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Missoula Marathon Participant Study: 2013

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2013 Missoula Marathon Participant Study

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Case Study Report 2013-4

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Introduction

The purpose of this study was to provide organizers of the Missoula Marathon with an understanding of their 2013 race participants and the money they and their travel group spent in Missoula. The spending in this report does not include that of race spectators who were not part of a travel group with a runner of the marathon. Therefore, the spending presented in this report is not the total spending due to the marathon.

Results are comparable to three previous studies done on the marathon in 2007, 2010, and 2012. The methodology and questions asked have been identical except for a small amount of additional questions in 2013 which are highlighted in Appendices A through D. The previous years' reports can be found at:

http://www.itrr.umt.edu/reports_casestudies.html

Methods

E-mail addresses were available for participants making a web-based survey a viable option for this study. The population of interest for this study was registered 2013 Missoula Marathon participants. Of the 5,035 individuals who were contacted for the survey, 3,160 were from Montana and of those 1,773 were from Missoula County and 1,387 were from another Montana county. Nonresidents made up 1,875 of runners who received the survey.

E-mail addresses were obtained from the race organizers. An e-mail was sent to the race participants the week following the race. The email explained the purpose of the study and gave the participants a link to the web survey. Reminder e-mails were sent to the participants one week later.

The survey consisted of 33 questions, however, not all questions applied to all respondents. The questions asked were dependent on the respondents' residence. All respondents were asked questions regarding their satisfaction with the event and demographic questions, like household income. Missoula County residents were not asked about their trip characteristics and were not asked expenditure information. Residents of other counties, states, and countries were asked about their trip characteristics and their expenditures in the area.

Limitations

This survey was sent to participants with e-mail addresses. It is assumed that these participants represent all participants of the Missoula Marathon.

Results

The survey link was e-mailed to the 5,035 marathon participants with email addresses. One hundred and four surveys were returned as undeliverable making a total of 4,931 possible respondents. A 29 percent response rate was obtained (1,441 completed surveys). Of these, 552 were from Missoula County, 349 were from other Montana counties and 540 were from other states or countries. A total of 963 females (67%) and 471 males (33%) with a mean age of 43 completed the survey.

Table 1: Top Residences of Out of State Respondents

Place of Residence	# of respondents
Washington	145
Idaho	52
California	32
Texas	30
Oregon	19
Virginia	17
Florida	15
Illinois	14
New York	12
Colorado	10
Pennsylvania	10
Wyoming	10

*states also represented include: Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah, Wisconsin.

Table 2: Out of Country Respondents

Place of Residence	# of respondents
Alberta, Canada	13
British Columbia, Canada	7
Saskatchewan, Canada	4
Ontario, Canada	3
China	1
Honduras	1
Quebec, Canada	1
Spain	1

Trip Characteristics

Trip characteristics were asked of out-of-county participants (non-Missoula County participants). For respondents from other Montana counties, the mean number of nights away from home was 2.88, and the mean number of nights spent in Missoula was 2.46. The mean group size was 3.76. For participants from out-of-state or country, the mean number of nights away from home was 5.42. The mean number of nights spent in Montana was 4.90, and the mean number of nights spent in Missoula was 3.64. The mean group size was 3.33.

Expenditures

Expenditure information was asked of participants who reside outside Missoula County. The survey asked that they report their best estimate of the total amount of money they and their family or travel group (if applicable) spent in Missoula County in the following categories: motel/hotel/B&B, restaurant/bar, gasoline, retail goods, groceries/snacks, entertainment/recreation, gratuity, campground, auto rental, and local transportation. Extreme values, or outliers, were brought down to the 95th percentile to ensure that these values did not skew the mean. Mean expenditures for both out-of-county and out-of-state/country for each category can be found in Table 1. The mean total expenditure spent in Missoula for out-of-county respondents was \$238.81 and the mean total expenditure for out-of- state/country respondents was \$432.68. Direct expenditures for all out-of-county respondents totaled \$331,229.47 while out-of-state/country respondents spent \$811,275.00. Total direct expenditures in Missoula of Missoula Marathon runners and their family/travel group were \$1,142,504.47.

Table 3- Expenditure Data: Total Money Spent in Missoula County

Expenditure Category	Out-of-County Mean Expenditure	% of Respondents who spent money	Out-of-State Mean Expenditure	% of Respondents who spent money
Motel/Hotel/B&B	\$73.59	44%	\$147.79	52%
Restaurant/Bar	\$59.96	70%	\$110.72	74%
Gasoline	\$38.54	60%	\$38.80	60%
Retail goods	\$37.20	42%	\$48.35	43%
Groceries/Snacks	\$15.51	42%	\$31.80	53%
Entertainment/Recreation	\$6.54	11%	\$14.54	20%
Gratuity	\$5.50	26%	\$10.31	34%
Campground	\$1.57	3%	\$4.02	5%
Auto rental	\$0.29	<1%	\$25.75	14%
Local transportation	\$0.11	<1%	\$0.60	2%
Total Trip Expenditure	\$238.81	--	\$432.68	--
TOTAL Contribution	\$331,229.47	--	\$811,275.00	--

Results by Residence

Further results are provided by analyzing all respondents, respondents from Missoula County, the rest of Montana, and out-of-state respondents. Appendix A shows the results of all respondents (sample size of 1,441). Appendix B shows the results for Missoula County residents (sample size of 552). Appendix C shows the results for Montana residents who are from other counties (sample size of 349), and Appendix D shows results for out-of-state respondents (sample size of 540).

Results of Open Ended Response Questions

Three open-ended questions were asked of respondents. The answers to these can be found in Appendix E and represent all respondents together for each question. The survey instrument can be viewed at: www.itrr.umt.edu/websurvey/MissoulaMarathon

Appendix A- All Respondents Results

n=1,441

**Missoula County residents only answered questions 4-13

1. Was attending or participating in the marathon your primary reason for being in the area?

88% Yes

12% No

2. For what other reasons were you visiting the area?

Other reasons for visiting Missoula	Percent
Visit friends/relatives	76%
Vacation/recreation/pleasure	55%
Business/convention/meeting	4%
Shopping	2%
Just passing through	1%

3. During the marathon, in what type of accommodations did you stay?

Accommodation Type	Percent
Hotel/motel/bed & breakfast	66%
Home of friend/relative	27%
Private campground	4%
Rented cabin/home	4%
Public land camping	1%
Second home/condo/cabin	1%
Vehicle in parking lot	1%
Resort/condominium	<1%
Guest ranch	--

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Self	26%
Friends	20%
Immediate family	16%
Couple	15%
Family & friends	15%
Extended family	4%
Organized group/club	3%
Business associates	1%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	22%	6	4%
2	31%	7	3%
3	14%	8	2%
4	10%	9	1%
5	7%	10 or more	4%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	6%
6-10 years	6%
11-17 years	8%
18-24years	13%
25-34years	38%
35-44years	37%
45-54years	35%
55-64years	26%
65-74years	11%
75 and over	2%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	5%
\$20,000 to 39,999	12%
\$40,000 to 59,999	16%
\$60,000 to 79,999	14%
\$80,000 to 99,999	18%
\$100,000 to 149,999	21%
\$150,000 to 199,999	8%
\$200,000 and over	7%

8. What is your sex?

33% *Male*
67% *Female*

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	0.1%
1-7 days before the marathon	1%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	1%
1-6 months before the marathon	49%
over 6 months before the marathon	50%

10. How did you hear about the 2013 Missoula Marathon? (check all that apply)

How heard about Marathon	Percent
I ran the race before	42%
Word of mouth	37%
Internet	15%
Group or club	10%
Other ** (see below)	9%
Magazine	5%
Newspaper	4%
E-mail from marathon planners	4%
Posters	2%
Television	2%
Radio	2%
Flyer	1%
Retail outlet	1%
Direct mail	0.3%

Other Responses to: How did you hear about the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

Wife has run before
Went to school in Missoula U of M
Walked Race 2 previous years - ran this year with Galloway group
Volunteered last year
Volunteered in 2011
Volunteered as Aid Worker last year
Tim Brooker
Through work, Run4Kids fundraiser
Spouse ran before
Son
Seattle Marathon Race Expo
Seattle Marathon Expo
RWM
Running community (unknown)
Runner's world magazine
Runner's edge
Runner's World Top Marathons
Runner's World Article
Runner's World
Runner's World
Run4Kids team
Run Wild Missoula
Run Wild Missoula
Run wild Missoula
Run Wild
Run USA
Run it for Flagship
Run for Kids, Youth Homes of Missoula
Run 4 kids-Missoula youth homes
Rock and Roll Expo
Road Runners of America State Championship marathon
Road Runners Club of America
Reviews on internet
Regular visitor to Missoula
Ran the half in 2008
Ran the 5K the year before
Ran it last year
Race expo in WA
Previously lived in Missoula
Previous racer
Post card on the half at a restaurant in Helena
Portland marathon expo
Pam Gardiner, Galloway Running Group Leader
Originally from Montana
My wife, Galloway Group
My wife ran it before

My wife is from Missoula, we wanted to run a race so I looked up the Missoula Marathon
My son ran it in 2012 and loved the whole atmosphere and decided to make it a goal for 2013
My sister told me about it
My niece-she was at college there
My mom was in a walking club with Runners Edge
My kids talked me into it
My husband ran it before
My husband is from Missoula and we wanted to run there. Race had great reviews ...easy choice!
My friend ran it last year
My friend living in Missoula signed me up.
My fiancé had ran three before this
Mom told me
Marathons.com
Marathonguide.com
marathonguide.com
Marathonguide
Marathon.com
Marathon maniac club
Marathon maniac club
Marathon guide.com and Marathon Maniacs Facebook page
Marathon Guide
Marathon guide
Marathon and Beyond
Local family informed me
Lived in Missoula when it began, saw the race
Live here
Jeff Galloway website
Jeff Galloway email
It goes past my house
Internet
I WALKED the race before
I ran the half the year before
I ran the half marathon before
I live in Missoula! Easy to hear about it!
I live in Missoula, so it's hard to not know about it.
I live in Missoula so knew about it
I live here
I know the race creator
I fell in love with the 2012 medal at a marathon expo last year and promptly signed up.
I am originally from Missoula
Husband has volunteered since inception
Half2Run web site
Galloway Group
Galloway email communication

From my daughter
From mother-in-law, a Missoula resident
From living in Missoula
Friends, MIT (Marathoners In Training) running group in Columbus, OH
Friends who run
Friends ran the 1/2 & wanted to run the full
Friends ran race before
Friends did this race before.
Friends
Friends
Friend who wanted me to race with her
Friend who lives in Missoula
Friend who has run this marathon before
Friend went to university of Montana
Friend was looking for Montana race.
Friend signed me out.
Friend ran last year
Friend from Missoula raced
Friend
Friend
Friend
Family member
Family
Family
Family
Family
Family
Family
Family
Facebook, run montana.com

Facebook
Facebook
Expo Vendor
Expo Portland
Everyone in Missoula knows about the marathon!
Daughter lives in Missoula
Daughter asked if I was interested in running too
Daughter
Daughter
Daughter
Dallas Marathon Health Expo
Coaster I picked up at the Seattle Marathon expo
City Missoula resident
Booth at the Bloomsday Expo in Spokane
Booth at Seattle Marathon expo
Bloomsday Expo
Being from Butte- so heard lots about this
As-a Missoula-resident, you-just-hear-about-it!
Another Race Expo
Actively searched internet for races in the area
A running event magazine
A friend who grew up in Montana, now living in Texas
A friend emailed me about it.
A friend
50 States Marathon Club
50 States Marathon club
50 State Marathon Club reunions
50 state marathon club

