



13TH EDITION SHIMLA, HIMACHAL PRADESH

# RIDER RACEBOOK

— 23-25 OCTOBER 2026

**130 KM**  
XC

**3,800 M**  
CLIMBING

**2 + 1**  
STAGES + PROLOGUE

**90%**  
OFF-ROAD



STONE STAIRS, SHIMLA LIGHT

## 01 THE RACE

# WELCOME TO MTB SHIMLA 2026

The 13th edition of MTB Shimla runs from 23 to 25 October 2026, starting and finishing in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

This racebook has everything you need for race weekend: format, schedule, fees, inclusions, stay and travel.

MTB Shimla is part of the MTB Himalaya franchise, Asia's oldest MTB stage race. MTB Himalaya began in 2005 and drew riders from around the world. MTB Shimla started as a spin-off in 2012 to make mountain biking more accessible to Indian riders.

## A PILGRIMAGE AND A RITE OF PASSAGE FOR EVERY INDIAN MOUNTAIN BIKER.

Since then it has become India's favourite mountain bike race. It brought MTB to the country at large, and every year it draws riders from across India and across age groups.

**New for 2026:** MTB Shimla goes back to its roots as a cross-country marathon (XCM), and for the first time gravel bikes are welcome too.

## 02 FORMAT

# THE COURSE

About 130 km of cross-country marathon racing over one prologue and two timed stages, 90% of it off-road.

**~130 KM**  
TOTAL DISTANCE

**↑ 3,800 M**  
CLIMBING

**↓ 3,500 M**  
DESCENDING



ROCK GARDENS ARE PART OF THE COURSE

## STAGES

| DAY        | STAGE    | STATUS                |
|------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Fri 23 Oct | Prologue | Not timed · mandatory |
| Sat 24 Oct | Stage 1  | Timed                 |
| Sun 25 Oct | Stage 2  | Timed                 |

## TRAIL TYPES

SINGLETRACK

DOUBLE TRACK

FOREST PATHS

JEEP ROADS

STAIRCASES

## SURFACES

MUD

GRAVEL

DIRT

LOOSE ROCK

LOOSE GRAVEL

ROCK GARDENS

STREAM CROSSINGS

BROKEN TARMAC

## BIKES ALLOWED

MTB HARDTAIL

MTB FULL SUSPENSION

GRAVEL

**MANDATORY** The prologue on 23 October is not timed, but every rider must ride it.



### 03 RACE WEEKEND

# EVENT SCHEDULE

Race weekend opens with registration on 23 October and closes with the prize ceremony at 5:00 PM on 25 October. Venues marked TBA will be confirmed before race week.

| <b>FRI 23</b><br><b>ARRIVE &amp; PROLOGUE</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>SAT 24</b><br><b>STAGE 1</b>                   | <b>SUN 25</b><br><b>STAGE 2 &amp; PODIUM</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>9:00 AM - 3:00 PM</b><br>Rider registration and bib collection<br>TBA                                                                                                           | <b>9:00 AM</b><br>Stage 1 flag-off<br>TBA         | <b>9:00 AM</b><br>Stage 2 flag-off<br>TBA    |
| <b>4:30 PM</b><br>Ceremonial flag-off: Prologue ride<br>The Ridge, Shimla                                                                                                          | <b>5:30 PM</b><br>Stage 1 flag-in (finish)<br>TBA | <b>5:00 PM</b><br>Prize ceremony<br>TBA      |
| <b>7:00 PM</b><br>Race briefing<br>TBA                                                                                                                                             |                                                   |                                              |
| <b>8:00 PM</b><br>Race dinner<br>TBA                                                                                                                                               |                                                   |                                              |
| <b>DON'T MISS</b> The race briefing is where final course and safety details are shared, so plan to attend. Bring the physical proof for any discount you claimed to registration. |                                                   |                                              |

## 04 ENTRY

# CATEGORIES & FEES

Fees are the same for men and women.

|             |                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| U-16 · U-19 | OPEN · MASTERS · GRANDMASTERS |
| ₹3,900      | ₹5,990                        |

## DISCOUNTS

| ELIGIBILITY                            | DISCOUNT    |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| National podium winners (last 3 yrs)   | 100% · FREE |
| MTB Shimla podium winners (last 3 yrs) | 100% · FREE |
| Himachal bona fide residents           | 20%         |
| Armed Forces                           | 20%         |
| 3-time MTB Shimla veterans             | 20%         |
| Previous MTB Shimla riders             | 10%         |

