris 2024 every day since the project began.

The route, with its historical foundations, also reflects our constant desire to bring sport to the heart of the city. It combines sporting performance with an exceptional cultural and architectural heritage, and to open the Games to different territories.

The course will unfold beneath the shoes of the world's leading marathon runners, through the streets and avenues of the most beautiful city in the world. The athletes, the thousands of spectators and millions of television viewers will experience a special line-up of iconic sites, from France's capital to Versailles, through the emblematic landscapes of Ile-de-France. In this exceptional setting, the athletes will also take on a sporting challenge of unprecedented difficulty thanks to a tough course with significant climbs. Paris 2024 can't wait to welcome the world to the starting line on 10 and 11 August 2024!

**Tony ESTANQUET**  
Paris 2024 President

# EDITO

**T**he unique challenge of the marathon has captured the imagination of runners and fans around the world for more than a century and this will only be enhanced by the creation of a course taking in so much of the history and architectural splendour of Paris, from the Hotel de Ville to Versailles and then on to the finish at the Invalides, running via the bridges of the Seine, the Louvre, the Place de la Concorde and the Eiffel Tour. It is a fitting backdrop for the feats of the world's best marathon runners. In an Olympic first, the organising committee has scheduled the women's marathon as the finale of the athletics programme in Paris to celebrate the march to gender equality in society and in the Olympic Games, a cause that is close to my heart and has long been a key pillar of our sport. This will be a celebration of the marathon and gender equality like no other.

The specific format of the marathon also makes it the most democratic of athletic events, as it gives an almost unlimited number of spectators the chance to cheer on the athletes in person and experience the thrill of Olympic competition without the need for a ticket. The energy of that crowd will be much appreciated by the competitors as they take on a particularly demanding course. Paris will further popularise the marathon by including a mass participation event for the first time, allowing a select group of 40,000 people to run in the footsteps of the champions, either over 10km or the full marathon distance. I'm delighted that there are so many opportunities for people to experience this most symbolic of Olympic events.

**Sebastian COE**  
**World Athletics President**



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**42.195KM**

THE LEGENDARY DISTANCE  
OF A LEGENDARY FEAT  
OF ATHLETICISM



MEN'S RACE

**SATURDAY 10 AUGUST AT 08:00**

> 80 PARTICIPANTS



WOMEN'S RACE

**SUNDAY 11 AUGUST AT 08:00**

> 80 PARTICIPANTS



START:

**HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS**

FINISH:

**ESPLANADE  
DES INVALIDES**



**ROUTE PASSING  
THROUGH 9 COMMUNES**

PARIS - BOULOGNE-BILLANCOURT,  
SÈVRES, VILLE D'AURAY, VERSAILLES,  
VIROFLAY, CHAVILLE, MEUDON,  
ISSY-LES-MOULINEAUX



**TENS OF THOUSANDS  
OF SPECTATORS**

LINING THE ROUTE



**OVER 7000 SPECTATORS**

EXPECTED IN THE STANDS  
AT THE FINISH LINE



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42,195

Km



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“The Paris 2024 Olympic Marathon will be a festive and remarkable moment in history. From the City Hall to Versailles, runners will be celebrated and cheered as they follow in the footsteps of the women who set out on October 5, 1789 to express their anger to the King. Passing some of the most famous landmarks in Paris and the Ile-de-France’s municipalities, the runners will overcome their limits in the most spectacular surroundings. In 2024, we can look forward to being inspired by these athletes, who will invite us to share a sense of freedom and of achieving personal bests, while reminding us of our collective strength.”

**Anne Hidalgo**  
Mayor of Paris



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A N I N S P I R I N G  
R O U T E



# THE WOMEN'S MARCH



IN PLOTTING THE ROUTE FOR THE OLYMPIC MARATHON, PARIS 2024 MADE THE BOLD CHOICE TO DRAW INSPIRATION FROM THE 'WOMEN'S MARCH ON VERSAILLES' OF 5 AND 6 OCTOBER 1789 – ONE OF THE SEMINAL EVENTS THAT MADE FRANCE WHAT IT IS TODAY.