11. Please rate your satisfaction with the 2013 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	85%	13%	1%	0.3%	0.1%
Event staff	92%	8%	1%	0.2%	0.2%
Cost of the race	57%	30%	10%	2%	0.3%
Location of the race	87%	11%	1%	0.1%	0.2%
Concessions available	60%	24%	11%	1%	0.3%
Number of people at the race	73%	22%	4%	1%	0.2%
Free marathon picture	70%	8%	9%	1%	1%
Gear Bags	61%	23%	11%	3%	1%
Technical T-shirt	54%	23%	10%	9%	4%
Medals	76%	14%	7%	2%	1%
Types of people at the race	80%	17%	3%	--	0.2%
Parking	55%	22%	10%	4%	1%
Sound system	64%	26%	8%	1%	0.3%
Variety of activities	63%	25%	9%	0.3%	0.2%
Cleanliness	82%	16%	1%	0.1%	0.2%
Availability of restrooms	74%	17%	5%	3%	1%
Signage/directions	78%	18%	3%	1%	0.3%

*denotes new questions for 2013

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

Next year	70%
Within 5 years	25%
Never	5%

13. Do you plan on downloading your free picture from the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

Yes	83%
No	17%

Appendix B- Missoula County Results

n= 552

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Self	38%
Friends	21%
Family & friends	12%
Immediate family	11%
Couple	10%
Organized group/club	6%
Extended family	3%
Business associates	1%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	35%	6	3%
2	28%	7	2%
3	11%	8	1%
4	8%	9	1%
5	5%	10 or more	7%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	2%
6-10 years	2%
11-17 years	4%
18-24years	12%
25-34years	43%
35-44years	36%
45-54years	30%
55-64years	23%
65-74years	8%
75 and over	2%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	8%
\$20,000 to 39,999	16%
\$40,000 to 59,999	18%
\$60,000 to 79,999	16%
\$80,000 to 99,999	16%
\$100,000 to 149,999	17%
\$150,000 to 199,999	4%
\$200,000 and over	5%

8. What is your sex?

Male: 29% Female: 71%

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	--
1-7 days before the marathon	1%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	1%
1-6 months before the marathon	41%
over 6 months before the marathon	57%

10. How did you hear about the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How heard about Marathon	Percent
Word of mouth	34%
I ran the race before	58%
Group or club	14%
Newspaper	7%
Internet	8%
Other	6%
E-mail from marathon planners	6%
Television	5%
Posters	4%
Radio	4%
Retail outlet	2%
Magazine	2%
Flyer	1%
Direct mail	1%

11. Please rate your satisfaction with the 2013 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	85%	12%	1%	1%	1%
Event staff	92%	7%	1%	<1%	<1%
Cost of the race	50%	33%	13%	4%	1%
Location of the race	87%	12%	1%	<1%	<1%
Concessions available	59%	21%	13%	2%	1%
Number of people at the race	71%	22%	5%	1%	<1%
Types of people at the race	82%	13%	3%	<1%	<1%
Free marathon picture	70%	8%	9%	2%	1%
Gear Bags	62%	20%	13%	3%	1%
Medals	69%	16%	10%	3%	2%
Technical T Shirts	53%	22%	11%	11%	3%
Parking	56%	20%	11%	5%	2%
Sound system	64%	25%	8%	1%	1%
Variety of activities	67%	22%	8%	<1%	<1%
Cleanliness	85%	13%	2%	--	<1%
Availability of restrooms	74%	17%	4%	2%	2%
Signage/directions	82%	15%	2%	1%	1%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

86% Next year
 14% Within 5 years
 <1% Never

13. Do you plan on downloading your free picture from the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

Yes 82%
 No 18%

Appendix C- Montana Out-of-County Results

(n=349)

1. Was attending or participating in the marathon your primary reason for being in the area?

96% Yes

4% No

2. For what other reasons were you visiting the area?

Other reasons for visiting Missoula	Percent
Visit friends/relatives	70%
Vacation/recreation/pleasure	30%
Shopping	10%
Business/convention/meeting	10%
Just passing through	---

3. During the marathon, in what type of accommodations did you stay?

Accommodation Type	Percent
Hotel/motel/bed & breakfast	61%
Home of friend/relative	34%
Private campground	3%
Rented cabin/home	1%
Vehicle in parking lot	1%
Second home/condo/cabin	1%
Public land camping	1%
Resort/condominium	~

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Friends	22%
Immediate family	21%
Family & friends	21%
Self	18%
Couple	11%
Extended family	6%
Business associates	1%
Organized group/club	1%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	14%	6	6%
2	26%	7	5%
3	19%	8	3%
4	11%	9	1%
5	10%	10 or more	3%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	11%
6-10 years	9%
11-17 years	10%
18-24years	19%
25-34years	39%
35-44years	42%
45-54years	38%
55-64years	24%
65-74years	11%
75 and over	2%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	4%
\$20,000 to 39,999	11%
\$40,000 to 59,999	18%
\$60,000 to 79,999	15%
\$80,000 to 99,999	22%
\$100,000 to 149,999	19%
\$150,000 to 199,999	8%
\$200,000 and over	3%

8. What is your sex?

24% Male

76% Female

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	.3%
1-7 days before the marathon	--
1-4 weeks before the marathon	1%
1-6 months before the marathon	57%
over 6 months before the marathon	42%

10. How did you hear about the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How heard about Marathon	Percent
I ran the race before	45%
Word of mouth	43%
Internet	8%
Other	6%
Group or club	6%
Magazine	4%
Newspaper	3%
E-mail from marathon planners	3%
Television	3%
Radio	1%
Flyer	1%
Retail outlet	1%
Posters	1%
Direct mail	-----

11. Please rate your satisfaction with the 2013 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	83%	14%	1%	1%	0.0%
Event staff	91%	8%	1%	0.0%	0.0%
Cost of the race	54%	34%	11%	2%	0.0%
Location of the race	89%	10%	2%	0.0%	0.0%
Concessions available	63%	24%	10%	1%	0.0%
Number of people at the race	74%	21%	4%	1%	0.0%
Free marathon picture	67%	9%	10%	1%	<1%
Gear Bags	59%	23%	13%	4%	1%
Medals	76%	15%	8%	1%	<1%
Technical T Shirts	53%	24%	8%	11%	6%
Types of people at the race	80%	17%	3%	0.0%	0.0%
Parking	55%	25%	12%	3%	0.0%
Sound system	67%	25%	7%	0.0%	0.0%
Variety of activities	60%	28%	9%	1%	0.0%
Cleanliness	81%	18%	1%	1%	0.0%
Availability of restrooms	71%	20%	4%	4%	1%
Signage/directions	76%	20%	3%	0.3%	0.3%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

80% *Next year*
 18% *Within 5 years*
 2% *Never*

13. Do you plan on downloading your free picture from the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

Yes 84%
 No 16%

Appendix D- Out-of-State/Country Results

(n=540)

1. Was attending or participating in the marathon your primary reason for being in the area?

83% Yes

17% No

2. For what other reasons were you visiting the area?

Other reasons for visiting Missoula	Percent
Visit friends/relatives	77%
Vacation/recreation/pleasure	57%
Business/convention/meeting	3%
Shopping	1%
Just passing through	1%

3. During the marathon, in what type of accommodations did you stay?

Accommodation Type	Percent
Hotel/motel/bed & breakfast	69%
Home of friend/relative	23%
Private campground	4%
Rented cabin/home	5%
Public land camping	1%
Resort/condominium	0.2%
Vehicle in parking lot	0.2%
Second home/condo/cabin	1%
Guest ranch	0.3%

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Couple	23%
Immediate family	19%
Self	19%
Friends	17%
Family & friends	15%
Extended family	5%
Organized group/club	2%
Business associates	--

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	15%	6	5%
2	38%	7	3%
3	14%	8	2%
4	12%	9	1%
5	7%	10 or more	3%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	7%
6-10 years	7%
11-17 years	10%
18-24years	9%
25-34years	32%
35-44years	35%
45-54years	39%
55-64years	32%
65-74years	13%
75 and over	2%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	3%
\$20,000 to 39,999	7%
\$40,000 to 59,999	12%
\$60,000 to 79,999	12%
\$80,000 to 99,999	18%
\$100,000 to 149,999	25%
\$150,000 to 199,999	11%
\$200,000 and over	13%

8. What is your sex?

43% *Male*
57% *Female*

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
1-7 days before the marathon	1%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	1%
1-6 months before the marathon	51%
over 6 months before the marathon	47%

10. How did you hear about the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

How heard about Marathon	Percent
Word of mouth	36%
Internet	27%
I ran the race before	25%
Other	13%
Magazine	9%
Group or club	7%
E-mail from marathon planners	2%
Posters	1%
Newspaper	0.4%
Retail outlet	0.2%
Television	--
Radio	--
Direct mail	--

11. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the 2013 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	87%	12%	0.4%	1%	0.4%
Event staff	92%	8%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%
Cost of the race	66%	26%	7%	0.7%	0.2%
Location of the race	86%	12%	1%	0.2%	0.2%
Concessions available	60%	26%	10%	1%	0.4%
Number of people at the race	74%	23%	3%	0.2%	0.2%
Free marathon picture	72%	8%	8%	0.4%	1%
Gear Bags	61%	25%	8%	3%	1%
Medals	83%	13%	2%	1%	1%
Technical T Shirts	57%	24%	10%	6%	3%
Types of people at the race	77%	20%	3%	0.2%	1%
Parking	54%	22%	9%	2%	1%
Sound system	62%	27%	8%	0.2%	0.2%
Variety of activities	61%	26%	10%	0.4%	0.2%
Cleanliness	81%	18%	1%	0.2%	0.2%
Availability of restrooms	76%	16%	5%	2%	1%
Signage/directions	75%	21%	3%	0.4%	0.2%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

47% Next year
 42% Within 5 years
 11% Never

13. Do you plan on downloading your free picture from the 2013 Missoula Marathon?

Yes 85%
 No 15%

Appendix E Open-Ended Results

Please tell us what you liked about the 2013 Missoula Marathon.

Beautiful race course - walker friendly for full marathon - great attendance by non-Montanans (esp. marathon maniacs and 50-staters)
1) First 2.6 miles of Half Marathon were gorgeous. Wish the whole route was in this "rural" setting. 2) Well organized bus logistics 3) Plentiful rest rooms at HM start area 4) Supportive and plentiful volunteers 5) Excellent medal and t-shirt 6) Gorgeous running through shaded residential streets 7) I appreciated pre-course communication - redundant messaging helped me. 8) Coffee at the bus stop. A great surprise. 9) The half marathon was the capstone of an 11 day family vacation in Montana. We spent time in Kalispell, Glacier National Park, and Hamilton.
1st Marathon! I had a blast and look forward to running it for as long as I can. Which will probably be another 45 years :)
3500 runners!
6am start is excellent. Good organization.
7th time I ran the Missoula Marathon - it was nice to have cloud cover the last 3 miles.
All abilities at the race. Great sense of community, all the volunteers!! Also the training classes before the race that give people of all abilities (runners and walkers) the tools to have a great race.
All of the effort put into this race was clearly visible on race day. Good job on controlled growth plan.
All of the friendly volunteers. Good Race course.
All of the positive energy and the Morganroth pianist along the course.
All the spectators out on the course with signs playing music, cheering was great. It was a spectacular and encouraging atmosphere. One member of my group ran under 1:20 for the half, I ran 1:40, and other group members were in the 2:30 time frame, so we usually all have very different race experiences. However, we all agreed that the spectators on the course, the number of people in the race, and the varied abilities of people doing the race were great for any time goal. The frozen fruit bars at the end were EXACTLY what I was craving through the race.
All the support along the route. Great running community
All the support from all the bystanders along the run. Very well organized race and excellent course
All the volunteers were great. First time and loved it!! All of it!!
All volunteers were amazing! The fans along the course, the grand piano especially, were really fun and motivating. Good food after. The finish over the bridge is great! Police were really friendly and of course very helpful in course traffic control. The line of porta potties at the start was impressive and greatly appreciated. The online results were really quick/detailed. Our hotel, the Red Lion, had gift bags for the runners that were a fun surprise.
Almost everything
Almost everything
Almost everything
Almost everything. Signage to line up for buses should be better.
Almost perfect :) great job!!!!!!
Amazing and everything I could have hoped for in my first half marathon!
Amazing experience! I loved all of it. The volunteers who gave water, etc. on race day seemed so enthusiastic even for those of us at the back.
Amazing organization! Top marks for course markers/marshaling, the fireworks and cannon start, and the awesome citizens of Missoula! Thank you!!
Amazing supportive community

