



Saturday 22nd March 2025 10am

<https://www.staustellrunningclub.co.uk/skyline>

Arc Permit Number: ARC/25/0247

Contents (clickable)

About Us	1
Event Schedule	2
The Route	3
Green Aims	4
Cornwall College Current Course Offer	5
Local Heritage	6
Charity & Supporters	7

Return to this menu by clicking 'HOME' at the bottom of the page

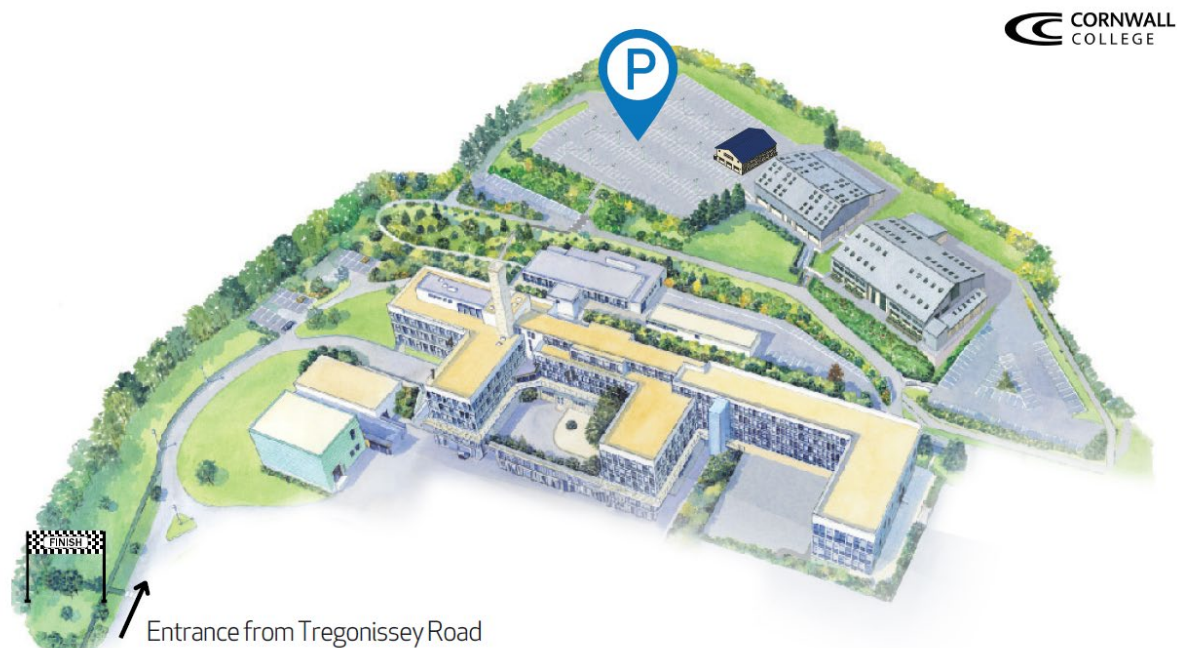
About Us

The St Austell Skyline 10 offers participants the chance to explore St Austell's clay mining heritage on a multi-terrain course that is varied, being both fast and challenging.

The race is organised by St Austell Running Club following the end of the Imerys Half and full Marathon events. The 2025 event is acting as a test-event with the hope that we can be included in the 2025-26 Multi-Terrain Race Series (MTRS). As such, we have limited our numbers this year. Please pass on your feedback to help us develop the event into future years.

Event Schedule

Parking is at the Cornwall College St Austell site (PL25 4DJ). Car park marshals will direct you to the event parking location which is at the rear of the campus. Car parking is free and your vehicle is left here at your own risk.



Registration will take place at the Event HQ: St Austell Brewery Visitor Centre (PL25 4BY). This is approximately a 5 minute walk from car park (turn right at the bottom of the hill leaving the College site and follow the pavement around past Poltair School).

Registration will be between 8.30 and 9.30am.

There will be drinks and cakes available to purchase from the Hicks Bar at Event HQ. Breakfast is served from 9am – a full menu is here: <https://hicksbar.co.uk/food-and-drink/>

Race numbers will be available for collection and there will be a space for a bag drop.

Toilets are available at HQ.

The race start line is just over a half mile walk from the HQ at the start of the Bodmin Road trail. Make sure you leave time to get there (and warm up) before the race briefing at 9.50am.