**The Olympic Marathon finds its inspiration and energy from the women's march, one of the biggest event that has shaped the history and values of contemporary France.**

On 5 and 6 October 1789, market traders from Les Halles together with traders and workers from the poorer areas of Paris massed at the Hôtel de Ville of Paris, demanding bread and weapons. Between 6000 and 7000 Parisian women, and a number of men, marched through Paris, eventually making their way to the Château de Versailles and bringing the King and his family to the Tuileries Palace. That day, Louis XVI finally agreed to ratify the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen.



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**The Women's March is among the greatest mass events that have shaped history and the values of France today. Revolutionary and popular, this March is a symbol of the ambition and values behind the Olympic Games Paris 2024.**

In 2024, the athletes and participants in the Mass Event Running will follow in the footsteps of their history-making forebears.

*"A monumental physical and sporting challenge, and a fitting tribute to the women who changed history: this Marathon will be a day to remember, and from the bottom of my heart, I hope to be part of it!"*

**Mélody JULIEN, French marathon team member**



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# WOMEN IN THE PLACE OF HONOUR

The Olympic Games Paris 2024 will honour female athletes, with strict gender parity between the participants: there will be as many women as men taking part in the Games.

In addition, for the first time since the Women's Marathon was added to the Olympic Games schedule in Los Angeles in 1984, Paris 2024 has chosen to reverse the traditional order of the marathons: **the Women's Marathon, on 11 August, the day after the men's event, will be the final and crowning glory of the athletics events,** just hours before the Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Games Paris 2024.



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A S P E C T A C U L A R  
R A C E C O U R S E



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**As the race follows the route taken by the Women's March of 1789, the Olympic Marathon will take place against the backdrop of Paris' most beautiful monuments, the legendary site of Versailles, and the parks and forests of the surrounding communes.**

Paris-Versailles-Paris: the athletes will take part in one of the toughest sporting challenges the celebrates key architectural and historical jewels of France.

Runners will depart from the square in front of the Hôtel de Ville, Paris's city hall. The finish line will be at the Esplanade des Invalides, one of Paris's most iconic open air spaces alongside the river Seine.



“On 10 and 11 August 2024, the myth of the marathon and a legend of the French Revolution will meet. The Games will write a new page in the history of France while sending a powerful message to the world. As part of the first truly gender-balanced Games, our country has chosen to conclude the athletics programme with the women’s marathon for the first time ever. And this is even more poignant thanks to the link with the courageous women who marched to Versailles in October 1789 to change history, with France shining a light on the fight for equality between women and men. The course will be one of the most physically demanding. It will also serve as the stage for one of the

most beautiful marathons in the world, thanks to iconic monuments from Versailles to Paris that, for a long time, have dazzled the world. The spectator support along the way promises to be exceptional. Finally, by choosing for the first time a «wide open» Marathon by adding the Mass Event Running, our country proclaims loud and clear that high-level sport must more than ever be a source of inspiration for all generations while driving mass participation. Sport has the power to positively transform society: let us give it every means to do so.”

**Amélie Oudéa-Castéra,  
Minister of Sports and The Olympic  
and Paralympic Games**



## THE MARATHON OF PARIS 2024 WILL PASS THE FOLLOWING MONUMENTS AND COMPETITION VENUES

- Hôtel de ville de Paris
- Bourse de commerce
- Palais Brongniart
- Opéra Garnier
- Place Vendôme
- Jardin des Tuileries
- The Louvre
- Place de la Concorde
- The bridges of Paris  
(Pont de l'Alma; Alexandre III;  
Iéna; and more)
- Grand Palais
- Palais de Tokyo
- Jardins du Trocadéro
- Maison de la Radio
- Manufacture et Musées  
nationaux de Sèvres
- Forêt domaniale  
des Fausses-Reposes
- Monuments Pershing -  
Lafayette
- Château de Versailles
- Forêt domaniale de Meudon
- Parc André Citroën
- Eiffel Tower
- Musée Rodin
- Esplanade des Invalides



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## CHEERING THE ATHLETES ON

The atmosphere at the Olympic Marathon will be charged with a unique sense of popular excitement. Along the route, spectators will be able to watch and encourage the athletes for free.

On the Esplanade des Invalides, over 7000 spectators in tiered seating will be able to cheer the greatest marathon runners in history, as they cross the finish line. Tickets will be available from just €24.