Anders is an expert at directing races. It runs now like a well-oiled machine. I volunteer at the expo and it is nothing but a great experience. The medals are the best I have ever seen, and I have done the Boston. I will show that medal off and guarantee will get people to sign up with that and the cool logo designs they come up with. They should be very proud of their work and it should continue as the best marathon.
Arrived on Thursday and caught the free concert and food trucks at the park. This was after dinner at Biga Pizza. Did a quick tour of downtown and scouted our breakfast for Saturday. Went on the Jeff Galloway hike on Friday: priceless because 1) got to hang with Jeff and 2) wouldn't have done this otherwise and it was an awesome view. Strolled over to the campus bookstore after to buy my daughter a UM shirt. Did the Beer Run on Friday evening, which was cool but was kind of expecting some beer along the way. Ran the 5K on Saturday. Not the greatest of courses but loved the finish area and then did a day trip to Glacier National Park = Awesome. Marathon day went as smoothly as possible. Getting around Missoula (stayed near Reserve and I90) was super easy and I was quickly guided to a parking stop. On the bus in no time and actually arrived at the start early than I wanted. Didn't have the best of races due to some hamstringing issues, but shit happens. The course is excellent. It's scenic, flat and (should be) fast. I'm thinking of returning next summer for BQ attempt. Post-race was great. Thank you, thank you for the shade and chairs to sit in. Loved the little bite plates and strawberry popsicles. The free beer and photo were welcome touch. This was my 75th race and 22nd marathon, and Missoula is without a doubt my second favorite destination. (Sorry, but I'm from Monterey and Big Sur is my favorite.) I've run marathons in California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Minnesota, Arkansas, Virginia, Florida, Texas and I'll strongly be recommending Missoula, Montana to my fellow 50 State Marathon club members
As always it is a great race. Awesome medal, beautiful scenery, amazing volunteers, etc. The 3 background photo options were pretty cool too. Plus a beer at 8:30 am, yes please.
As always, the people are so lovely and welcoming. The scenery cannot be beat. One of the best days of my year!
As walker in the half marathon, the timing of when the half and the full met meant that we were not in anyone's way and that we had the space to do our own thing. I am a runner and I know what it is like trying to weave through slower participants. Also the involvement of your citizens. It was refreshing to have families sitting on the side of the streets cheering us on. But also every person we had contact with was friendly and welcoming all throughout the city.
Atmosphere
Atmosphere Support from fellow runners
Atmosphere and organization.
Atmosphere course bussing staff downtown activities
Atmosphere was friendly and fun
Availability of bathrooms on course. Start time. Ease of packet pickup. Community participation.
Awesome atmosphere!! Beautiful run and very well organized!
awesome event, great volunteers, great expo
Awesome organization Friendly staff Small size of Marathon Field Beautiful scenery on the course Great finishing on the bridge with all the fans Free Photo Free Beer Awesome outdoor expo Super-easy to find everything
AWESOME PEOPLE AND VOLUNTEERS
Awesome Race! Loved IT!
Awesome!
Beautiful and cool weather!
beautiful course
Beautiful course
Beautiful course - great organization - wonderful staff & volunteers - so impressed with the entire event, even more impressed when I discovered it was only the 7th annual event. WOW great work Missoula!
Beautiful course and well organized shuttle services.
Beautiful course to run on. This was my first marathon & everyone was very friendly & more than willing to answer my questions.

Beautiful course, convenient well-organized expo, gear bags handled well, finishers area well-organized and close to parking
Beautiful course, great community support.
Beautiful course, love the beer at the end. Love the location of finish line.
Beautiful course, spectators, well organized.
Beautiful course, well organized, great people.
Beautiful course! Great staff! How early it started so the temp was just perfect!
Beautiful course. Friendly atmosphere.
Beautiful course. Very well organized. Awesome finisher's medal.
Beautiful course. Beautiful city. Well organized.
Beautiful course. SO WELL ORGANIZED. Well-supported. Great event. The abundance of port a potties at the starting line. The fireworks. Great water stops - well-placed and well-staffed. You do a really great job with this race. I recommend it all the time.
Beautiful course. Town and race organizers are very supportive of the event.
Beautiful location and friendly people.
Beautiful location. Everyone was very helpful. I liked having the marathon runner's finish at the same spot as the half. It is fun watching and cheering for them as I walked the half. I really like how they support the walkers as well as the runners. I have been a runner my whole life. It was a hard transition from runner to walker. This race had a lot of walkers. It's still a big deal walking 13.1. Promoting this in your information when people are signing up or looking into the race is a good idea. I picked this race because of that. I also LOVED the fireworks before the race!! Very cool! The medals were awesome!!! Biggest medal I have ever earned
Beautiful part of the country and the weather was great.
Beautiful race location marked well.
Beautiful route, well organized, great advertising and information for runners and watchers! Awesome medals! Great post-race food!
beautiful scenery
Beautiful scenery, diversity of runners, community support, well organized
Beautiful scenery, great volunteer support, places to sit in the finish area!!!!
Beautiful scenery, well planned, friendly aid stations, kind people with encouragement, excellent care in the medical tent at the end, good helpful information, plenty of port a potties and water or other drinks at each station. The ice was especially helpful to the walkers when it got really hot after about the 6 hour point. The bike rider checkers were so friendly and encouraging. Good safety at the crossings.
Beautiful scenery.
Beautiful scenery.....staffed wonderful everyone very helpful/encouraging
Beautiful setting, awesome spectators and volunteered
Beautiful, lots of energy and excitement from the Missoula community. Great event.
Beautiful, peaceful course. Perfect size. Well organized. Excellent!!!
Beautiful, well-marked course. Plentiful aid stations. Super easy gear checks and gear pickup in finish chute! Cool design, high-quality medal.
Beautiful. Temperature was great. Support staff abundant and helpful.
Being back in Montana, the scenery. Especially the pianist at the grand piano.
Being home! The views, the volunteers were wonderful. Everything. SO glad I was able to exchange my shirt and love the medals!
Best crowd along the course. Very fun event.

Best marathon in Montana. There were plenty of porta-potties at the start. Thank you. Also, the beer run is a fantastic event. Keep it going.
Best marathon out of 10 I've done. Very organized , great for spectators, beautiful, very friendly support staff, easy to figure out
Brooker Family, Runners Edge, Run Wild Missoula - truly takes a village and hopefully a village showed up to help out. Seemed like it did. Great community event. Love that it is walker friendly.
Can't say enough good things about this event. It's my third time running it and this was by far the best year yet. Everything was very organized, with plenty of volunteers to ask for help.
Cannon and fireworks at start. Bridge finish. Medal. Some very awesome scenery!
Clean. Beautiful. Perfect weather.
cold water, cool crowd beautiful course fireworks
Community feeling/involvement. Course is beautiful. Volunteers were awesome.
Community involvement
Community spirit and support. Piano player. Inspirational participants. Free photo organization. Loved the backgrounds to choose from too.
community support, perfect temperature(start time)
Couldn't ask for more. it's well organized
country side
Course / day of the week / other participants / food at the finish.
Course layout was good! Water stations friendly and frequent. Buses were great at getting us to start, we'll organized.
Course volunteers were awesome. And I love the shirt:)
Course was perfect! Loved it and even got a PR.
course was well thought out with scenery organized point to point course water/aid stations expo fireworks at start
Course was well-marked. Good competition up front. Weather was great.
Course, concessions - great amount of food/water, etc.
Course, free photo, fireworks at start, friendly helpful atmosphere, easy shirt exchange
course, location, organization
course, people, weather, crowds
Course, race start time
Course, volunteers, generous supply of gu, water, Gatorade, fireworks at start, slight downhill at end of race, next to Saturday Market, friendly people, massages, free beer and food. The watermelon was amazingly good. I had a great time and will recommend it to other runners.
Course, weather, proximity to home (Hamilton), people
Course; people; volunteers were awesome
Course. Runners.
Cute, friendly town and beautiful scenery. Well organized and good food choices post-race.
Don't like pictures of myself
Driving distance from home
Driving distance to Calgary. For the size of Missoula it is big the marathon numbers etc. comparable to cities of a million.
Each year it gets better and better. I am VERY impressed as to how well organized it is. I brag about it to anyone who will listen to me. You did a GREAT job. Thank You for a great race!!!
Early morning start. Candace's walking class.
Early start time was perfect; everything about the process from packet pick up to picking up gear bag was very organized, easy and quick. The route was beautiful (I ran the half, weather was perfect (not that the race organizers can do anything about that) and in general it was just a fun, fun time.

Easy to find bag drop off, could SEE and HEAR the announcer at the beginning, great music at the beginning, fireworks, food offerings, cool medal, photo ON SITE(!) after posing for it, free beer, race time receipts (but the machines weren't working when I went through), and exchange for T-shirt if it didn't fit. You guys have done AN AWESOME job. Period.
Easy to get parking, walk to shuttles, get to the start. Good food selection after race, nice course & cliff gu at 2 locations.
Ended up not running due to injury; withdrew prior to race. But loved volunteering instead.
Enjoyed the city.
enthusiasm and lightheartedness of participants, organized and easy to follow signage
Enthusiasm of the spectators along the route and the sprinklers.
Every minute of it.
Everyone was super friendly and happy. I loved having the packet pickup at a local event and having an opportunity to spend time with local people and those in town for the race. The course was beautiful- rural and in town! The event was well organized and the crowds were encouraging and seemed enjoy having the race in their town.
Everyone was very friendly and helpful... Supportive atmosphere from whole town. Really great vibe!
Everyone was very helpful, welcoming and gracious. Got the 2nd bus out to the start line and was able to wait at the bank bundled up until start time. Loved the bit boxes for gear bags. Such a simple and easy was to do this! Liked the point to point especially the run up into the forest. City streets were challenging because it was zigzagging so much near the end and I was so tired but the spectators and volunteers were great. Loved all the sprinklers. The man playing piano was pretty cool.
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything
Everything - atmosphere, scenery, aid stations, pre- and post-activities, the amazing people involved, great use of technology to register, check times, etc. and great use of social media.
Everything - the efficiency of the shuttle bus system, the friendly enthusiastic volunteers, the rousing welcome we got as we stepped off the busses at the start, the scenic course through the Montana countryside, the friendly supportive spectators along the route, and the treats we got at the finish, including the free photo and beer. I like the early start so we can be done before it gets too hot. I also appreciated the shaded tent and sitting area at the finish.
Everything but need more info on the photos.
Everything but the bus line!
Everything but the start time.
Everything except the food vendors at the finish line.
Everything except the morning bussing line. Very much appreciate all the aide stations and volunteers; we tried to thank everyone we saw along the route. They are awesome and motivate me to reach the next 'checkpoint' along the route.
Everything great experience super people well organized