**PROOF REQUIRED** Physical proof for every discount code is checked at registration, so carry originals.



## WHAT YOUR ENTRY INCLUDES

### ✓ INCLUDED

- ◆ Race bib
- ◆ Race merchandise: jersey, T-shirt, stickers and more
- ◆ Race support: feed stations, sweep, race mechanic
- ◆ Meals as listed in the meal plan

### ✗ NOT INCLUDED

- ◆ Accommodation
- ◆ Meals other than those in the meal plan
- ◆ Travel expenses
- ◆ Anything not listed under Included

## MEAL PLAN

| DAY        | BREAKFAST | LUNCH | SNACKS & TEA | DINNER        |
|------------|-----------|-------|--------------|---------------|
| Fri 23 Oct | —         | —     | ●            | ● Race dinner |
| Sat 24 Oct | —         | ●     | —            | —             |
| Sun 25 Oct | —         | ●     | ●            | —             |

**Fuel up:** breakfast is not provided on any day, so eat at your hotel before the 9:00 AM stage starts.



## 05 STAY & TRAVEL

# BASE CAMP: *THE RIDGE*

The race is based at The Ridge, Shimla, with some events at Woodville Palace, Shimla.

### PARTNER HOTELS

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Woodville Palace         | LUXURY    |
| Hotel Marina             | LUXURY    |
| Hotel Rahat Regency      | MID-RANGE |
| Hotel Ashiana Clarks Inn | MID-RANGE |
| Hotel Rajat              | BUDGET    |

**PARKING** All partner hotels have parking. Shimla also has safe municipal parking for multi-day stays.

### GETTING TO SHIMLA

~8 H

#### VOLVO BUS • DELHI → SHIMLA

Several departures daily; 8–10 overnight Volvos let you carry your bike.

FLY

#### FLIGHT • TO CHANDIGARH

Connected to all major Indian cities; 3 hours from Shimla. Shimla airport has limited flights.

3–4 H

#### CAB • CHANDIGARH → SHIMLA

Race logistics partners can handle transfers.

~5 H

#### TOY TRAIN • KALKA → SHIMLA

Narrow-gauge heritage line; slow but an unforgettable ride.

## 06 BEFORE YOU RACE

# MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

Every rider needs these four things in order before race weekend. Riders under 18 have extra requirements, marked below.

## INSURANCE

01

All riders must carry valid medical insurance.

### UNDER 18

Must be covered under their parents' insurance policy.

## INDEMNITY

02

All riders must sign an indemnity form for the race.

### UNDER 18

Parents must sign the indemnity on the rider's behalf.

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

03

All riders must produce a medical certificate signed by a general practitioner of medicine, certifying that you have no underlying conditions that could be aggravated by taking part in an event of this nature.

## PROOF DOCUMENTS

04

All riders must submit a copy of at least one valid proof of age and address to confirm their registration.

DRIVER'S LICENCE

AADHAAR CARD

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

PASSPORT



### CONFIRM YOUR REGISTRATION

Registration is confirmed only once you submit a copy of at least one proof document. Keep all four requirements ready before you travel to Shimla.

**07 BE READY**

# RIDER CHECKLIST

- ☐ Book your stay and travel to reach Shimla by the morning of 23 October
- ☐ Carry original proof for any discount you claimed
- ☐ Have your insurance, signed indemnity, medical certificate and ID proof ready
- ☐ Collect your bib at registration, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM on 23 October
- ☐ Ride the mandatory prologue from The Ridge at 4:30 PM on 23 October
- ☐ Attend the race briefing at 7:00 PM on 23 October
- ☐ Prepare your bike for mud, loose rock, rock gardens and stream crossings
- ☐ Arrange breakfast before each 9:00 AM stage start

**STILL TO BE CONFIRMED**

- ◆ Venues for registration, briefing, dinner, stage starts and finishes, and prize ceremony
- ◆ Stage distances and climbing; Stage 2 cut-off
- ◆ Age brackets for each category
- ◆ Medical support and mandatory kit list

**08 RACE CONTACTS**

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**SEE YOU ON THE RIDGE • 23 OCTOBER 2026**



Scan to  
Register  
**23-25**  
OCT 2026



RACE ORGANISER  
**HASTPA**

# Shimla shenanigans!

21 YEARS OF PIONEERING  
MTB RACING IN INDIA

XCM

3800HM

SHIVALIK RANGE

130 KM