## A Marathon Cake with LOLcat

 FrostingUDLS - MARCH 2O, 2008

JEN FERNQUIST

An Ultramarathon Pie with Doge Glaze

An Ultramarathon Pie with Doge Glaze


## Marathon: The Summary

## Marathon

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see Marathon (disambiguation).
The marathon is a long-distance race, completed by running, walking, or a run/walk strategy. The marathon has an official distance of 42.195 kilometres ( 26.219 miles; 26 miles 385 yards), ${ }^{[1]}$ usually run as a road race. The event was instituted in commemoration of the fabled run of the Greek soldier Pheidippides, a messenger from the Battle of Marathon to Athens, who reported the victory.

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## Marathon, Greece

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Marathon (Demotic Greek: MapaӨávac, Marathónas; Attic/Katharevousa: MapaӨஸ́v, Marathón) is a town in Greece and the site of the battle of Marathon in 490 BCE, in which the heavily outnumbered Athenian army defeated the Persians. Legend has it that Pheidippides, a Greek herald at the battle, was sent running from Marathon to Athens to announce the victory, which is how the marathon running race was conceived in modern times. ${ }^{[n 1]}$

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## Ultramarathons

- Any foot race longer than 42.195 km
- 50 km
- 50 miles
- 100 km
- 100 miles
- 6 hours
- 12 hours
- 24 hours
- 48 hours
- ...



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- "Normal" road races less common than for marathons
- Two (unofficial) categories
- "Loopy" runs
- Start-to-finish runs


## Some (Sparse) History

- Ultramarathons are as old as marathons
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- Interest in multi-day races and more extreme



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- More focus on endurance over fast pace
- More accessible for older people
- Less crowded, commercialized, mainstream
- Often more interesting/unique events

- Less optimized, therefore an "easier" target for notable accomplishments
- More tight-knit community of runners


## "Loopy" Runs

- Fixed track
- Sometimes even indoor
- Certain number of required laps



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## Backyard Ultra

- Unlimited time available
- But: Runners must continuously run $6706 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{hour}$ to stay in the race
- That's 100 miles in 24 hrs
- Excess distance can be used to recover later
- Record: 68 laps ( 283 miles / 456 km) by Johan Steene in 2018



## Intermission: Running Vests

- The front part of a backpack
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## Self-Transcendence 6/10 Day Race

- Annual race in New York since 1977
- 1.28 km long course
- Records:
- 821 km in 6 days, 2001 by Dipali Cunningham
- 1330 km in 10 days, 2018 by Ashprihanal Aalto
- Remarkable:

- Ted Corbitt, age 81, ran 380 km in 6 days in 2001

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- 5649 laps of 883 m around a single block in New York
- Cut-off time is 52 days ( 96 km per day)
- Record: 40 days, 9 hours by Ashprihanal Aalto in 2015

- His 13th time finishing the race


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- Often less competitive, more about the experience



## Two Oceans Marathon

- 56 km course through Cape Town
- Half-marathon (21k) available as well
- Considered the world's most beautiful marathon
- 11,000 runners ( $+16,000$ for 21 k )
- As mainstream as ultramarathons get
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## The Kepler Challenge

- 60 km trail run in New Zealand
- 1350 m elevation gain
- Around 500 participants per year

- Record: 4:33:37 by Martin Dent



## Spartathlon

- 246 km from Athens to Sparti
- 1200 meters elevation gain
- Capped to 400 participants
- Lottery-based and very strict minimum entry requirements
- Record: 20:49:04 by Yiannis Kouros
- Achieved during the first
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- Non-continuous with 7 fixed stages
- Only pure race-time between stages counts
- Runners need to carry gear for the whole duration


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- Atacama Crossing
- Driest place on earth
- High altitude
- Difficult terrain



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- Temperature changes



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- Sahara Race
- $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during the day
- Mostly on sand
- 100-meter-high dunes



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## 6633 Arctic Ultra

- 611 km through Yukon, Canada
- "Casual" 190 km version also exists
- Participants need to carry their own gear for the whole way in sleds

- Around 25 participants per year
- approx. 5 finish
- Record: 172 hrs, 2018 by Tiberiu Useriu




## Trans-American Footrace

- From Los Angeles to New York
- Multi-day race over 80+ days
- Route changes every iteration (but always approx. 5400 km)
- Started 1928 with 199 runners
- Only 55 finished back then
- Nowadays only a single runner per iteration
- Finishing times vary from 550 to 750 hours on trail



## Marathon of Hope

- Terry Fox ran 5373 km through Canada after losing a leg to cancer
- Originally wanted to run from coast to coast to raise money for cancer research
- Ran about a marathon per day
- Had to stop after 143 days because his cancer spread and health declined
- Died 9 months later
- Considered a Canadian national hero