Everything leading up to the race was very well organized. I never felt that I was missing important information. Packet Pickup was smooth. Race morning was easy and straight forward. The race itself is gorgeous and even though I've run the course now 4 times (two races & two pre-race long runs) I still love it. The folks who made a point to stay and cheer on the Back of the Pack were especially amazing, as well.
Everything seemed fine, no real likes or dislikes.
everything was great except what's noted below
Everything was so well organize. Always a great race!
Everything was very well organized. The gear check and return system was very convenient. I especially liked the fireworks at the start. I had not seen that at any other marathon. At the water stations, the water was always first and in plain cups. The Gatorade was always second and in Gatorade cups. That made it easy to get whichever one I wanted. Not many marathons do it that way. I liked the watermelon and Popsicle at the end. I liked the easy way to print out my results at the end.
Everything went well.
Everything you did an awesome job. We have put Missoula at the top of our list.
EVERYTHING---this was such an amazing event. I cannot believe how well run the whole event was, so impressed. A great big THANKS to all. This was my first 1/2 marathon and your event made it a highlight for me.
Everything, volunteers were wonderful
Everything: the organization, the crowd support, the food!!!
Everything: The scenery especially, the finish on the bridge, great pacers and the fact you offer free pictures. WOW that is not something you see at many marathons. THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!
Everything!
Everything!
Everything!
Everything!
EVERYTHING!
EVERYTHING! Best small(ish) town race I've run! First time in Montana, first time running a long-distance race outside of TX. Most beautiful course anyone could imagine! The Beer Run on Fri. night was a great opportunity for out-of-towners to meet some locals! I received a tip-off to soak my post-run legs in the Clark Fork river---loved it!
Everything! I have participated every year but last year, and this is one of my favorite runs. I have done both the full and half, and especially appreciate the positive support of the people of Missoula (and the strawberry fruit bars). The perfect weather this year was amazing.
Everything! It was my first time, and I LOVED it, and will run again next year (did the half this year, will do half again). LOVED the piano player SO MUCH. Also loved the greeters at the drop off when you got off the shuttle!
Everything! Volunteers were special...no matter who or where you asked, they knew the answers. Cordial, friendly...a real asset that will never show up on the corporate balance sheet! The citizens of Missoula were also great.
Everything! Volunteers, food, fun atmosphere, organization, online resources, course, energy of the event, etc. I will be back next year!
Everything! Well run, well sponsored, lots of surrounding events, great expo, great course - well marked and lots of aid/water stations. Love the finish on the bridge with the mountain view.
Everything! Beautiful course, great volunteers. The MM has been my favorite community event thus far!
Everything! Course was beautiful, the support was incredible and the volunteers were awesome.
Everything! It was a great time.
Everything! It was a wonderful experience.
Everything! It was awesome as a first timer I loved it!
Everything! It was one of the best organized, best supported races I've ever done. Everyone we encountered who was from Missoula, whether connected with the race or not, was so friendly and helpful.

Everything! It was so well planned and executed! The people were so friendly and professional. Amazing job! This event makes me so proud of and happy to live in Missoula!
EVERYTHING! It's a first class event. Course was beautiful, plenty of water/Gatorade available and the right # of aid stations along the course. The finisher's medal is awesome! I don't have a shirt this color and I like the design. The expo was fantastic and lots to look at. Popsicles were perfect for a hot day. Volunteers were so sweet and helpful. Free picture at finish line was a wonderful perk! Free beer, does it get any better???
Everything! It's become a yearly tradition!
Everything! LOVE the fireworks at the start! What a surprise and great send off! You guys rock! What a great first experience! Better than I ever expected. Buses were great! Loved the whole thing from start to finish!
Everything! One of the most organized races I've participated in.
Everything! Seriously, congratulations on a job well done!
Everything! SO well organized! Beer run was fabulous!!! Better than last year! Loved the new "flow" after the race, food, gear bags, head down to Caras for beer and photo! Great thinking on someone's part!!! Loved the new "cordoned" off Higgins Bridge to one lane! Packet pick up easy! Liked the route for the 5K!! Loved, loved, loved it ALL!!!!!! Best race ever! You just keep getting more and more organized!
Everything! The organization was outstanding and the support of the community is incredible.
Everything! This was my first half marathon and now I am hooked and cannot wait until next year. The staff and volunteers were nice and so encouraging. The crowd support was a huge part of what kept me going. The course is beautiful and flat. The party at the end, music, food, and free beer were awesome. This was an amazing and very memorable experience.
Everything!! I have run many organized runs and this was by far one of the best. I was concerned about the bus situation but it flowed extremely well. The course was amazing and the organizers and volunteers were amazing.
Everything!! It was a beautiful day! Please thank the piano player- so cool! The support of this community is endless! The organization was excellent! My only suggestion would be better lit signage for pick up in the dark early morning. Thank you for an amazingly fun experience that I shared with my daughter!
Everything!!!! Wonderful event! Fantastic Volunteers!!! Aid stations and port-a-potties were plentiful and well-spaced. I was really impressed at the Back of the Pack Cheering squad and that the announcer and photo staff stayed until the last runner came through! Expo was fun and well organized. Overall this event was incredibly well organized and delivered. I continue to be so proud and impressed to be part of such a great event!!!
Everything.
EVERYTHING. It's my favorite 1/2 M. We have a really good full, 1/2 M in Greenville, SC also, but yours is tops. At 75 I only run about 4 1/2 M's per year, and is the only one so far that I go out of town to participate in.
Everything. I thought it was beautifully planned and executed. I was a first-time participant (walked the half) and felt entirely supported along the way, from training right up to crossing the finish line. I am so impressed by and grateful to Run Wild Missoula and all who put this event together.
Everything. The food is great, the pacers were right on, the beer run was the best yet and of course all the volunteers, who are amazing. The weather was perfect...what a great way to showcase Missoula!
Everything. This is one of the best marathons in the U.S.
Everything. Volunteers were phenomenal. Course was well marked.
Everything. Great portajohns, hand sanitizer, wonderful pastoral route with surprising amount of shade. Oooh those fireworks at the beginning. Wonderful people on horseback waving or at their gates waving, or in their front yards waving with the sprinklers on. Great volunteers at the aid stations, great police presence. I absolutely loved this vacation and hemorrhaged money everywhere-- shopping, rafting, tubing, SUPing, duckie-ing, dancing, eating, the 5K and the marathon.
Everything. I think it is one of the best if not the best Missoula event. I love the whole week leading up to it. The beer run was fun on Friday. I like the expo in Caras. The marathon seems highly organized.
Everything. It is my favorite half marathon of all I've done.
Everything. The whole experience was amazing. Good job and thank you.

Everything. Using the southbound lane of the Higgins Street Bridge for pedestrians and activities was a very positive change. That was my one complaint last year. Adding a few bleachers was great and unexpected. Everything about it, including the weather (what luck!) was fantastic. The runners' finish area, food, bag pick-up etc. all has improved greatly over the past two years. Really well done.
Everything. Very nice race, congrats. The entire course was scenic, the volunteers were amazing, and the organization was outstanding. Thank you for hosting and putting on such a fantastic event.
Everything...
Everything...I had a truly awesome, special weekend with my husband and family thanks to the marathon. It was ran so well, very organized. Everyone was so helpful and cheerful. The shirts and medals were awesome. I LOVE that we can download our pictures for free - amazing!! And the picture right after the race with the backdrop was very cool and a great way to remember the special day. Thank you!
Excellent event, I liked most everything.
Excellent organization
Excellent organization and crowd support!
Excellent scenery, good temperature. Fun environment. Love the t shirt design on front.
Extremely well organized!
Extremely well organized.
Extremely well organized. Volunteers were very well trained and the gloves for beverages servers were a great touch. The piano player and the cowboy and wife were a pleasant surprise. The friendliness of people along the course was outstanding. Appreciated all the water hoses and sprinklers. Nice food at the finish line and the beer was great! Free photograph is unique. The timing company and results kiosk was superb! Vic was very helpful to me before the event.
Fabulous experience with the most amazing volunteers who made the route so organized and wonderful!
Fantastic course. Use if social media is excellent esp. for beer run. Love, love the volunteers. Great Missoula community.
Fantastic event and course
Fantastic event. Need better shirts. Cotton is fine.
Far superior to the Rock and Roll Marathon in Las Vegas, NV. Great organization and courtesy toward runners.
Fast and scenic course. Free Beer!
Finish area new traffic flow since 2011. Course very nice. Great support along the course. Very pleased with the number of water stations on the course.
Finish area was better this year. # of toilets in the park.
fireworks before the start, volunteers, dickeys
Fireworks, the course in general was beautiful! The local's coming out to cheer everyone on! The finish line they actually called out my name...WOW. Water stations were perfect. By far this was the best 1/2 marathon I have ran! I love how the communities and hotels accommodated and supported the runners!! Oh, did I mention how wonderful the course was!! There was something for everyone!! The whole event was wonderful, hard to find something to complain about!!
Free photos, shuttle to the starting line, generous amount of food Good Food Store
Frequency of aid stations.
friendliness of the people, the course, the finisher medal, the pacers
Friendliness, organization, the course, the medal, the free picture
FRIENDLINESS; STAFF; ORGANIZATION; COURSE; DIVERSITY; WALKER FRIENDLY - COURSE STAYED OPEN
Friendly
Friendly and well organized. The farmers' markets were great and the weather was a bonus. I suffered from cramps since mile 18. Around mile 25 and 26, a volunteer gave me a handful of electrolyte pills. Even though it was a bit late in relieving those cramps before the finishing line, they did wonders in my recovery. THANK YOU to the kind gentleman volunteer and wished I could get them around mile 15-16.

Friendly cheering crowd, friendly aid station volunteers, beautiful course, mile markers, the energy in the event itself, CROSSING THE FINISH LINE!
Friendly event staff & volunteers; Beautiful course; Excellent medals and result printouts.
Friendly people, outstanding support, well planned
Friendly volunteers, loved the free photo and free Big Sky Beer at the end of the race, loved the support and snacks from GFS again, course was well-managed - thank you volunteers and MPD for help with the intersection management!
Friendly, fun environment with beautiful views and nice course. Lots of community support for the runners. Just an overall positive experience.
From start to finish this was such a positive wonderful time... So organized to get on the bus, then once we got to Blue Mountain such a great way to start your day... Thank you for all your hard work getting this organized. This was my first half marathon, I can't speak more highly about my experience...
Fun and well organized
Fun atmosphere and since I'm not a regular at this kind of thing I felt comfortable and included.
Fun challenge. Great volunteers. Course well marked. Nice aid stations. Nice to start early to be done early.
Fun event. Great course. Great volunteers. Friendly town.
fun lots of people
Fun...organized race!!!
Generally well organized and very beautiful route.
Getting to run the last 8 miles with Jeff and Barbara Galloway!
Good community support
Good course, well-organized, clean, lots of volunteer support. I heard a lot of people from out of town saying they were impressed with how well organized it was.
Good location, good run
Good race overall
Good Time
Good volunteers; very organized;
Gorgeous course, amazing people, well-organized and it's in Missoula!
Great ambiance. Very well run event, very organized from what I could tell. I love Missoula so it was nice to participate in a race in Missoula. Neighborhood people were AWESOME - I loved how everyone had their sprinklers out! Early start meant cooler temperatures, MUCH better than running in hot weather. Virtual race bag was a great idea - really cuts down on the paper! Cool medal. GREAT post-race food offerings. LOVED the free beer too!
Great area and organization. Went the buses went really well.
Great atmosphere and crowds. Excellent organization at the expo.
Great atmosphere and great people!
Great atmosphere! Friendly volunteers. Tons of aid stations. Pacers are so positive!!!
Great atmosphere. Enjoyed it.
Great big medals! Friendly volunteers. The downtown finish. The free photo!
Great city, nice course, beautiful landscape, etc.
Great community support, beautiful course, organized
Great community support.
Great community support. Awesome aid stations!
Great course
Great course and really well organized race. I cannot think of any way to make it better
Great course, atmosphere, participants, support
Great course, beautiful scenery and nice people