**Find all information on ticketing at:**

[tickets.paris2024.org/en](https://tickets.paris2024.org/en)

In recognition of Visa's long-standing partnership with the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Visa is the Official Way to Pay.



“The marathon is a great demonstration of Paris 2024’s slogan ‘Games wide open’. It is one of the many initiatives that will engage the entire population to be an active part of the Games, allowing thousands of fans to pack the route and cheer on the best athletes in the world, as they seek to achieve their Olympic best. In Paris, it will also allow the lucky winners of entries for the mass participation marathon the opportunity to run the same route as their idols. The Olympic marathon in Paris will be truly inspirational for the millions watching around the world and those running.”

**Pierre-Olivier BECKERS**  
**IOC Coordination**  
**Commission President**  
**for Paris 2024**



© Lintao Zhang/Getty Images

“Beyond a doubt, the Paris 2024 marathon will have something special about it. To perform in such an impressive setting, in a place so charged with history and symbolism, will be a unique experience. I could not ask for a more perfect race for the Games.”

**Eliud KIPCHOGE**  
**Two-time Olympic marathon champion,**  
**and marathon world record holder**

“Paris 2024 offers us a superbly rich route – rich in symbolism, rich in spectacle, and a momentous athletic challenge. To rise to that challenge here, in my home country, will be the realisation of a lifelong dream!”

**Yohan DURAND**  
**Member of the French**  
**marathon team**



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A PHYSICALLY  
DEMANDING RACE COURSE



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## THE PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC MARATHON IS CHALLENGING AND TECHNICAL



**+ 438 M**

CHANGE IN ELEVATION  
BETWEEN THE START AND FINISH



**-436 M**

CHANGE IN ELEVATION  
BETWEEN THE START AND FINISH



**+13,5%**

MAXIMUM  
UPWARD SLOPE



**-13,4%**

MAXIMUM  
DOWNWARD SLOPE



**183M – AT 20.3KM**  
HIGHEST POINT



**27M – AT 14.2KM**  
LOWEST POINT

“With its unprecedented course, the Paris 2024 Marathon represents great sporting challenge for the athletes, in a spectacular setting. This race, more unpredictable than ever, promises to be mythical!”

**Paula RADCLIFFE**

**Women's world record holder between 2003 and 2019**

# THE OLYMPIC MARATHON, AN ICONIC AND HISTORICAL EVENT



© Mark Edward Harris/Getty Images

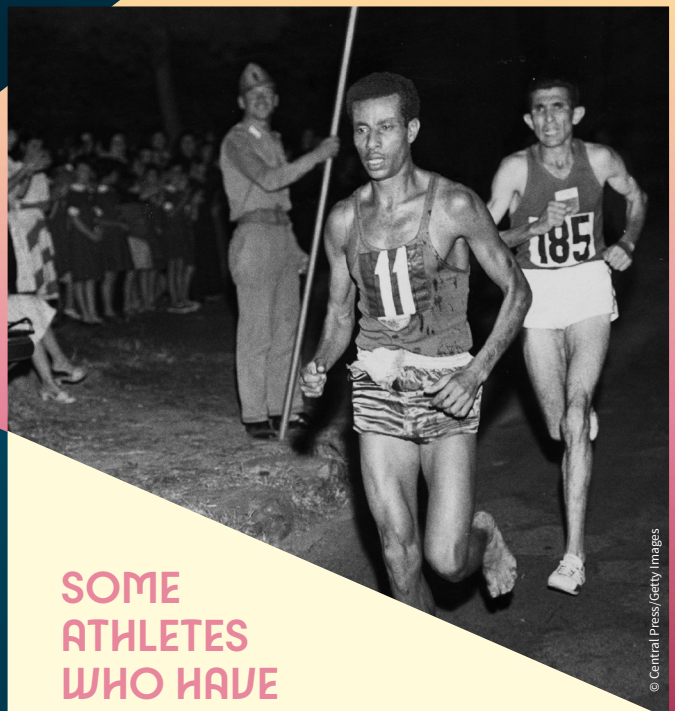
## ANCIENT ORIGINS

The Marathon has its origin in a legend from Ancient Greece. In 490 BC, after the Battle of Marathon, the young soldier Pheidippides was ordered to carry the news of the Athenians' victory over the Persians. He ran the 40km from Marathon to Athens... but died of exhaustion shortly after reaching his goal and announcing the news.