Directions to the start: leave the Brewery site and turn right, then after approx. 100 metres turn right up a lane (with 2 Trevarthian Road signs on either side). Follow this onto the cul-de-sac (Menacuddle

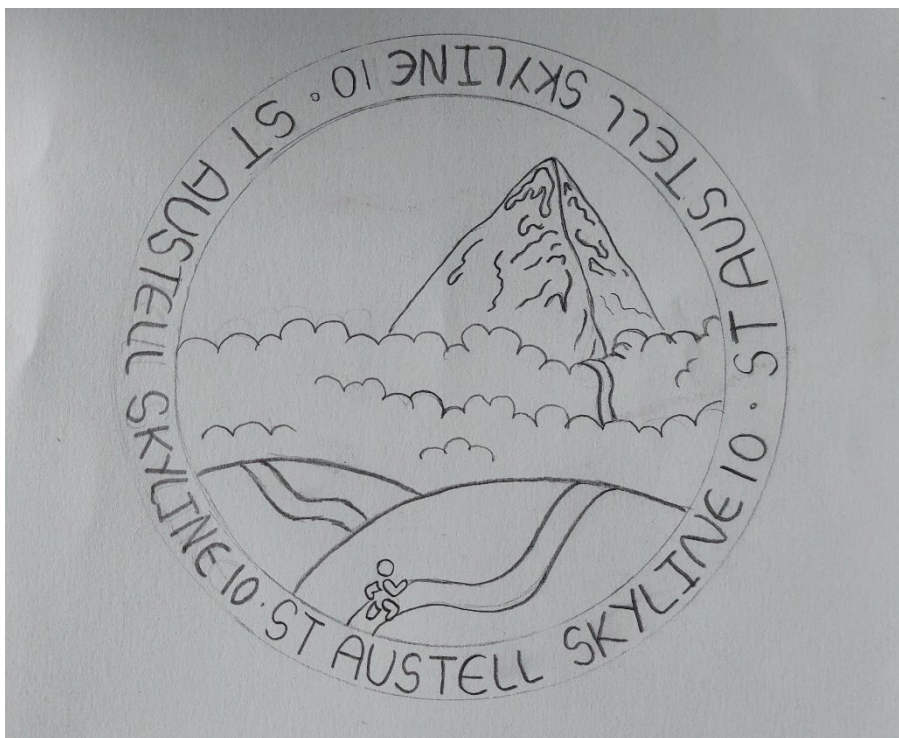
Lane) and straight out to the next junction, turning left down Menacuddle Hill. Then take the right-hand turning along Tremena Road. Look out for the path approx. 100 metres along on your left that will take you down to the start of the Bodmin Road Trail.

The briefing will take place at the start line on the Bodmin Road Trail at 9.50am before the race starts at 10am.

Following the race we will see you at the finish line at the Cornwall College site where we look forward to presenting you with your medal and memento.

Unique trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd female and male finishers. Prize-giving will take place at Event HQ once the race has concluded.

Our medal was designed by Tegan, a student at Penrice Academy.



The route

A route description is included below. There will be marshals at key points and arrows at others indicating the route. Please say a big thank you to the marshals as you pass them: they have given up their time to help this race happen!

There is no mandatory kit for this race: you are responsible for making your own choices. Be aware that the route is exposed in lots of places and if there is precipitation and wind you will quickly get cold so please consider what you need to wear/carry.

This is a multi-terrain event so trail shoes are strongly recommended. There are lots of places where you may trip or fall so be alert.

Whilst there are no official cut-offs please note that the race organisers reserve the right to close the route/finish a participant's race based on conditions and for the wellbeing of our marshals.

The drinks stations will provide cups of water. See our Green Aims section for why we are using plastic cups this year.

Route description:

The race starts at the beginning of the clay trail alongside Bodmin Road, a 5 minute walk from Race HQ. You will follow this shared access trail for approximately 2 miles as it rises up (be prepared for the climb!) towards the clay workings above St Austell.

The 'skyline' in our name comes from the point around 2.5 miles in. You will have completed a challenging ascent and, if the weather is on-side, will be able to experience spectacular views from the Sky Spur: the famous sky tip on one-side and a panorama of St Austell Bay from the Gribbin around to Black Head and beyond. The sky-spur section is mostly single-track with heather, rocks and other trip obstacles to take care with. You will return back along the way you came and then along the clay trail to your next section.

The first drinks station will be here at mile 3. Crossing the road bridge above the A390 you will enter into a circuit of Baal Pit. This is a wide section of good-packed trail with downhill and uphill before a short woodland footpath section. After returning to the clay trail you then will be directed along a footpath past Carn Grey and back again to the trails. There will be an open section (newly gated for us by Imerys) before heading down into another winding woodland section. Upon leaving here you will rejoin the permissive path, passing by the edge of the newly constructed Eco-village and completing the loop of Baal Pit. You will recross over the A390 and re-pass the final drink station (mile 6) before going back down Drummers Hill and along Bodmin Road towards the finish. But watch out as there is a sting in the tail...

You will join the road on Menacuddle Hill, turning left and up before being directed onto a footpath and a steep descent down to the Cornwall College site. Marshals will direct you around the back of the buildings (please use the pavement to avoid the potholed surface) and then following around to your left and downhill to our finish line on the grass. If the weather is good you'll finish with a view of St Austell Bay! If it isn't, you won't!

A GPX of the route can be accessed here: <https://connect.garmin.com/modern/course/333432543>

This is the latest version but there will be a few small adjustments (the new gates were not in place around mile 5-6 at the time of recording it).