Great course, fun/supportive crowd.
Great course, great support and enthusiasm from the community. Very strong buildup with the beer run and the 5K serving as sold warm-ups for the main event
Great course, great volunteers and spectators.
Great course, great people. Friendly and welcoming.
Great course, nice to see supporters and motivational signs along the way, plenty of water and sports drinks, friendly all around.
Great course, right size, well organized. The buses out to the start were very well run.
Great course; festive occasion; well-organized; great weather; solid numbers; Big Sky Brewing at the finish with a free bear.
Great course! Live having support at aid stations and people cheering on sidelines
Great course! Loved my whole experience
Great course! Well organized!
Great course. Good location.
Great course. Great people.
Great crowd (spectators), great volunteers, great runners and great location. Well-organized, as always. The food at the finish line was yummy too.
Great crowd participation. Water stations amazing. Mile markers fabulous
Great energy, great people, beautiful course
Great energy, loved the course
Great even course, community support
great event
Great event for Missoula where everyone can participate and benefit in some way.
Great event, great race, organized well.
Great event, well-organized lots of energy and safety.
Great flat course, well organized, bus transportation to the start, awesome weather & great scenery. Great place for a mini-vacation; I stayed for two days and hired a guide to go fly fishing for trout on the Bitterroot & Blackfoot rivers. Had a great time! Montana is a beautiful state!
Great help, very organized, the spectators are fantastic. Will definitely do it again.
Great intervals of water locations
Great job
Great location and weather. People were great!
Great location, beautiful course
Great location, extremely organized, great support along the route--so nice to have aid stations every 2 miles!
Great medal! Nice T-shirt. Especially liked the first part of the course out in the country, along the river. Starting time early enough to beat the heat.
Great organization
Great organization, friendly people, helpful aid stations.
Great organization, friendly people, location, excellent volunteers, fun atmosphere, loved it!
Great organization, runner friendly
Great organization, scenery, early start.
Great organization. It's obvious it's put on by runners. The bus worked out great and no problem parking downtown. The change in the finish is a big improvement. Having the race bag easy to pick up was much better than last year under the bridge.
Great organization. Great Community event, Great Volunteers and a Great Course

Great organization. Really fun.
Great people, beautiful scenery, well-organized
Great people, nice, fast course.
Great post-race chow. Good spectator turnout for a marathon of this size.
Great race and loved all the people both participants and volunteers.
Great race in general. I liked having my name on the race bib.
Great race, nice course. We enjoyed the beer run on Friday night. The medals are very nice as well.
Great race! Will definitely be back for it again.
Great race! Great time!
Great race!!! Keep up the good work!
Great race!!!!
Great race.
Great race. Loved it all.
Great route and loved that it started early to beat the heat!
Great route, fun, well organized. Liked we started at 6:00am. It was cool and we got to watch the sun rise:)
Great route, nice people overall nice experience.
Great Run, Great Atmosphere!
Great run. Perfect organization.
Great running community. Pace group was extremely helpful (won me an award). Also liked the early start time in July.
Great scenery and weather, friendly people.
Great scenery. Great positive ness from volunteers. It went very smoothly. Liked the split times and rankings.
Great small size, friendly folks
Great staff, extremely well organized, great crowd. Beautiful course.
Great support from volunteers and police. Very pretty course.
Great support on the course, friendly volunteers, community support for the runners.
great support, nice route, some hills, fairly flat
Great support, wonderful route and scenery
Great town, great venue.
Great value, organization, lots of things to do in the area
Great volunteer staff! Great spectators with sprinklers and encouragement and snacks!!! Anders, who is AWESOME!!! I had NO IDEA he had any personal difficulties in his life until I read about his incredible wife in the paper a day before the race. He was just as perky and funny and great this year with us trainers as he was last year....??—they are fabulous!! INSPIRING AND....I can't think of any more adjectives to describe how great they both are....I am humbled.....
Great volunteers, very organized
Great volunteers, very well organized, top notch aid stations, community involvement along the route was tremendous.
Great weather and nice views
Great weather!! The course is an enjoyable course and you get to see Missoula. Volunteers are extremely nice people. aid stations were plentiful
Having Jeff Galloway at the event.
Helpful volunteers and community members cheering on racers, great food and beverage
Helpfulness of people throughout. Organization before, during, and after race with distributing information and materials. Aid stations were perfectly useful and everyone was really encouraging.

<p>Here is my race report for our local run club in Canada: Given the chance to escape the sticky humidity and check out what Runner's World called the best overall marathon in America (2010), this transplanted westerner did not hesitate to follow super-marathoners Sheila and Wendell Lafave to Missoula, Montana. It did not disappoint. After a refreshingly cool start, runners were treated to a sunrise over the surrounding mountains. We ran through picture postcard scenery with horse ranches, majestic Lodgepole pines, rustling cottonwoods and of course, rivers ran through it! Volunteers and supporters, some on horseback, were super-friendly. Thoughtful homeowners had sprinklers and hoses ready during the last few miles when temperatures climbed into the 80s (F). I finished just ahead of former Olympian Jeff Galloway who used to do his altitude training runs here. Sheila ran on her birthday and stopped to have her picture taken with two obliging beefcake runners. Wendell breezed in with his usual clockwork pace, what altitude? Oh yes, honkin' big horseshoe medals, free finisher's photos and free beer. What more could you ask? Giddy-up!</p>
<p>Honestly, it just gets better every year. There seemed to be better course marking and traffic direction this year, not that I felt it was needed - but it was nice. The volunteers are a delight, and the welcoming committee when I got off the bus at the start was such a treat! I was also really impressed by the buses. Asking people not to drive to the start this year put a lot more pressure on the buses, and it looked to me like everything was running pretty smoothly. I've certainly never seen that many people in downtown Missoula at 4:30 a.m. before!</p>
<p>How many bathrooms. Course was very beautiful!!! Finish line food, drink, and picture</p>
<p>How much the community embraces it. Great people, great volunteers, well organized, just lots of fun in general.</p>
<p>How organized it is. Love the medals. So many good things!</p>
<p>I loved how the community got so involved in the event, I liked how well organized it was. Thanks for all the aid stations and all the restrooms on the course. The whole energy and atmosphere was terrific!!</p>
<p>I absolutely love the atmosphere and the course was beautiful. All the support from volunteers was great. Overall, the marathon is a wonderful event and I look forward to running next year.</p>
<p>I absolutely LOVED the route. I'm from WYO but currently live in Boulder, CO and was thrilled to return to MT where I went to school. I loved the set-up of it, the volunteers (THANK YOU!) and I REALLY liked how the gear bag didn't have a bunch of fliers that everyone tosses away anyhow. I liked the virtual gear bag so less paper is wasted. This was my 1st half marathon & I've done other events (5-10K's) but I will definitely recommend this to my friends.</p>
<p>I always love the course, the exuberance of the spectators, the wonderful volunteers and all of the efforts that make it the great event.</p>
<p>I always love the pre training classes offered, Galloway especially. I love the community spirit and it always feels very well organized.</p>
<p>I am always amazed at how much effort goes into the planning, organizing and execution of this event. It is such a great weekend for Missoula and everyone who participates. From the staff, to the volunteers and the community, they all make this event wonderful. I love every bit of it and it gets better every year. Well done!</p>
<p>I am the director of the Baton Rouge Beach Marathon and have steadily run marathons (195 of them) since 1997. Without question, I thought this race was in the top 5 of all the races I have run the last 17 years. The course (approximately 4/5ths of it) is spectacular, water stops good, no problems with traffic (except at mile 11 - need traffic control), finishing chute good --- great job.</p>
<p>I am very impressed by the community support. It was very touching seeing all of the members of our community out cheering everyone on. I also appreciated the total organization of the event.</p>
<p>I answered that I was from CO...just meaning that is where I live now. I am a Missoula native. I love the route of the half-marathon; I love how the whole town comes together and supports it. I like the shirts. The volunteers were great! I liked the fireworks at the start. I loved the weather! :)</p>
<p>I attend 4-5 races per year. This is by far the best! Very well organized, beautiful, friendly people.</p>
<p>I did this Marathon 2011 and it's improved so much. I love the gear bags right there and the bathrooms, the picture line was awesome compared to just the one line in 2011. Clean and well organized and great improvements.</p>
<p>I enjoyed the help and support of all the volunteers and policemen. The Missoula Marathon has such a beautiful flat course and I enjoyed the atmosphere. Very fast course!</p>
<p>I enjoyed the pumped up atmosphere and the excitement.</p>
<p>I enjoyed the weather, the course, and the enthusiasm of the volunteers and spectators.</p>

I finished under 4 hours:-)great route and great people
I had a great run. You could complain about the wait for the bus in the morning or the wait for the porta-potty but who cares. I was totally impressed with the organization for everything.
I had a great time with a great group of people. I learned a lot about running, and myself.
I had such an amazing time. The marathon weekend was so well-organized, and I felt very welcomed -- signs throughout town that mentioned the race, the free beverages before we boarded the bus that took us to the start line, the fireworks, the supportive pacers (I ran with the 4:30:00 group). It was all in the details! This was my third marathon and my favorite so far. I want to become a 50-stater so I don't anticipate coming back for marathon purposes but may be drawn back for other reasons (e.g., outdoor recreation).
I have done many marathons and half marathons all over the US and this was by far the best one I have ever done! You shined in every category! Thank you for an awesome experience! Well done, Missoula!
I have run every one and Like always, the support from the Missoula people. Also it's a well-organized event.
I have run over 40 marathons around the country and this was by far the most beautiful course I have ever seen. The people were extremely friendly. I loved the fireworks for the countdown and the start, in a gas station parking lot no less!
I have run over 80 marathons. This marathon I likened to the St. George marathon where everyone in the community gets involved. Do I take my medal to a trophy shop to get it engraved?
I honestly liked EVERYTHING about the Missoula marathon. I have run over 50 races of different distances and this was by far my favorite experience. It was so incredibly well organized; the course was beautiful, clearly marked, well-equipped with aid station & porta-toilets, etc. I can't say enough great things about the entire weekend. I loved how the course began in a rural setting then ended down town. My favorite part was running through Missoula where so many people were outside watching and cheering.
I like how organized it is. You don't have to worry about anything and just enjoy the run. The atmosphere and the people of Missoula were wonderful.
I like the course. How it started nice and early and also the finish line area.
I like the course. The post-race food for runners was amazing. I like the free post-race beer. I like the efficiency of the start line shuttle.
I like the course. Volunteers and event staff were great
I like the energy and community involvement. The aid stations were well placed and generally helpful. Very nice, scenic, clean course.
I like the festive atmosphere. I like all the trouble the volunteers go to to make the marathon a good experience for all. I like the fact that walkers are welcomed as part of the marathon. I like the walk training class where we learn about nutrition, hydration, and correct form in walking and meet so many new people. I've lived in Missoula for 48 years but I meet new people as I train for the marathon. The route is well marked; aid stations are plentiful as well as porta potties. It is just a great thing to participate in.
I like the organization, the excitement, and all the people who participated. The numbers were amazing for a Montana race.
I like the race even though I am a walker.
I liked absolutely everything except what is mentioned in the box below. I loved Montana and had a chance to do some sightseeing for two days. I want to go back to Montana and see more. I know this isn't about the marathon itself, but I am a chemistry teacher and I was able to go see the Berkeley Pit in Butte. Awesome experience! WOW!
I liked absolutely everything. Well, I didn't really like the beer at the finish line because I'm a Miller Lite fan. Lame, I know. But everything else was perfect! A very nice volunteer allowed me to swap my medium shirt for a large even though she had already packed everything up. I really appreciated the punctual race start even though not all the busses had arrived.
I liked all of the helpful volunteers and I appreciate all of their hard work. I also enjoyed the beautiful scenery of the route. I think it was super important that there were so many water stops!! THANKS FOR EVERYTHING!
I liked everything about the event: 1. This was extremely well organized 2. The people of the Missoula community were