At the end of the 19th Century, which was marked by Hellenism, Pierre de Coubertin decided to include the run from Marathon to Athens on the programme for the first Modern Olympic Games, held in Athens in 1896, to pay homage to the young messenger's sacrifice.

## THE OLYMPIC MARATHON THROUGH THE YEARS

- The Marathon was first included as part of the Games in Athens in 1896. However, the women's marathon was not introduced until the Los Angeles 1984 Games.
- The distance for the Olympic Marathon has not always been the same. In Athens in 1896, it was around 40km; in Paris in 1900, it was 40.26km. It was not until the London Games in 1908 that the distance of 42.195 km was set. Since the Paris 1924 Games, the distance has been standardised at 42.195km, and has been used in all Games since then.
- The most decorated Olympic Marathon runners of all time are the Ethiopian Abebe Bikila, the German Waldemar Cierpinski, and the Kenyan Eliud Kipchoge (each with two gold medals).



### SOME ATHLETES WHO HAVE MADE THEIR MARK ON THE EVENT

#### **Abebe Bikila, barefoot runner**

At the 1960 Games in Rome, the Ethiopian athlete won the race while running barefoot. He became the first double Olympic champion in the marathon, winning gold in Tokyo in 1964.



### **Joan Benoit, the first Olympic women's marathon champion**

In 1984, at the Los Angeles Games, the marathon was opened to female runners for the first time. The American Joan Benoit took the gold, taking an early lead over the Norwegian Grete Waitz, who was the official world champion, and maintaining it throughout to win by more than a minute.



### **Alain Mimoun, French legend**

Alain Mimoun was the last Frenchman to win Olympic gold in the Marathon, at the Melbourne Games in 1956, beating another legend in the discipline, the Czech runner Emil Zátopek.



### **Eliud Kipchoge, record holder**

The Kenyan athlete is a two-time Olympic Marathon champion, winning gold in Rio 2016 and in Tokyo 2020. On 25 September 2022 in Berlin, he broke his world record setting a new mark of 2:01:09.



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# THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT THE OLYMPIC MARATHON

"The marathon is a symbolic event of the Olympic Games that has forged legends of sport. The unveiling of the marathon route for the Paris 2024 Games is therefore an important moment. It is also a new step that brings us closer, each day, to the historic event that we are all hoping for and for which the French National Olympic and Sports Committee is fully ready less than two years before the opening ceremony."

**Brigitte Henriques**  
President of the CNOSF

"The Ile-de-France Region is extremely proud to host this iconic event that is the Paris 2024 Olympic marathon. The route will take the world on a journey through our magnificent region. The Mass Event Running is a wonderful opportunity for people in Ile-de-France to become involved in the Games by offering them the possibility to run on the same route. It is a fantastic initiative for the region and a sporting nation."

**Valérie PECRESSE**  
President of the Ile-de-France Region

"Organising a marathon open to all during the Games is a great initiative that the Greater Paris Metropolis supports because it gives runners and spectators an inclusive, festive, and participative experience of discovering the metropolitan heritage. This event, which is accessible to thousands of citizens, reinforces the universality of Olympism and salutes the legacy of Pierre de Coubertin."

**Patrick OLLIER**  
President of the Metropole  
du Grand Paris

"Hosting the Olympic marathon means being at the heart of the Olympic spirit. We are proud of this, just as we will be proud to introduce the world to Hauts-de-Seine Department. The opening of the event to the public, on the same course, will be a first in Olympic history. Allowing Olympic athletes and amateurs to share the same values and stage, truly symbolises the democratisation of sport. This marathon will be a unique invitation to follow in the footsteps of the world's best athletes. To rediscover the benefits of sport whilst enjoying the cultural treasures and natural beauty of the Hauts-de-Seine."

**Georges SIFFREDI**  
President of the Hauts-de-Seine  
Departmental Council

"The Yvelines Department, which is a major player in the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, hosting cycling, equestrian and golf events, is delighted that the marathon runners will be passing through the area. In addition to the professional runners, welcoming amateurs in the «Mass Event Running» also reflects the Yvelines Department's commitment to the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games: to make sport accessible to all, to enhance our heritage and to leave a lasting legacy on our district."

