

THE CALENDAR

From volcanos to aliens, the races of August promise runners the extraordinary **BY BART YASSO AND LORI ADAMS**



At any given race, runners are likely to spot some pretty strange stuff. But only the **Extraterrestrial Full**

Moon Midnight Marathon, Half-Marathon, and 10-K provides the opportunity to spot alien life forms and

UFOs. The course, located a couple of hours north of Las Vegas in Rachel, Nevada, offers a midnight tour of some of the nation's most well-known hot spots for UFO sightings, taking runners along Highway 375—a lonely stretch of road that the federal government has designated as the Extraterrestrial Highway—to the edge

of the infamous Area 51, a highly classified military airfield that has been linked to countless "spacecraft" sightings.

Runners are encouraged to suit up in alien costumes, and they must wear headlamps and reflective clothing to steer clear of cars, free-ranging cattle, and, of course, wayward extraterrestrials. The marathon, half-marathon, and 10-K end at the Little A 'Le' Inn Restaurant, where runners are treated to a postrace breakfast buffet. The event, which is expected to attract about 400 participants this year, is held each August on the weekend closest to the full moon. —KATE CLINE

Run it: Aug 16, calicoracing.org



RW ONLINE For more events, go to runnersworld.com and click on "Races & Places." Race Directors: Please send race results to results@ldrresults.com.

OTHER RACES	Urban Wildland Half-Marathon & 5-K	Crater Lake Rim Runs Marathon, 13-mile, 6.7-mile	Tour de Lance 5-K Run/Walk	Race Judicata 5-K Run/Walk	Lost Lake Run 15.75 miles
TERRAIN					
WHERE	Richfield, Minn.	Crater Lake Nat. Park, Ore.	Wilmington, Del.	Chicago	Seward, Ala.
WHEN	August 2	August 9	August 13	August 14	August 23
RUNNERS	1,500	500	1,000	3,200	600
INFO	urbanwildland.com	craterlakerimruns.com	races2run.com	cvls.org/judicata	lostlakerun.org
WHY RUN IT	To go green. Billing itself as a no-waste race, the event uses recyclable, reused, or composted materials for all race materials. Both courses begin and end at Veteran's Memorial Park. At mile 1.5 runners enter Wood Lake Nature Center, a 150-acre preserve that 200 species of birds call home. The half-marathon winds through the city's neighborhoods, business district, and green spaces before looping back to the park.	To run inside a collapsed volcano. Located in Crater National Park, the two shorter races and most of the marathon follow the edge of Crater Lake. This spectacular caldera lake was created after Mount Mazama erupted around 5700 BC. Runners are bused to the start at Watchman Overlook (7,600 feet). All three races finish at Lost Creek Campground, where participants can soak their feet in a babbling brook.	To LiveStrong. Race proceeds benefit the Lance Armstrong Foundation, which has raised more than \$250 million to fund cancer research, education, and prevention. The first 600 entrants get LiveStrong gear and tickets to see the Blue Rocks, Wilmington's minor-league baseball team. New this year: awards for the first male and female finishers who have survived cancer. At the postrace party, enjoy free pizza, beer, ice cream, and live rock music courtesy of Code Blue, a band of musicians/emergency-room doctors.	To run along Chicago's lakefront. The scenic out-and-back loop takes runners along Chicago's world-famous Lake Shore Drive, which offers striking views of Lake Michigan, Chicago's skyline, and some of the city's ritziest neighborhoods. Stay for the postrace party for free beer, wine, snacks, and entertainment from ska bands.	To test your mettle on the trails. Runners must navigate sharp turns and steep, rocky, root-laden descents. The point-to-point course starts at a campground in Seward, a port located 100 miles south of Anchorage, and follows a trail through Chugach National Park. The reward? Spectacular views of mountains and a chance to spot bears, moose, and mountain goats that sometimes show up on the course. Enjoy the postrace party with free beer, burgers, and hot dogs at the Bear Creek Fire Department.