wonderful all along the route encouraging event participants. 3. The volunteers were well trained and very friendly
I liked everything and think this is one of the best marathons in the nation. I really have to stress that a thing that may seem insignificant can really set a marathon this size above the rest, and that is PORTA POTTIES! Nearly every marathon I've gone to, including the big ones like Boston and Chicago have huge lines at the porta potties and it is a serious problem. But not Missoula! Everything was top notch.
I liked everything- it was all excellent- except for the one item below! This was my first long race (only 5 ks before) and amazing all the work and excellent all the way around.
I liked how is so well organized.
I liked how it felt the community was truly involved. This was my first marathon and I feared going through virtually empty rural areas with no crowd support. But when I was on the course it felt as though the whole community from the starting line to the finish line was there to support the runners. I'm not sure you would get this kind of enthusiasm in a much larger city. Thank you Missoula!!!
I liked how it was set up at the end with the band and food on the bridge and the runners running on the other side from past years.
I liked how organized it was, from busing the participants to the start and finish to running the runners through the finish line and the celebration. I did like having a place where the runners could sit down and relax for a little bit after the race. I liked how the public was not allowed in the area and the runners could just freely bask in the satisfaction of finishing the race. Also the strawberry bars were fantastic!
I liked how organized the event was. The course was great and the weather!
I liked that it was more popular than last year and the finish line activity was organized and set up better.
I liked that it's here!
I liked that the course for the half marathon was relatively flat, and very scenic
I liked that the race started at 6:00. The availability of aids stations.
I liked that there were events all weekend long. Made the actual marathon feel more like an event than a run.
I liked that you had every mile marker and plenty of water stops and restroom facilities. The finish line activities are awesome. Plenty of food, and a nice place to linger after the race.
I liked that you let everyone enter. It didn't matter if we were walkers, runners, elite...and that you kept the course open for 7 hours to give all a chance to finish.
I liked the beautiful route and the engaged spectators, especially the piano player and the encouraging volunteers with cowbells.
I liked the closeness of the marathon to my home. I also liked that it wasn't too difficult of a course.
I liked the course, availability of port o potties, the staff, the crowd, the medal, food, atmosphere. I had a really great first time experience, even though the last 6 miles were tough, I expected they would be.
I liked the course, the number of water tables, organization, and community spirit. The race bags were convenient also.
I liked the entire event, from receiving informational emails to the volunteers who cheered us on the entire way. Thank you for all your time and effort to get this race off the ground!
I liked the fireworks at the start. I enjoyed the support of the community and the encouragement at the Aid Stations. The early start made for a cool run. As a Run 4 Kids member, I greatly enjoyed the VIP port-a-potties. The food at the end was greatly appreciated. Especially, the beer and the popsicle
I liked the food offered at the end of race, the location of the marathon, the shuttles to the start, before the race there was a motivational speaker pumping us up, the race course was beautiful, the medal is awesome, the free photo, THIS IS MY FAVORITE RACE!!!!
I liked the free photos with different backgrounds. Enjoyed meeting Jeff Galloway again. The Missoula Galloway group is fabulous people and very welcoming. People are helpful and friendly. Love the medal. Enjoyed Missoula. Well organized. Bus transportation to the start was fantastic. The route is beautiful.
I liked the new layout of the finish area
I liked the organization! It was a great day. Smooth operating and a lot of positive, healthy and fun people. I love the part of the course right before the one lane bridge. The medals are beautiful and the shirts are great! Thank you for such

a fun, beautiful day. The finish line has a great fun atmosphere!
I liked the people and the event staff. It was a great atmosphere.
I liked the route and enjoyed the views on the 1/2 marathon race. It was very organized. I loved the gear bag so I did not have donated clothes. Great idea. The water/gator-aid stations were perfectly timed.
I liked the size. The limited number of people made the start easier, plus the limited people made the water stations easier to use. Very good organization. Water stations were sufficient considering the warm weather. Very good support from the neighbors. Loved the sprinklers that some had set up. The free digital photo downloads is awesome!
I liked the support of the total community in the marathon; the community was excited about the marathon which added to my excitement
I liked the time of day that it started so we were not running in the heat of the day.
I love everything about the race (except for complaint below) - the course is beautiful, the crowd is great, the volunteers are everywhere and so helpful!
I love everything about the race. All of the volunteers are wonderful and very helpful!
I love Missoula! I love the folks at Runners Edge and RWM.
I love Missoula! It was beautiful and scenic, and so many people from the town showed up to support runners. Everyone was very friendly.
I love Missoula. The amount of advance planning and organization that the MM entails totally blows me away. I like Glen Moyer, I like the fireworks, I like seeing Anders and Carole Brooker at the finish line, I like the t shirts, I love the grand piano close to the Maclay bridge, I love cowbells and the finish line announcers. I love that it is inclusive and welcoming.
I love running next to the river
I love small marathons and being able to get to the start easily. There are several small touches that make a big difference: free photo at the end, good food, fireworks at the start, and almost family-like atmosphere. I will highly recommend this race to others. Oh, also LOVED the hoses and sprinklers--people were so kind and friendly. I have never found myself saying good morning to each person out cheering us on, but I did here in Missoula and I even found myself forgetting to look at my watch as I passed mile markers because I was having so much fun.
I love that the Runners Edge offers a class in preparation for the Marathon. Love the route of the run. Love the option to raise money through Crowdrise.
I LOVE the beauty of the course. It might be the only thing that could make me run another marathon!!! :-)
I love the city of Missoula. There is so much energy in the summer there. I love the communication via e-mail because it kept me up on the events to come. I love the Saturday pick-up because it gives you a good day to enjoy the peoples market and other Missoula landmarks. I like the volunteers and the organized busses that early in the morning. I love the fireworks and the ability to keep my jacket until right before the race and then deposit the bags for pick up at the end of the race. I love the community support and positive energy all around. I appreciate the availability of porta potties SP? Throughout the race and plenty of hydration provided. I could go on and on. The whole course, experience, and race are a treat to participate in and plan on each summer.
I love the city, the people are friendly and welcoming, volunteers are fun and helpful, and the course is beautiful. I picked Missoula as my 100th marathon because it is one of my favorite cities in the US!
I love the course and scenery. I look forward to this race every year and it is now a family tradition.
I love the course, the people, and the energy.
I love the course. And I feel like everyone is treated like a winner at the finish. Not just the full marathoners and not just the faster runners.
I love the course. I'm glad you limited the numbers so it doesn't get too crowded. I'm glad you used Gatorade instead of HEED. I think the pacers are very helpful. The race is so well organized and a great way to show off Missoula.
I love the course. Through beautiful countryside, neighborhoods with community involvement, and especially the piano player. Liked the free beer and the free photo. I took advantage of each.

I love the event as a whole. I think it is fantastic that it has such a national appeal; it is yet another great thing that pulls Missoula together and brings people out to show their support. My 76 old mother missed seeing me cross the finish line but was thrilled to be downtown in the midst of the hottest event in town!
I love the finish on the bridge.
I love the hometown spirit.
I love the location, the staff is great and the crowd support is fantastic.
I love the route and scenic view. The Missoula community is so supportive of this race and I love all the people out there cheering you on. This is one of my favorite races to participate in!
I love the route for the half marathon and the community involvement
I love the route of the 1/2 marathon, going past the river was wonderful. I love the volunteers. They are all so special to be there for us. I love the participants. They are so fun. It was a great experience. I will definitely participate again.
I LOVE the route. IT's a beautiful place to run and a great time of the day. Great time of the year. All volunteers were very friendly. Let them all know how much I appreciate their help!
I love the scenery and the volunteers. I also liked the band this year along with the vendors lined up along Higgins St.
I love the size and the amazing volunteers and the location - one of my favorites. It is well supported from the aid stations to the police to all volunteers - I always feel welcomed and appreciated.
I love the support from everyone and the course itself. Love the volunteers...Awesome.
I love this race. I think the planning, water stations, almost everything is perfect.
I love: the cannon, the fireworks, the guy who plays piano, the music, the encouraging crowd, Cafe Dolce's goodies, the awesome staff and volunteers, hearing my name called as I cross the finish line, watermelon from the Good Food Store, the crazy signs along the route.
I loved all the people of Missoula supporting the runners all the way along the course
I loved being back in Missoula in the summer! Hard to get up at 4am but I love the 6 am start! Porta potties and coffee in line for the bus, very thoughtful.
I loved everything about it. The location, the time the volunteers!
I loved everything about the marathon. The course was amazing! Loved all the water stops so I didn't have to carry my own.
I loved everything about the race - so well organized, and of course, I love Missoula! The volunteers were such a treat; they acted so appreciative of us runners. The entertainment along the course was wonderful - the pianist from Morgenroth is always a treat. I would recommend this race to anyone.
I loved everything about the race! The course and organization were amazing!
I loved how organized the race was. The city was clean and the country beautiful. I also loved all the aid stations and bathrooms, the race was very well done and I enjoyed my stay in the city.
I loved just about everything about the marathon! Especially all the support I got from volunteers and people that live in the community.
I loved pretty much everything about my experience. And I loved the flow of traffic after I crossed the finish re: water, food, bags and then down to Caras Park. Very smooth, not congested. I also loved the bleachers on the bridge and the activities (bands, food, drink). Very cool. Oh, and I loved that the 5k race on Saturday started on the bridge. That was way cool also!
I loved running through my hometown and finishing on the Higgins bridge with so many spectators.
I loved the atmosphere, the route was beautiful and the interest and participation of the residents along the route was great. The finish line was reminiscent of the finish line at Big Sur! Overall wonderful experience!
I loved the beautiful natural scenery, the friendliness of the helpers and the relaxed environment.
I loved the city's turnout. It was great running through neighborhoods before the finish with everyone cheering and waving signs
I loved the community of volunteers and runners, the Sons of Norway were especially memorable, and one of the police officers even said something encouraging. I loved EVERYTHING.... worth my effort coming from Georgia!

I loved the community participation; the complimentary photos, the medals, the course, and the weather!!
I loved the community support and the route of the race. The organization, the people, the volunteers and everything that went along with it was amazing. I really enjoyed it!
I loved the community support and volunteers making it all smooth and easy. The course was great.
I loved the course and the beautiful scenery. The slightly rolling hills were just right. I liked the start out of town and then working the way though the countryside, then running through the neighborhoods into town and the best part was crossing the bridge just before the finish line. My remarks are about the Half Marathon.
I loved the course and the energy from the volunteers and fellow participants.
I loved the course of the half marathon. It was wonderful to run from Blue Mountain into town winding through the beautiful neighborhood streets of Missoula. The best part of the course was the finish over Higgins Street bridge. Awesome! And how neat that there was a live band playing as we finished. There were so many great aspects to the race--lots of toilettes, the water/aid stations, the volunteers, the food at the end, live music. It was a great experience!
I loved the course, the cheering supportive people, the weather, the efficiency of the buses, the police presence. You got the shirts right, best fit thus far as long as one remembers to order up for technical shirts.
I loved the course. It was beautiful. The volunteers were so nice. Everyone was very helpful and kind.
I loved the cut of the women's shirts, and the fact that the small was truly small. Liked the course, it was well marked and had good support. The aid stations were terrific (except the gels, see below). The volunteers were fantastic. The fireworks at the start were very cool! The photos at the end were fantastic! The medals were so unique, liked them as well. There was very little standing in line for anything that is terrific! Though I did not stay with the 4:00 pacer for much of the way, he was fantastic, a running tour guide. The organization was truly fantastic, I know how hard it is to organize an event like this, so thank you! :)
I loved the finish, especially. The announcers were awesome and what they could learn from and share about finishers as they came in was really fun.
I loved the friendly volunteers
I loved the inclusion of many types of runners, and the friendly support of all staff members.
I loved the intimate feel of the race. Great support from the community and other runners. The firework gun start was exciting. The view from Blue Mountain was beautiful. The volunteers along the course were amazing, fun and kept the road so clean! The expo was fun during the market and the Good Food store feast at the end was delicious, especially those popsicles! The finish line over Higgins bridge was the perfect "high" to the end of the race.
I loved the marathon and the area. I have done 6 half marathons in 7 different states and this was the best!
I loved the Missoula Marathon. It was a lot of fun and very well organized.
I loved the route, best one I have ever done.
I loved the spectators and the volunteers on the route. They were motivational and warm!!!
I loved the T-shirt, the organization was great. The volunteers, the aide stations, couldn't have been better. I do appreciate the effort to keep the aid station and some of the entertainment on the route long enough for the walkers to enjoy too. We did see the piano player, the fire truck hooked up to the hydrant, providence water sprinklers...ect
I loved the town of Missoula -- so welcoming to visitors as well as having a variety of activities to do there. Next time I will come earlier to some exploring in the mountains nearby. I loved the incredibly scenic course with wonderful spectators, water stops and cheer stations. The couple on the horses at mile 14 was awesome and of course the grand piano at mile 17 was really cool. I love the finish line on the bridge too along with the cheer squad at the finish. Made me feel like a star, even though I came in just under 7 hours.
I loved the weather this year. Way cooler for the half marathon than last year. Do you think that you could do this again next year? I liked how the course was marked. I liked the 10K timer. Even though there were more racers overall seemed to be a more subdued event. The presence of the bomb sniffing dog probably had something to do with that. Really liked that the events after the race took place away from the finish line in Caras Park I appreciated that there was food and drinks and water in place for the later finishers.

