

RIDERS GUIDE

SUNDAY APRIL 28



GRAVEL FONDO LIMBURG

YOUR GRAVEL RACE OF A LIFETIME

Welcome! You are taking on the second edition of Gravel Fondo Limburg. On Sunday April 28 you'll compete with 1.500 other riders for the podium and to qualify for the World Championships Gravel 2024.

In this Riders Guide you'll find all information you need for the best preparation possible.

Any further questions after reading this Guide? Drop us a line and email info@gravelfondolimburg.nl.

A special word of thanks to our presenting partner Shimano Experience Center and all the volunteers who will make it a perfect day in Valkenburg.

Good luck with the preparations!

Best regards,

Team Gravel Fondo Limburg



EVENT LOCATION

On Sunday April 28 the start, finish and festival area of Gravel Fondo Limburg are located at the **Shimano Experience Center** in Valkenburg.

The address:

Shimano Experience Center

De Leeuwhof 2

6301 KZ Valkenburg

Google Maps



REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

On Friday April 26, Saturday April 27 and Sunday April 28 the registration of riders is inside the Shimano Experience Center. Please follow the signs.

Times of registration:

- Friday April 26 12h00 – 19h00
- Saturday April 27 12h00 – 18h00
- Sunday April 28 06h30 – 08h00

To start a UCI or day license is **mandatory!** Check your registration to be sure. Without a license you can't participate in the race.

You will receive an email with your personal QR code. Please have this QR code and (if applicable) UCI licence ready when you're at the registration desk. This saves you and us time.

There are two separate queues: a UCI registration desk including check by officials and a day license registration desk. Follow the signs. You will get an envelope including a number plate with chip, bib number and safety pins.



STARTING PROCEDURE

On Sunday April 28 the start will be in waves, based on categories.

Starting times:

- 08:30 Priority box men + men elite
- 08:31 Priority box women + women elite
- 08:33 Age category 19 – 34y
- 08:35 Age category 35 – 39y
- 08:37 Age category 40 – 44y
- 08:39 Age category 45 – 49y
- 08:41 Age category 50 – 54y
- 08:43 Age category 55 – 59y
- 08:45 Age category 60 – 64y
- 08:47 Age category 65 – 69y
- 08:49 Age category 70 – 74y
- 08:51 Age category 75 – 79y



STARTING PROCEDURE

The race director makes a selection of 25 selected riders for the priority start box men and women. This selection on the list is unrecallable and undisputable. Do NOT contact us and question the selection.

The priority box men will be followed by the Elite men category, next is the priority box women followed by Elite women category. The first age category after the priority boxes and Elite is 19–34y, the second 35–39y, etc. Colored bib numbers distinguish competitors in each category.

Check the signing at the event and the starting list prior to the event to know in which box you need to start.



RESULTS

The results of Gravel Fondo Limburg will be shared directly after finish at the UCI Qualifying desk.

You can check the results and qualified riders for the UCI Gravel World Championships yourself.

This results page will be live as from Wednesday April 24 with the starting list. After the race on Sunday April 28 you'll see all the other relevant information related to the race.

The winners will receive a UCI Jersey per category on the podium.

The qualifiers will get a UCI qualifiers medal. Please keep in mind this can only be picked up on the event. We don't send them afterwards.

All riders will get a finishers patch at the registration desk.



RACE REGULATIONS

On the event page you'll find the [UCI Race Regulations](#). Please read these carefully. These are the highlights:

To start in this qualifying event:
a UCI or day license is **mandatory!**

As per the official qualification system for the 2024 UCI Gravel World Championships, Gravel Fondo Limburg grants qualification rights for the UCI Gravel World Championships 2024 in Halle-Leuven, Belgium for those riders finishing in the first 25% of the official qualifying distances in the Elite and specific age groups.

The 25% is calculated based on the number of starters in each age group, and not on the number of riders having finished the race. Qualification is always per age group and based on age group results, not on overall results.



CATEGORIES

These are the categories:

- Elite men & women
- 19 – 34y men & women
- 35 – 39y men & women
- 40 – 44y men & women
- 45 – 49y men & women
- 50 – 54y men & women
- 55 – 59y men & women
- 60 – 64y men & women
- 65 – 69y men & women
- 70 – 74y men & women
- 75+ men & women

The Age Categories applicable to the Gravel World Series are defined by the riders age on December 31 of the year of the qualifier event.



ROUTES

You can choose between two routes: 85 km or 123 km. Do you want to qualify for the UCI Gravel World Championships in Italy? Pick the right distance linked to your age category.

Official qualifier distance UCI Gravel World Championships

- Men 60+ & women 50+: 85 km
- Men 19-59 & women 19-49: 123 km

The GPX files can be found on [RideWithGPS](#). Download and upload them into your GPS computer.

On the route there will be signing and marshalls. Although it's a race please be cautious all the time and follow the instructions.



ROUTES

Based on the distance you ride there are two or three loops.

