

UTRB 2019: Great turnout for this 6th edition

The 6th edition of the UTRB was marked by spectacular sceneries, a warm atmosphere and chills. All the ingredients were there to make this trail a huge success, and so, in spite of the bad weather. More than 1500 trailers and hikers from all categories had the time of their lives the weekend of July 27 and 28. Some 200 artisans of Beachcomber group were also among the participants as well as famous trailers including Maxime Cazajous, the French ambassador of the 2019 edition.

This year, the not to be missed "Trail des 7 couleurs by Raidlight & Beachcomber" (100 km) was cancelled due to bad weather conditions. Some tracks were impassable and dangerous. The trailers who enrolled for the 100 km race, were invited to participate in the 47 km race (Trail de la Perruche by Air France). The trailers were registered for the three different tracks offered by Beachcomber Events: the "Trail de la Perruche by Air France" (47 km), the "Trail du Nautile by Transcontinent" (25 km) and the "Trail du Souffleur" (10 km) which rounded off the competition.

Maxime Cazajous won the 47 km race on the men's side with a time of 5.04.11. Mauritian Léa Cavalier shone on the women's side with a time of 06.32.53. For the 25 km race, Frédéric Ducheman from Reunion Island crossed the finish line with a time of 01.50.53. Deanne Horn from South Africa won this race on the women's side with a time of 2.08.53. Finally, Jean Marie Cadet from Reunion Island sealed with 10 km race with a time of 00.39.33 while Deanne Horn once again finished the race first with a time of 00.45.13.

The CEO of Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels, Gilbert Espitalier-Noël, who was present at the prize giving ceremony, commented the great participation at the UTRB in spite of the bad weather.

"Thank you for facing and overcoming the bad weather. Thank you to all our friends from abroad who flew in for the UTRB. I thank Shandrani Beachcomber for the welcome. Congratulations to Arianne Devienne Bellepeau, our Leisure & Events Manager, and the entire team for the organisation. I know it was not easy this year because of the weather," he highlighted.

Arianne Devienne Bellepeau, for her part, is very satisfied with the outcome of the competition. "UTRB 2019 was filled with emotions. There were amazing tracks, exceptional food for refuelling, dedicated teams, and happy participants. I really want to congratulate all the participants and all the artisans who were there last weekend in spite of the bad weather. Congratulations to everyone and thank you so much for your support!", she emphasises while thanking all the loyal sponsors and partners without whom, the Ultra Trail Raidlight Beachcomber would not exist.

See you for a new edition in 2020!

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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 our hotels recently obtaining the EarthCheck Benchmarked Silver accreditation for their ongoing commitment to environmentally responsible practices.