



The Marathon

The marathon will start at 8.15am.

The Cork City Marathon is an official 42.195km (26 miles and 385 yards) marathon course and serves as a Boston qualifier.

It is overall, a fast and flat course.

As with all major city marathons, the challenge for the marathon course committee was to design a route that would maximise the runners' experience while minimising the disruption to the public. We also wanted to make this truly a city marathon, by bringing the race to as much of the city as possible.

There are a few immovable constraining factors: The options to the north of the River Lee are limited because of the steep hills. To the south, the potential course is restricted by the critical South Ring Road, which carries large amounts of traffic into or around the city centre. Despite these restrictions, the course committee designed a route that takes the runners north, east, south and west of the city centre along a very flat course.

The marathon begins and finishes in the city centre.

Prize Structure

Full Marathon prize structure 2026:

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

1st: €2,000

2nd: €1000

3rd: €800

4th: €700

5th: €600

6th: €500

7th: €400

8th: €300

9th: €200

10th: €100

Bonus Course Record €700

Additional €1000. Top Irish Club Athlete Male, Female. (North or South but must be a fully paid up valid member of an official athletic club at the time of the race, AAI or ANI)

Wheelchair

1st €100

2nd €75

3rd €50

€100, €75, €50 for 1st, 2nd & 3rd respectively in each age category: €2,250 in total

35–44

45–54

55–64

65–74

75+

* For 2024 we have waived the previous minimum of 3 in a category rule to encourage gender equality and age diversity

*Prizes are awarded equally to male and female categories.

Keane's Jewellers Perpetual Cork City Marathon Trophies

Kindly donated by Keane's Jewellers, the first across the line in the men's and women's marathon receive a beautifully crafted silver trophy. The trophies will be engraved with the winners' names. **The trophies are perpetual, so the winners have to part with their silverware at the end of their reigning year!**

Join us on the June bank holiday weekend for a unique run through the streets of Cork city.