- Lead-in 5.1 km
- Loop 37.9 km
- Final stretch 6.9 km

Elevation gain:

- 85 km: 936 hm
- 123 km: 1366 hm

Elevation profile 85 km



Elevation profile 123 km



Expect a climb like the famous Cauberg, technical descents, gravel, lössgrond, tarmac roads and a unique location in the final stretch: **Chateau St. Gerlach** (normally strictly forbidden for cyclists).

Along the course there are two feed zones with (limited) technical support per loop (19 km apart).

ROUTES

The GPX files can be found on [RideWithGPS](#). Download and upload them into your GPS computer.



SUNDAY APRIL 28 2024

- Gravel Fondo Limburg, Sunday April 28 2024
- Start and finish at **Shimano Experience Center**, Valkenburg
- Start race **08h30**, expected latest arrival **16h00**

- Lead in of 5.1 km
- Loop of 37.9 km (two or three times)
- Finish stretch of 6.9 km



FEED ZONES AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Along the course there are two feed zones with (limited) technical support per loop (19 km apart).

- The first feed zone is **Gasthuis**
- The second feed zone is **Groot Welsden**

Click or check the map and GPX files for the exact feed zone locations.

The race is self-reliant. Bring your own tools and spare tires. Other problems can be fixed in the feed zones, limited tools are available. You can change wheels during the race, not your bike.

You may use any type of bike – gravel bike, road bike, mountain bike – with the exception of tandem, recumbent bikes and time trial road bikes.



SAFETY ON ROUTE

It's a race, but safety on route is of the utmost importance. Never ever bring yourself, other participants or other road and path users in danger. Do not take unnecessary risks and always ride like ambassadors for our sport.

Due to the wet weather conditions, certain sections of the course **may be very wet** (!) Especially be mindful of this during descents. A fall can happen quickly.

At all times respect the following rules:

- Ride safely!
- Always obey all local laws and regulations
- Although it's a race, please keep in mind there might be other road users, such as pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists
- There will be a clean up ride on Monday, but respect nature. Don't litter and dispose of your garbage
- Always wear your helmet
- At all times follow instructions of organization



PROGRAM

Registration

- Friday 12h00 – 19h00
- Saturday 12h00 – 18h00
- Sunday 06h30 – 08h00

Starting times

Start in waves between 08h30 and 08:51 based on category

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PROGRAM

Podium ceremony

13h00 – 13h30

Entertainment program

12h00 – 18h00

- United in Gravel Weekender
- Bike expo with partners
- UCI Award ceremony
- Finish alley
- DJ
- Food Trucks
 - Lamb Weston frietje zuurvlees
 - Burgers
 - Kwaremont Koerse Kaffee
 - Il Magistrale Coffee
- BikeWize for kids
- And much more...



UNITED IN GRAVEL WEEKENDER

Gravel Fondo Limburg is part of the United in Gravel Weekender, Friday April 26 to Sunday April 28. This weekender brings together all gravel enthusiasts for an entire weekend at the cycling hub of the Benelux: the Shimano Experience Center. This is the program:

Friday April 26 10h00 – 17h00

Bike Expo and Gravel Bikes Test Event

Check out the newest gravel bikes of Specialized, Canyon, Scott, Ridley, Giant, Liv, Orbea, Wilier Triestina, Merida, Thompson, and J. Guillem at the Bike Expo. And, you have the opportunity to **test them for free!**

Get your free ticket and test them all. Coffee and Limburgse vlaai are included.

[Register for free](#)



UNITED IN GRAVEL WEEKENDER

Friday April 26 19h30 - 22h00

Gravel Café Live!

Join the first Gravel Café Live! At the Shimano Experience Center presenter Roxanne Knetemann will discuss the latest trends in the gravel scene together with Laurens ten Dam, Tessa Neefjes, Femke Gort and Danny Nelissen.

Sign up for free. We only have 100 tickets available.

Saturday April 27 07h30 - 18h00

LtD Gravel Fest King's Day Edition

LtD Gravel Fest is all about two amazing gravel routes, King's Day activities, live music, DJs, hearty food, craft beers, a tombola with amazing prizes and 'Limburgse gezelligheid'. Start and finish will be at the Shimano Experience Center in Valkenburg.

As a Gravel Fondo Limburg rider you get a discount of EUR 5.00 with code **UNITED-IN-GRAVEL**.

Get a ticket yourself, for friends or family. Your Best King's Day out on a Bike. Ever!

PRACTICALITIES

PARKING

There are many paid parkings in Valkenburg. Follow the instructions of the marshalls and check the parking signs. Keep in mind it can be busy in the morning. Please come early.

CASHLESS

Gravel Fondo Limburg is a cashless event. So bring your debit/credit card and/or phone with you to buy drinks and food.

LOCKERS

There are no lockers at the event. Leave your belongings in your car or (even better) give them to your friends or family or leave them at home.

EVENT PHOTOS

After the event we'll send you an email with event photos. Check personalized race photos on [Sportograf.com](https://www.sportograf.com).



PRACTICALITIES

SHOWERS

Inside the Shimano Experience Center there are shower facilities.

