



FAQs

MANCHESTER TO BLACKPOOL BIKE RIDE



When is the event?

Saturday 7th October 2017 through to Sunday 8th October 2017.



Where is the event?

The event starts at the Intu Trafford Centre, M41 7TB. Riders will set off outside of the main entrance of the Trafford Centre.

The event finishes at the Blackpool Promenade, Comedy Carpet, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 1AP. Once riders cross the finish line they can head into the famous Tower Ballroom for a mini post ride celebration and breakfast.



What time does the event start?

Riders will be let off in small groups every 10 minutes from **12.00am** on Saturday evening, after a short safety briefing. There will be no allocated start times, as soon as you feel ready to go, line up at the start line. Riders must start by **1.00am**.



What time does the event finish?

All riders must arrive in Blackpool by **8.00am**. This event is not a race, so please enjoy the ride and stop at the designated rest stops. Sweepers will be positioned behind the last riders, and will take down signs as they follow, so remember to stay ahead.



Do I need to register in the morning?

If you have already signed up before the day and received your welcome pack/riding pack then you will not need to sign in. Just get ready, make sure your number is visible on both yourself and your bike and prepare to ride!

Please remember to make sure your **bike lights** are working before setting off.



What if I forget my rider number/don't receive my pack in time?

First step – don't panic! You will still be able to take part!

If you forget your number or you haven't received your pack in time, please head to the registration area in the morning. A member of the events team will simply check you off the list and provide you with a new rider number!

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Will there be parking?

At the start - There is free parking at the Trafford Centre. Please follow the event car park signs and stewards on arrival.

At the finish – There are local pay and display car parks that are open 24 hours. Please visit blackpool.gov.uk/transportandstreets for further information

For more information for longer parking at both sites, please look on our webpage under the “location and travel” tab.



Are there any train stations close by?

At the start – the closest train station is Trafford Park Railway Station (M32 1AA) which is 2 miles away from the event (or a 10 minute cycle).

At the finish – the closest train station is Blackpool North (FY1 3AZ) which is 1 mile away from the event (or a 5 minute cycle).

Please remember that weekend services will be running so bear that in mind when booking your tickets and make sure the service you need will allow bikes! Remember to check what time the first trains start again on Sunday morning.



Are the BHF putting on any transport?

Yes – transport is available to take you from Blackpool to the start line before the event. It is also available after the event, taking you from Blackpool back to the Trafford Centre.

For more information about this service including ticket price, times and locations, please refer to our separate Travel FAQs on our website.



What bike should I use?

Road Bikes ✓

Road bikes are ideal for this event however mountain bikes and hybrid bikes can also be used if necessary.



Do I need bike lights?

Yes – you **will not** be allowed to start this event if you do not have bike lights! We also recommend wearing **hi-vis clothing**.

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Do I need to wear a helmet?

Yes – helmets must be worn at all times throughout the route.



Are there any age restrictions?

Riders must be **18 and over** to take part due to the nature of this event. If you have any questions regarding this restriction please email events@bhf.org.uk and the event manager can discuss this with you.

Friends and family are welcome at the start and finish area to cheer you on, too.



Will the route be suitable for me?

This event is suitable for all abilities including beginners (with some training!). The route is 52 miles long and will be all on open roads, so please bear in mind other traffic users. You will need to make sure you follow the rules of the Highway Code whilst you are out on the route.

Please remember that this event is unique and you will be cycling at night time – make sure you have trained adequately to handle the differences between this and cycling in the day.

Please download the 2017 route and GPX file available on the event webpage.



This is my first BHF event – what support can I expect?

The whole route will be fully signed for you before the event starts and we will have sweeper vehicles that will stay behind the last riders, making sure that no-one is left behind or goes off course. We will also give you access to a ride control number in case you have any problems on the course throughout the night.

Throughout the route you will have access to a first aid team, a bike mechanic, toilets and water. There will be designated rest stops where you can get refreshments and snacks. Caterers will be available at the start and finish.

If at any point in the ride, you feel like you can't continue, we will also have support vehicles that can collect you and take you to the finish site.

Closer to the event, we will publish all of the contact details for services on the day.

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Will I get anything when I finish?

When you cross the finish line you will receive a well-earned medal, ready to show off your achievements! You will also get free water, cereal bars and oranges. There will be caterers on site at the start and finish for you to purchase food and drinks. For 2017 we have hired the amazing Ballroom Tower for you to have a rest, have some food, get warm and chat to your fellow participants before heading home.



Will I get a t-shirt?

No – this event does not have any specific merchandise. You can purchase a BHF t-shirt or other items on our online shop <https://giftshop.bhf.org.uk/events>



I can't make the event – can I get a refund?

As per our terms and conditions, we are unable to refund your registration. You may have the option to defer your place or transfer your place (see below).



Can I transfer my place?

Yes – you can transfer your event place to someone else, however you must contact our customer service team and inform them of this. They will update your record. If you want to swap your place with someone else, you will need to contact the customer service team who will ask your replacement to fill out a registration form, so that we have the details of everyone riding. They will not need to pay for this place, as they are taking yours. Please email events@bhf.org.uk or call **0845 130 8663**



Do I have to fundraise? Won't my registration fee be enough?

Unfortunately your registration fee only covers the cost to put this event on, but any fundraising you can do will go directly into funding life saving research.

For this event, we are asking participants to aim to raise £100.00. We understand that this is a big commitment but we will support you and help with any fundraising advice you want or need. Please contact events@bhf.org.uk for any questions.

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Do I need to raise all of this before the event?

No – you can continue to fundraise after the event (show people your medal selfie and get a few extra pounds!) for approximately 6 weeks. We will then send you a gentle reminder to send your sponsorship in.



How can I pay my sponsorship in?

There are several ways to send in your fundraising:

Online Sponsorship

If you have set up a Just Giving or Virgin Money account then you will not have to do anything, all online donations will come through to us so sit back and relax!

Off-Line Sponsorship

You can send in any sponsorship to our Customer Service Centre (2096 Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3YU) or if you can make a payment over the phone by calling **0845 130 8663**

Thank you so much for signing up and joining the fight for every heartbeat.
We hope you enjoy the event – see you soon!