



LONG DISTANCE TREK – Great Ridge

Great Ridge, Chicklade, Wiltshire SP3 5SY

By kind permission of Lord Margadale and the Fonthill Estate

Backpacking available

THE DETAILS

- EVENT DATES:** Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th February 2024
(Backpacking only available on Saturday 10th February 2024)
- ENTRY CLOSING DATE:** Thursday 8th February 2024
- ENTRY FEES:** See Online Entry Form which is available to complete on the Website and mobile App
- ENTRIES TO:** John Binding via online booking system on the AMWA Website and App.
(Payment is part of the process)
- ORGANISERS:** John Binding, John@mountaintrek.uk 07734 855914
Steve Whitfield 07763 329022

THE EVENT

- VENUE OPENS:** 06:00hrs on Saturday 10th February 2024. Camping is available on Friday and Saturday nights, Cost £5.00 per night
- RIG INSPECTION:** Saturday 10th February 2024 - From 07:00hrs near the start line
Sunday 11th February 2024 - From 07:00hrs near the start line

Entrants are only required to get their Rig/Scooter inspected once before their first run

MUSHER'S MEETING: 07:30hrs *(subject to change depending on entry numbers and temperature)*

START TIME: 08:00hrs *(subject to change depending on entry numbers and temperature)*

ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS & DRIVERS: Any dog participating in a Long Distance Trek organised by the Alaskan Malamute Working Association must be a pure bred sled dog and be registered with the Kennel Club to that effect, or have a rescue number issued by the Official Breed Club for that breed (sled dog breeds only) or have an AMWA Working Number.

Siberian Huskies issued with a BSHRA or SHWA(UK) Welfare Number or SSSDR Rescue Number will be able to participate. The driver/owner must be a current AMWA member to be eligible.

Non sled dogs owned by participants are eligible to walk the course with a handler but may not be in harness or attached in any way to a rig/sled/driver.

Dogs undertaking any Long Distance Trek must be **18 Months** of age on or by the date of the event. Those between the age of 18 and 24 months old and participating in their first trek will normally be restricted to 7.5 miles or the minimum distance offered dependant on the team size with a minimum of 5 hours rest between runs. Longer distances may be permitted at the organiser's discretion taking into account proven fitness.

JUNIORS: Junior members may take part in a non-competitive Long Distance Trek (day time only) at the organisers' discretion. They must however be accompanied by a parent in an accompanying team (in which case they must stay together for the entire distance) or alongside walking/running/cycling. They will not be permitted to take part in a night run unless between the ages of 16-18. This would also be at the organisers' discretion.

CLASSES

There will be no individual classes at this event, although there is a choice of long distance or shorter courses. There will be various marshalled checkpoints to pass, and withdraw as necessary

Long Distance (16 - 25 miles) Minimum team size: 2 dogs*, maximum 8 dogs

Short Distance (8 - 12 miles) Minimum team size: 1 dog, maximum 8 dogs

*team size will be at the discretion of the organisers

ITEMS ADVISED TO TAKE WITH YOU ON A TREK

There are a number of items that you are advised to take with you on the trek. However, this list is not exhaustive. Some items are shown as compulsory as these are seen as a safety requirement to help locate you should you get lost. Please use your common sense!

- Rig Bag/Backpack (Compulsory)
- Water for Musher and dog(s)
- Dog Bowl(s)
- Treat/snacks
- Mobile phone (With emergency contact numbers) (Compulsory)
- Puncture repair kit & tools/spare wheel
- Waterproofs or change of coat
- High energy snacks
- Spare lead
- Head torch/torch (Compulsory)
- Whistle
- Dog boots or spares
- Rear red light (advisory)

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

The course offers a choice of between 8 to 25 miles (dependent on final trail selection by the organizers), over varying terrain, mostly woodland trails/firebreaks, and some wide forest tracks. The trail is relatively level with one or two small hills. We hope to offer up to 4 distances dependant on available trails.

BOOTING Booting should not be required but it is at the Musher's discretion

PROTECTIVE HELMET The wearing of a protective helmet is **COMPULSORY**

The following approved types of helmets are acceptable. They must be undamaged and have a serviceable chin strap.

- a. Cycle helmet
- b. BMX helmet
- c. Ski helmet

Helmets must be available for inspection by the scrutineer during the rig inspection

VEHICLE ACCESS	No vehicle access is available to the trails
PARKING	Parking will be in the designated camping area near to the start line. There will be plenty of room to stake dogs out.
LIGHTING EQUIPMENT	No wet acid batteries may be carried. Plastic lenses are recommended, but any glass must be taped or preferably bagged. Back-up lights must be carried i.e., a head torch. The lights must be available for inspection We strongly recommend the use of a rear red light as a safety precaution so the musher is clearly visible. There are inexpensive and readily available.

