

## **Mountain biking – Mauritius Tour Beachcomber 2020: Registration now open for the race's 5th edition**

The fifth edition of the Mauritius Tour Beachcomber (MTB) will be held from the 30th of April to the 2nd of May 2020. The event, a must for mountain biking enthusiasts, is set to be even more exciting than in previous years. "We aim to offer mountain bikers a 5-star experience", explains Arianne Devienne-Bellepeau, Leisure & Events Manager of Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels. Online registration for the race is now open.

The MTB 2020 will consist of 4 stages over a total distance of 195km. It will kick off on the 30th of April at the Paradis Beachcomber Golf Resort & Spa, at the foot of the iconic Morne Mountain, with a 70km-long first stage along a beautiful and challenging route. The track cuts through the villages of Le Morne and Baie du Cap, follows the scenic Macondé road, winds its way through private hunting estates, then climbs to take in the infamous Watook ascent, which is quite a challenge! The route will allow riders to discover some of the South's most beautiful villages and plunge them deep into the heart of this spectacular but lesser-known part of Mauritius before they cross the finish line at Shandrani Beachcomber Resort & Spa.

The second stage will begin on the 1st of May at Shandrani Beachcomber. This 45km event will take competitors off the beaten path, along a fast and technical track designed to allow riders to discover the unspoiled southern coastline and its unique landscapes.

The third stage is a 22.5m night race that is famous for its festive and friendly atmosphere, and will begin in the late afternoon of 1 May at Shandrani Beachcomber. It challenges competitors to find their bearings and keep up the pace as they ride along the coast in the dark.

The final, 60km-long stage of MTB will depart from the Shandrani Beachcomber on Saturday 2nd of May. The route crosses Le Val Nature Park and St Hubert village to reach the area commonly known as the "Chemin Français". It will then continue on to Riche en Eau and Beau Vallon before returning to Shandrani Beachcomber.

The MTB 2020 also includes a course specially designed for children between the ages of 5 and 12 and located on the Shandrani Beachcomber's grounds. It's a great way for kids to try out or get better at mountain biking. Depending on their age, kids can take part in a 2 to 5km kilometre race, starting from the Shandrani Beachcomber, that promises to be great fun.

"The MTB race is now one of Mauritius' flagship sporting events. Beachcomber has two objectives in organising this event: to help promote mountain biking as a sport; and to allow riders to discover simply breath-taking parts of Mauritius," says Arianne Devienne-Bellepeau. "In addition to the sporting element of the race, taking part in the MTB is also an opportunity to enjoy a five-star Beachcomber experience, from its organisation to registration, logistics and food and hydration stations."

You can register for the MTB 2020 online at <http://www.beachcomber-events.com/mtb>. For more information, please visit the Beachcomber Events Facebook page.

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About Beachcomber

Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels is the pioneer and leader of the Mauritian tourism industry. Since the creation of Park Hotel in 1952, a collection of 9 resorts have emerged over the years, including the mythical Royal Palm Beachcomber Luxury Mauritius in 1985, considered by everyone as the reference in hospitality for luxury holidays in Mauritius.

The Group recently expanded its collection, with the integration of the Beachcomber French Riviera, situated on the Côte d'Azur, in France.

The collection of 9 resorts affords a choice of accommodation options ranging from rooms and apartments to suites and villas. Each hotel is imbued with a particular history and cachet, embodying an image of discrete luxury.

*Social responsibility – Fondation Espoir Développement (FED), by Beachcomber*

Set up and financed by Beachcomber since 1999, with the participation of hotels and employees, this foundation takes care of these main projects:

- Projet Employabilité Jeunes (PEJ): professional insertion of school drop-outs through a training programme and industrial attachments.
- Collaboration with NGOs, schools and associations
- Regional projects – youth mentoring: the "Amour et Espoir" NGO; IT initiation; youth monitoring via the "Duke of Edinburgh International Award" programme, participation of regional sports clubs in the organisation of the Beachcomber UTRB Trail 2015

*Social responsibility – Local Hands*

Programme launched in 2006 to support small local artisans by providing them with training and guidance as they embark upon the process of creation, production, marketing and sales.

*Sustainable development – our environmental actions – EarthCheck label*

Sustainable development and environmental protection constitute real considerations within the Group, which has set up, amongst other initiatives, practices that ensure energy savings and favour renewable energy sources. These initiatives in favour of sustainable development have been recognised and rewarded, with all of our hotels recently obtaining the EarthCheck Benchmarked Silver accreditation for their ongoing commitment to environmentally responsible practices.