I loved the whole event! I love town, the atmosphere, and it was so much fun running through the neighborhoods and having the locals cheer. They had their sprinklers out do us to run through! I liked that the event started early so I wasn't too hot at the end. The event was well organized, and it was so wonderful all the water/Gatorade, and GU packets that were handed out. That really made a big difference!
I LOVED this race! So beautiful, the best volunteers cheering us along (I needed it!) and easy course to run for newbies. Also, the amount of bathrooms was amazing - never had to wait more than 10 minutes (which for big races, is awesome).
I paced and they pace groups was awesome, the course is very nice and well done, less turns in Missoula would be better and run by or through your Veterans park if possible
I participated in the Run Wild marathon prep class. Anders and crew had us very prepared for the actual running of the race as well as what to expect race day. They do an exceptional job.
I ran the half marathon course and it was just beautiful. Very scenic. There were more water stations than I have ever seen before.
I really appreciated the volunteers! First thing in the morning they cheered us off of the buses and it really set the mood for the race. The bus drivers were very nice and just the attitude of everyone was amazing!
I really enjoyed how much people in town were in into and supporting of the race. They cheered, put out sprinklers, offered gummy bears, made signs. It was heartwarming. I enjoyed the free pictures and just the overall attitude at the race!
I really enjoyed how smoothly everything went and how helpful and friendly all of the volunteers were at every point during the race.
I really enjoyed how the finish line and Higgins street bridge was set up this year. It was a lot more friendly for onlookers and much smoother getting to and from the park. The free beer is also a great concession at the finish. The virtual goodie bag is much better for our environment and very convenient.
I really enjoyed the course. Loved the after race food and free picture!!
I really enjoyed the encouragement of the spectators.
I really enjoyed the well-marked trail and all the people who helped organize the race.
I really had a good experience this year
I really liked everything. Impressive busing to the start. I did the half and really appreciated the announcer at the start--friendly, nice stories, helpful, consistent dialogue. Please thank him. It really is a model for other announcers.
I really liked the gear bags this year - writing the number on them was so much better than the stickers last year that didn't stick! That was a great idea this year! The porta-potties were impeccably clean! I used one at the start of the half marathon and one at the finish - they were both clean and I appreciated that.
I really liked the positive energy at the start line and the organization of the race.
I think very well organized and beautiful course!
I thoroughly enjoyed the personal touch of this marathon. I loved the fact that our hotel was within walking distance of the Expo and Finish Line and that they had goodie bags for all the marathoners the evening before and in the morning of the race. The shuttles were so well organized and easy to use. The Expo was great also and I liked the fact that there were other races for family to take advantage of. My husband goes with me to all my marathons and volunteers when he can. He was able to do that in Missoula and he had a great time. The water stations were incredibly well-peopled who were happy and cheering and every one of them had water and gatorade ready to hand out. I enjoyed the public support even in the countryside. I loved the Finish Line especially the young lady to ran after me to take my chip off - I forgot. I love large marathons - like New York and Chicago, but Missoula changed my mind about smaller venues. You all did a great job. Thank you.
I thought everything was great everyone was so helpful ,great attitude
I thought everything went well during the race. It was very well organized and the people were friendly.
I thought it was really well organized, liked the emails and posts on facebook, the volunteers were great, the course was awesome, the fireworks were a nice touch, I liked everything about it! I would highly recommend it. I think Montana runners are lucky to have such a great race.

I thought it was the best half marathon I had ever run. So much support, so many concessions, little girls having their own stands with gummi bears and Gatorade. The course was gorgeous!!!!!!!!!! The medals, shirts were amazing. This race was incredible!!!
I thought it was very clean, well done logistically (except the line for busses!) Awesome weather (obviously out of your control but still super-duper!)
I thought it was well run except for the bus situation in the morning of the race.
I thought the entire race was well organized and run very well.
I thought the race was well organized in all aspects.
I very much enjoyed the variety if people participating. I thought the energy was excellent, with good camaraderie.
I volunteered for some of the Saturday activities and really enjoyed meeting some of the runners who came from out of state to participate. I think the organizers did an incredible job of making it a great experience for participants.
I was a first-time marathon participant, so the whole experience was awesome.
I was amazed on how the bus transportation went.
I was impressed with how well the transportation was organized. The hospitality of the city and encouragement of the volunteers and bystanders. I loved the course, the fireworks, the dj at the beginning, the start time and the enthusiasm of the participants.
I was pleased this year that there were porta potties at all of the aid stations as it was stated there would be. This was not the case last year, so a vast improvement there. The course as always was beautiful, and the volunteers were great.
I was really impressed with how smooth check-in was. It's not easy to organize that many people!
I was very impressed with how organized the race was. The volunteers were numerous, helpful and very encouraging. The t-shirts and medals were wonderful, as was the post-race food (I didn't get to the rest of the post-race due to physical exhaustion).
I was very impressed with this race. I have ran a few other large races and this surpassed them by far! The course was beautiful, well manned, seemed quite flawless, very friendly helpful staff, great expo, awesome pre-race starting line experience!
I was very inspirational.
I, personally, was not able to run because of an injury, but supported my son while he ran the full. He thought it was one of the best marathons he's ever participated in - and he's run quite a few. Well run. Not too many people. Plenty of support. The finish line was terrific!
I've done either the half or full every year since 2007 -- it's just a great weekend celebration of Montana and running. The current director is awesome, btw -- I also volunteer at the expo the day before -- RWM and MM has become much more friendly and welcoming since Anders took over.
I've done it three years and I think you are doing a great job. I like the early start to beat the heat, I like the bus shuttle system and bag system. I like the new write-on-the-bag thing for your numbers- last year mine was water damaged and so the number came off and it got lost for an hour or two, which was frustrating. I got the bag eventually, thank goodness. But it didn't get lost this year! The write-on-the-bag is great. Maybe you should tie a spare marker to each of the bag-bins at the start, though, for people that don't understand it and didn't mark their bag ahead of time?
I've done others and I really enjoy the route.
I've run one Missoula marathon and three Missoula half marathons so far. Each time it was a great experience. This year, the organization was the best. The morning transportation was really smooth. There were enough porter potties at the start site that we did not have to wait in long lines. Really like the fireworks too. :-) Finish area was much better arranged too, with streamline of potties, refreshments, gear bag retrieving, photo taking and beer. The last stretch on Higgins was very well designed this time, with much more space for spectators to walk around and vendors of food and drinks was a plus. Thanks so much for a great event! You guys really do a wonderful job.
I've run these roads for years and have worked the finish line; it was really time to do this race. I liked every aspect of it.
In town and well organized
Incredible experience. This was my first race ever for any distance and it set the bar high. The organization of the race, the complex logistics and the great efforts of the volunteers all contributed to a final result that was incredible. Very good job.

Incredibly well run race. Logistics were flawless. Community support and interest in the event are remarkable.
Interesting course, little elevation change
It encourages/supports walkers. The fireworks at the start of the half-marathon were cool! Lots of porta-potty's!
It feels like a real, big-city event with all the charm and character that makes Missoula special. Volunteers were awesome, plentiful, and well-organized. My favorite part was the free picture booth at the end--a perfect way to commemorate a great day! And next year I will plan to check a warm-up clothes bag at the start because that was the simplest, most well-organized bag check I've seen anywhere.
It is a beautiful course. Well organized. Make every accommodation they can for the participants. Free picture download is nice too.
It is a fun community event. My family came and cheered for me and that made it real special. The event was extremely well organized. Easy to pick up race packet. Plenty of port-a-pottys. Volunteers are all excited and kind. Scenery is beautiful in some parts of the race.
It is a great community event. It is very well organized
It is a great opportunity for Missoula to be an ambassador to the rest of the Nation to show what a beautiful state we live in.
It is a great race and well organized.
It is a great race. I hope you don't let it grow much more-it still has that small-town feel.. organization is OUTSTANDING!
It is always a great atmosphere and great course.
It is just fun. Only 2 full marathons I have ever run. See ya next year.
It is my original hometown, the route, the piano man, excellent management/organization, close to where we live, finishing on Higgins bridge, where I spent many hours during my youth, seeing friends and family
It is so well organized and stretches out over a few days. The volunteers are great. I loved the picture on the shirt. The party on Friday night was great. The band was awesome.
It is so well organized. Volunteers are awesome and the fans along the course are wonderful too. The course itself is beautiful and not too hilly.
It is the annual event that i plan and train to do each year. It is run very well
It seemed very well organized and there was great crowd support along the course! The only thing I would change for next year would be to have a couple of bus pickup locations. We got to the busses at 4:45 am and seriously barely made the start. It was a matter of seconds. Since there are several hotels on Reserve, it would make sense to have busses pick up I that area as well. There were just too many people in one location trying to get on the bus and several people had to start late, which really should be allowed since at that point there is no race strategy involved. More bus location pickups would have worked better!
It seems like it gets better every year. The beer run and activities were the best yet! Signs flow and volunteers were great!
It was a beautiful course that took you through all of Missoula. The neighbors and community were awesome supporters. I love Competitive Timing races. There was the perfect amount of participants without too much congestion. I really liked the picture and the awesome shirt!
It was a beautiful course with great support and volunteers!
It was a class act in every respect!!
it was a fun atmosphere and I enjoy the course
It was a good course and there were plenty of volunteers. Everything seemed to flow.
It was a great day n love the community support
IT WAS A GREAT EVENT!
It was a great experience and I had a blast.
It was a great experience for my first and only half marathon
It was a great experience over all. The volunteers were helpful and staff was wonderful.
It was a nice race

It was a very well organized race. Lots of friendly and helpful people.
It was a well done event
It was a well-organized event with great help.
It was a wonderful marathon. Being only my 2nd, I don't have much to compare it with. However, I did enjoy that it was bigger and livelier than the first marathon I participated in (NODM). The atmosphere of Missoula and the neighboring areas was tremendous. People sincerely care that you're putting your body and mind to the test in a grueling 26.2-mile run. Gorgeous start time, although difficult to wake up that early. Starting with the sun hidden behind the mountains was great, and to see it quickly rise up and beat down on directly was a good transition. Awesome bridge finish--lots of crowd support.
It was all so well organized! All of the volunteers were amazing. I joined RWM's training group and that was key to me having a really great experience.
it was all very organized except the buses in the morning. Really liked how they moved you along at the finish through the food tents and bag pickup and then down to the picture booth, good idea!
It was all wonderful! Thanks for capping the participants to keep it manageable.
It was amazing. Everything about the weekend was so well organized. Never once did I not know where I was supposed to be going. From the time I picked up my packet on Saturday, to getting on the bus Sunday morning, to crossing the finish line everything was so well marked.
It was an amazing experience for me. Was my first half!! Thought everything was so organized and the staff was very friendly! Loved it!!
It was as good as, or better than, I remembered from last time. The organization is superb; course is scenic, mile markers accurate, aid stations frequent and very well staffed with friendly supportive volunteers. The start and finish areas are well set up. Loved the fireworks at the start. It was the perfect race to celebrate my 200th career marathon.
It was awesome!!!! The volunteers are to be commended for their time and effort! Very well organized. Can't wait to do it again next year!
It was extremely fun to run in the marathon with my brother, sister, and brother in law... The general excitement level of Missoula was infectious.
It was extremely organized, well-marked, secure, and well-stocked with supplies at the finish and aid stations. The Good Food Store had a wonderful spread at the finish. Volunteers were helpful and positive, and residents cheered most of the way. The course was so beautiful! The announcer was entertaining and fun to listen to. I love the finish on the Higgins bridge.
It was extremely well organized. I love the bus transportation to the starting areas. The volunteers were all very friendly and helpful. Having the pictures in Caras Park worked better this year and the lines were short. I like being able to exchange my shirt right after the race and not have to come back or wait until after the course closed. WELL DONE!!
It was extremely well organized. I liked getting bussed to a start point and having a destination to run to. Beautiful scenery at the beginning of the race. Loved the downhill to finish!!
it was fun to participate and volunteer. I would like to volunteer more next year. very well organized.
It was fun.
It was great to be part of such a large event and to accomplish a goal of running 13 miles.
It was great!
It was great! Very well organized (with one exception below). Great support. Nice people.
It was great. Everyone was friendly and it was very well organized.
It was great. My first long distance race. I am hooked
it was just a great experience and accomplishment!
It was just a great time from the time I arrived till I left.
It was my first half-marathon ever. I was very impressed and inspired to keep working so I'll be in better shape for next year's event.
It was my first race ever, and an amazing experience. Thanks so much!
It was my first time and it was very fun and running is a good form of exercise! :)