**Pierre BEDIER**  
President of the Yvelines  
Departmental Council



"The city of Sèvres, which is passionate about engaging in sport, is very happy to host a section of the marathon route for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. This news echoes our Terre de Jeux 2024 label obtained this summer. With its three gymnasiums, four stadiums, swimming pool and many other sports facilities, Sèvres shares with Paris 2024 the conviction that sport, through its values, commitment, fair play, and perseverance, is an excellent vehicle for surpassing oneself and for cohesion. We hope to be able to offer our residents a unique experience by hosting this legendary event that is the Marathon."

**Grégoire DE LA RONCIERE**  
Mayor of Sèvres

"I am delighted that the Olympic marathon is passing through Ville d'Auray; Olympism promotes the values of excellence, friendship and respect, values that are so fundamental to our society and that we share and promote in Ville d'Auray. We have been committed to the Terre de Jeux 2024 adventure of support for the Games from the beginning. The town is delighted to be taking part in this fantastic Olympic event by hosting the marathon."

**Aline DE MARCILLAC**  
Mayor of Ville d'Auray

"The City of Versailles is delighted to host the iconic marathon event as part of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. This route will be an opportunity to show our emblematic green avenues laid out around our famous château to thousands of people. This urban and planted heritage, bequeathed by Louis XIV and André Le Nôtre, is unique in the world and has inspired cities such as Washington and Saint Petersburg. It remains a model for the new urban challenge: putting nature back in the heart of the city."

**François DE MAZIÈRES,**  
Mayor of Versailles



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"We are used to welcoming the Tour de France and the Paris-Versailles running race every year, and in August 2024, the streets of Viroflay will proudly welcome marathon runners from all over the world for the Olympic Games. Viroflay is fortunate to have two forests that allow for outdoor sports, a high-quality aquatic centre, a stadium, tennis courts, and renovated gyms; everyone, at their own level, can enjoy sport all year long. With the Olympic marathon, Viroflay is honoured to host this mythical and historic event in 2024!"

**Olivier LEBRUN**

**Mayor of Viroflay and Departmental Councillor of the Yvelines**

"Many have dreamed of it, now it is a reality, France will host the Olympic Games in 2024. Let's open the Games, let's open Chaville. Let's put sport at the heart of French life, at the heart of Chaville's life. The route of the marathon will be brand new and original, and will honour the heritage and history of France and the Paris region. Chaville will take advantage of the athletes crossing the city to give an experience of the Olympic Games magic to its residents. Organising events for the general public during the Games, in particular, the marathon, shows that these Olympic Games in France will leave a mark, a legacy in the history of this sporting event. Chaville is looking forward to this unique sports experience that promises to be festive and historic!"

**Jean-Jacques GUILLET**

**Mayor of Chaville**

"The Olympic Games are back in Meudon 100 years after the 1924 pentathlon! In August 2024, it is the iconic men's and women's marathon event that will cross the streets of Meudon, already a Terre de Jeux 2024 city. This is a great honour for our city, a unique opportunity to promote its assets and heritage, to involve the population in a world event and to encourage the practice of sport for the well-being and health of our own population."

**Denis LARGHERO**

**Mayor of Meudon**

"By passing through the town of Issy-les-Moulineaux, the Paris 2024 Olympic marathon will pay tribute to an exceptional local sporting area. We are part of the Terre de Jeux 2024 programme and an Olympic training camp site. Five Olympic medalists from the Tokyo Olympics trained in the city, and we have large-scale sports facilities (the 15,000 m<sup>2</sup> Cité des Sports, the 8,000 m<sup>2</sup> Palais des Sports...). Residents, sportsmen and women, clubs and companies are looking forward to the marathon passing through Issy!"

**André SANTINI**

**Former Minister, Mayor of Issy-les-Moulineaux, Vice-President of the Métropole du Grand Paris**



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THE PARIS 2024  
**OLYMPIC  
MARATHON**

**GAMES  
WIDE  
OPEN**





Paris 2024 thanks its Partners for their dedication.

Worldwide Partners



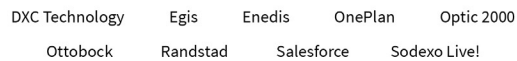
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