Green aims

We have made various decisions throughout the planning process to try and make this event as green as possible and reduce the impact we have on our environment, which we value as a running club and as fellow trail runners. As the event is established, we will review what more we can do to lessen our impact further and improve what we do.

The biggest carbon footprint impact of any event is the travel. Cornwall's infrastructure makes this a challenge with limited public transport. Nevertheless there are ways we can all try and better our own impact.

Please consider car sharing to the event if you have to drive to take part. Every car not driven helps!

If you are able to take public transport to the event then please do so.

The train station is a short walk from Event HQ.

The bus station is based here too and has connections to Newquay, Lostwithiel, Truro and Bodmin.
<https://www.transportforcornwall.co.uk>

Other steps:

- **We have opted for wooden medals created in the UK.** Whilst not always as popular as metal medals these are more sustainable in the long-run. We think they look good too! There is less weight and therefore they don't need as much fuel to be transported from the manufacturer to us
- **We are using up a left-over stock of plastic cups at drinks stations.** As these have already been manufactured their impact is already there. We will recycle these after the event and then move to either paper cups next year or go cupless.
- **Our memento is made in the UK.** There is a lot of debate around the wastage of race t-shirts and other mementos. There is no right answer here as both t-shirts and snoods are made from synthetic materials and dyes that end up back in the environment, but the snood ('buff') is multi-functional and can be reused many times. If you do not wish to take one then don't. We will review the uptake at the end of the event and consider what may make an appropriate memento for next year's event.

If you are interested in finding out more about the impact that running and running events have on the environment then it is worth reading Damian Hall's book *We Can't Run Away from This* which talks in detail about this area and what we can do to lessen our own impact.



ADULT PROFESSIONAL & LEISURE COURSES

Whether you want to develop your skills, take on a new hobby or plan on changing careers, Cornwall College has something for everyone.

Scan to find
out more...



Local Heritage

Our route has been designed to deliberately include or pass by various areas of interest in the St Austell area. There are a few more details below for you.

Menacuddle Well

Opposite the start area is the ancient site of Menacuddle Well. It is believed to have been built in the 15th century and then restored in the 1900s by Sir Charles Graves-Sawle in memory of his son who died in the First World War. This family's name is featured in many local locations. It has been restored more recently again and is a beautiful and tranquil site to visit including a waterfall and ponds.

Legend states that if you drop a pin into the well and make a wish, your wish will be granted. See if that helps with your race performance!

Carn Grey

You pass by the tor at Carn Grey and may just be able to see over the fence-line into the quarry below. This quarry was used for many centuries and was well-known for the quality (and strength) of the stone that came from it.

Local buildings that utilised the stone include the main church in St Austell, the Market House and Public Rooms (now Sports Direct building).

Some of the stone was even included in the building of Blackfriars Bridge in London.

The Clay Industry

There won't be space to do a full exploration of the clay industry and its impact on St Austell. Clay has been mined in this area for over 300 years (plus an abundance of other minerals including copper and tin).

Although you run the skyline of St Austell in this race you will notice that the 'Sky Tip' is still much higher than you! These pyramids ('The Cornish Alps') were created by conveying waste materials out of the nearby pits during the process of removing clay. Many were flattened following the Aberfan Mining Disaster in the 1960s but lots remain. The clay industry (now run by Imerys locally, formerly ECC and ECLP before that) has artificially raised the height of the local area. The St Austell Downs are now largely beneath these barrows of waste (including prehistoric sites and long stones). It is worth heading to the nearby Carloggas Downs for a walk up there to appreciate the impact of the industry which brought employment to thousands locally at one time.

Baal Pit (which you will circle) has been in use for hundreds of years formerly as a tin mine and was abandoned in the 1980s. It was used as a filming location for Doctor Who in 1971 with its other-worldly appearance!

John Keay House

Now the Cornwall College St Austell site, for many years this was the HQ for ECLP (China Clay) when it opened in 1965 and mirrors the architectural style of this decade. It eventually passed to the College in 2002 and is undergoing redevelopment works that will eventually see the current buildings demolished and replaced with a new campus.

Charity

A proportion of any surplus monies from the event will be made to Brain Tumour Support.

This charity does fantastic work and you can read more about it here:

<https://www.braintumoursupport.co.uk>

Our club has a close connection with this charity and we therefore felt it appropriate to support this organisation.



Supporters:

We would like to say a big thank you to the groups and organisations below whose support in various ways has allowed us to put on this race. You can see information over the next couple of pages about what they do.

Thank you to Imerys for being so accommodating with access to the permissive paths.

Thank you to Cornwall College St Austell for the use of their site for car parking and for the finish location.

Thank you to St Austell Brewery for the use of the Visitors Centre for Event HQ.

Thank you to Nigel for designing our race logo and to Tegan for designing our medal.

St Austell Running Club are the organisers of this event. For more information about becoming part of our club visit this website: <https://www.staustellrunningclub.co.uk/>

We are friendly and inclusive and would love to see you there!