BACKPACKING

For a small fee of £5.00, Backpackers can use the marked trails on the Saturday only

BACKPACKERS MEETING	Saturday 10 th February 2024 at 0800hrs
START TIME:	Once the last Trek team has departed
THE COURSE	Backpackers will have the option of selecting any of the marked trails being used by the Trek participants. Normal coloured markers will be used. Each of the distances offered are eligible as a leg towards the AMWA Working Pack Dog – Working Title Scheme (for eligible dogs)

OTHER

VOLUNTEERS - Events cannot be run without assistance. Please volunteer. There is a space on the entry form to indicate your preference. We will be requiring marshals for checkpoints, snubbing to help start teams, and general assistance.

SELLING OF GOODS at the Event Site will not be permitted without prior approval of the Organisers.

FACILITIES

- TOILETS** Portable toilet only
- WATER** You need to provide your own water
- CATERING** The will be no catering available
- CAMPING** We have been granted permission by the Fonthill Estate to camp on site on the Friday & Saturday nights at a cost of £5.00 per vehicle per night, providing that you leave the site as you found it. You **must** take your rubbish home with you.
- RUBBISH** We have the use of this forest on the understanding that there is no trace of our presence on the day after the Trek. This means that you **must** clear up your dogs mess, fill in any holes and remove all litter.

Please do not secure your dogs stake out line to the trees. Thank you!

IN AN EMERGENCY

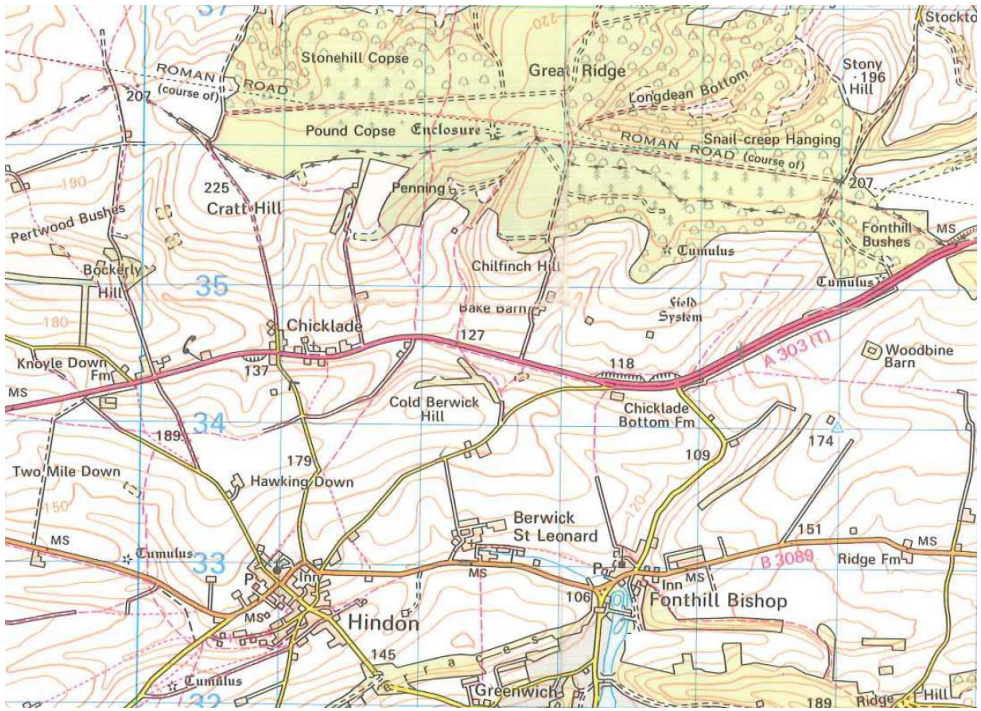
- VET CARE** Longmead Veterinary Practice, Longmead Industrial Estate, Shaftsbury, Dorset SP7 8PL. (9 miles away). Tel: 01747 852064 (24 hours)
- FIRST AID** Your First Aider is John Binding
- LOCAL HOSPITAL** Salisbury District Hospital, Odstock Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 8BJ

DIRECTIONS

The main entrance to Great Ridge is off the A303 near to the village of Chicklade, Wiltshire. Post Code **SP3 5SY**

Location of the entrance to Great Ridge – (What3words): dozed.crackled.really

From the West continue past the exit with the A350 (or join the A303 from the A350 if travelling from Warminster), go down the hill (Speed camera on R/H/S) and through the village of Chicklade. After national Speed Limit signs look for the 2nd turning on the L/H/S. There is a green sign with arrows for Bake Barn & Penning. There will also be an AMWA direction sign. Follow the track up past Bake Barn into the woods.



USEFUL WEBSITES

www.amwa.org.uk

www.fonthill.co.uk

www.what3words.com