BIKE PARKING

Our volunteers will keep an eye on your bike. Bring your beauty to the secured bike parking and you will get a ticket. Don't lose it!

BIKE WASHING

Want to wash your bike? There is a bike washing station close to the event area. Follow the signs.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

In case of an emergency call 112. Always! Help will be arranged by the local authorities (ambulance, police and/or fire brigade).

FIRST AID SPORTDOKTERS

Call +31 6 29 05 45 74 if you need any medical help.

SERVICE NUMBER

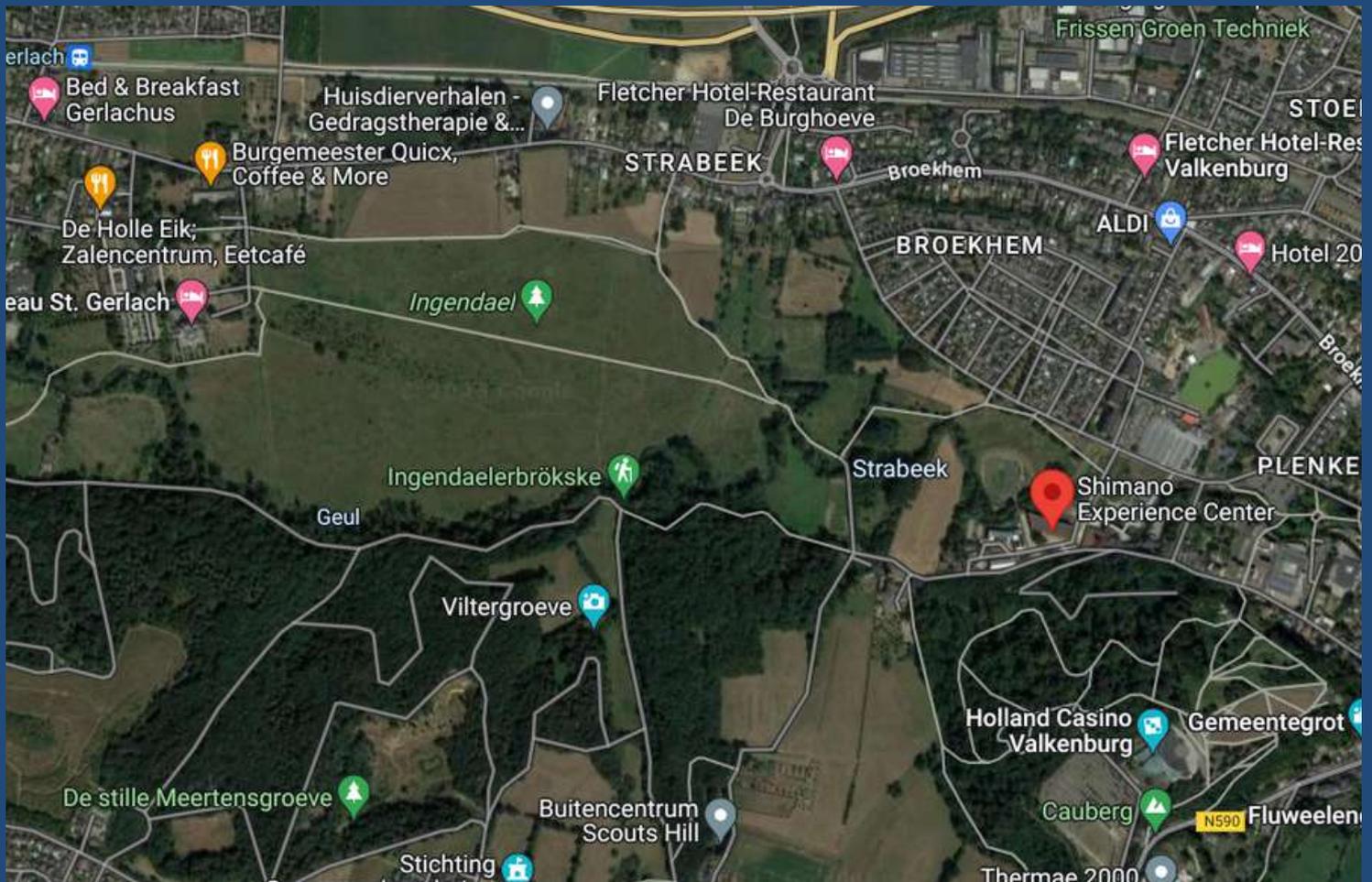
Any other issues during the race or at the festival area?
Call + 316 38 75 91 16.

PRACTICALITIES

ADDRESS

Shimano Experience Center
De Leeuwhof 2
6301 KZ Valkenburg

Google Maps



PARTNERS



SHIMANO

EXPERIENCE CENTER

SHIMANO

**UNITED
IN GRAVEL**

SHIMANO

LAZER

SHIMANO

GRX



**PAS NORMAL
STUDIOS**

INTERNATIONAL CYCLING CLUB

**GOOD LUCK WITH THE
PREPERATIONS AND RACE!**



**GRAVEL
FONDO
LIMBURG**