It was my first time taking part in a marathon. I was pleased although surprised at the relaxed atmosphere. Everyone was pleasant and helpful.
It was perfect! Thank you for the great weather - I know it's out of your control but fortunately it was a perfect day!!! The run was on a really nice course, we trained on lots of hills so the one hill in the middle wasn't a problem. It was a great experience. The volunteers were great - so many smiling faces & giving encouragement. The signs from the crowd helped a ton.
it was planned very well. Really couldn't complain about anything. Enjoyed the whole thing.
It was so much fun, well organized, and the people are great. After-event food, drinks, photos, etc. were all great.
It was the best half marathon I've done. Very well organized, good food at the end and the ease in which we got our picture taken and delivered was awesome. Great Job!! The bag drop off was awesome too!
It was very well organized and took the stress out of the morning to have busses to get us where we needed to be, and the ability to have a gear bag to stow our things that were a breeze to retrieve after the race.
It was very well organized, friendly and fun!
It was very well organized. The course itself was very good. The community support was great. The finish over the bridge was great. The Saturday before the race I enjoyed myself in downtown Missoula.
It was very well run...I don't think there were any logistical problems that I noticed. GREAT JOB!
It was well organized and fun
It was well organized with great volunteers. The running course was fantastic. Great weather. Beautiful scenery. The main reason I came was to add Montana to my list of states in my quest to run a marathon in all states.
It was well organized- all staff was so polite. The people along the route help with the energy of the race even though it is so rural.
It was well organized, very well planned, wonderful volunteers and a great community turnout/support
It was well organized. I loved the fireworks and the 6am start. Nice flat course and exciting finish. We enjoyed the city and had a great time in Glacier National Park.
It was well run and obviously embraced by the city. The food at the end was really good too.
It was wonderful and have already drafted other family members for next year
It was wonderful as usual
it's a fast course and the weather was great!
It's a great course with plenty of aid stations and great fans.
It's a nice course, and Missoula is a fun city in which to spend a weekend.
It's always a positive and uplifting experience. Thought the post-race organization was great.
It's awesome in nearly every way!!!!
It's hard to give credit for the weather, but I it worked out splendidly this year. I am a very simple runner in that I ride by bike to the buses, run the race and ride my bike home. I can't speak very much to the activities available, but I love the smooth operation of the activities I do make use of.
Just about everything
Just about everything!! The volunteers were great, an ample amount of water stations, tons of bathrooms available before the race. Wonderful, wonderful, wonderful.
Just about everything. The location and course are wonderful. The volunteers were fantastic The staff was so helpful. Truly appreciated the police presence. The people are so wonderful as was the community support. This was my 5 th half and it IS the people that make it! Very wonderful of the Good Food Store to provide the finishing food!
just about everything....coffee at the bus and at the start
Just love being in the area and spending time with family doing something healthy for all
Large amount of community involvement, very well organized, friendly staff.
Last year was my first year, and I was totally impressed with the entire organization of the event. The same for this year! The increased security helped.
Like the course

Like the size, could probably handle another 1,000 or so. Would be more festive. Great to have a guest like Jeff galloway. Very friendly community. Love the fact you have coffee at the pick-up. Organization is great. Beer run was absolutely fun. Were the cowboys staged? They were classic!
Liked the training class that I took and the regular walking partners that I met; we also walked part of the 1/2 together. Liked setting a goal and reaching it; the community participation was fabulous.
liked the whole experience
Loading the bus for a 6 am run, was great... great organization.. I didn't have to get up too early for a 6 am start.
Location fireworks food photos time of race.
Location and people.
Location and post-race food.
Location of event, helpfulness and encouragement of the event staff and ease of getting to the site.
Location, atmosphere, availability of staff.
Location, climbing to the M, packet pick up and expo were perfect. I totally loved the Farmers Market. We also enjoyed touring University of Montana and visiting the bookstore, buying some t-shirts, souvenirs, and water bottles. The course was amazing. We did the 1/2 marathon and I look forward to doing the full marathon next year. Let's not forget the free beer at the finish! And the fireworks- wow! The announcer at the 1/2 marathon was also very interesting to listen to. Great t-shirts too. It's clear why this is a top rated marathon. And... Weather was ideal. Loved the restaurants and the Big Dipper ice cream shop!!!!
Location, community support, separate starting locations for the full and half-I liked that there was a drop off zone for runners who did not want to drive all the way into downtown to wait to catch a bus to the starting line
Location, course, people.
Location, temperature, pacers, lots of community support. Running through residential streets.
Location, weather
Lots of energy well organized. Weather stayed fine for the half! NO smoke in the air.
Lots of enthusiasm, well-planned and organized, great staff and volunteers, and lots of fun.
Lots of fun
Lots of port-o-potties at the start and along the course. Great volunteers and great sponsors. I enjoy that so many people from Missoula come out and support the race along the way. Finish area was well organized this year.
Lots of stuff.
Lots of support along the way from staff to residents super well organized Perfect starttime
Love it
Love it! Love the atmosphere, location, etc. Always well put together race.
Love most of the course
Love that it is not an out and back. The community support. Beautiful scenery and run. Plenty of aid stations and medics should they be needed.
Love the community, the course, and time of year, start time and fireworks!! Love ending on Higgins bridge and at caras park :)
Love the course and festive finish.
Love the course. Very well organized. Great volunteers.
Love the Missoula Marathon, maybe growing a little too fast! Busing was crazy!
Love the paperless option, love the organization...so proud to be affiliated with Run Wild because they do such an amazing job.
Love the race!
Love the staff, runners and happy spirit that everyone has during the race!
Love the support along the route. All of the water stops were VERY well organized. The pacers did a great job too!!
Love the venue and the coordination. I run in about 4 events outside of my local area in a year and this is by far the best.

Love this race, Run Wild Missoula, and the Runners Edge. Top notch!
Love this run! The community support is awesome! Nothing like it anywhere else. People come out on their own and place gummy bears on tables, turn sprinklers on, stand and support you, willing to spray you to cool you off. Great community and support! Everyone in the town should be very proud! I also did the 5K and it was awesome as well! Very organized! Loved the route having some dirt trails and ending at the expo was perfect to then pick up race packet for the next day. I also loved that you gave shirts and medals for it! Will definitely do both again next year! Thanks so much~ Carla Zimmerman
Loved almost everything!! Bus lines seemed a little long this year but they moved quickly.
Loved everything about it except the porta potties
LOVED IT! Plenty of drink stations and rest stops. Loved the crowd cheering at the end and along the way. The food provided by the Good Food Store at the end of the race was excellent. The gear bag drop off and pick up idea was awesome! I was glad it was so early, because most people finished before it got too hot.
Loved Missoula.... The city, the race, the people, volunteers, etc!!!! I do tons of marathons & thought organization of this event was phenomenal! The weekend was a pleasant surprise....came out to run a marathon & was excited about also doing beer run & 5k. Not only was I able to do that but I rented bikes, enjoyed the trails, hiked to the "M" twice & walked many miles by the river. Very active city, beautiful scenery. Great Metals, t-shirt designs. Loved the free race photo! Didn't know u could download it.
Loved running through neighborhoods with Missoulians cheering us in from their yards and streets
Loved the after party! The food was great, although I follow the paleo diet so the pasta dishes I had to avoid. I loved how there was no wait to get our free pictures! Great shirts and memories! Thank you for a great day! Still sore :)
Loved the course and all the volunteers. Very well put together.
Loved the course, great finish on the bridge, awesome volunteers, great shirt and medal. Very convenient logistics - expo, busses, finish etc. The free photos and printed results were really great too.
Loved the course, the finish is really fun! Food afterwards was good. Volunteers and neighbor support along the route was great...very encouraging!
Loved the crowds along the way! Totally underprepared to understand the impact they would have to encourage keeping going. I had not run a race since 1994 and this was a marvelous experience!
Loved the event, loved Montana, loved the people, loved the scenery, loved the route, loved the weather!!! Great job!
Loved the farmers markets in conjunction with the expo
Loved the finish on the bridge with the music and community interaction.
Loved the location and the weather.
Loved the organization from Anders Brooker. Everything was done perfectly except for the timing station at Caras Park at the end of the race; they had a malfunction and we couldn't get our times.
Loved the people at the tables, etc.
Loved the process of getting ready for it and getting to know the Missoula running community better.
Loved the race, the people, the organization, the route, the weather, the food and fun afterwards.
Loved the route it was beautiful and was impressed with all the friendly people supporting the runners
Loved the run, the route, the people, and activities.
Loved the volunteers and enthusiasm!!
Lovely course, well organized, a good number of runners (not too big), great volunteers
Making everyone feel welcome. First or last.
Many assist stations. Plenty of water and Gatorade even for folks in the back of the race. Great marking along the route.
Medals: were awesome. Some runs in the past gave medals that looked like they were bought in the dollar store. The medals are one of the things I look most forward to at the end of the race, and this one will be the center piece. This shows you put some thought behind the Marathon and really cared. Everything else: Everything was awesome. The people running. The atmosphere. I loved the final sprint across the bridge (I didn't think I had anything left for a sprint, but it was such an exciting finish, I found a way). Experience was fantastic. Initially I was sour that I could not be

dropped off in Frenchtown (we were camping near there), but I ended up really liking the bus ride and met some new friends.
Meeting new people and challenging myself mentally and physically. This marathon has great aid stations and the bus shuttles were really easy to navigate.
Mile markers easy to see Organized Liked the finish area better this year Photo taking at the end was awesome- much better than before Volunteers
Mile markers easy to see. Gear bag drop off was convenient.
Missoula always comes out and supports events like this! Great, positive experience.
Missoula is a wonderful place to visit. Friendly people, good restaurants, safe place. The marathon is a class act race. I did not encounter any problems or have any complaints. I was a race director for a few years for the CDA marathon and I KNOW how much work it is and I have nothing but praise for the Missoula Marathon. Good job!!
Missoula is beautiful and so Hip in the summertime. Love the bars/restaurants & hospitality
Missoula Marathon is the best marathon. They do an absolutely fabulous job putting it on! Very well organized.
Missoula, the town.
Morgenroth Music Piano before Maclay bridge
most everything
Mostly everything! Great event, extremely friendly volunteers. Great course! Missoula is great!!
My first marathon and everything was seamless - I never felt lost or unsure about any part of it from the bag pickup to the post-race festivities. What I like the most was the pacers that were on the course. This helped me immensely.
My first Marathon and it was a great experience.
My first Missoula 1/2 marathon and I had fun. Never thought I would say fun to run 13 miles. I also had fun training, as I went on a lot of trail training runs with my husband, who did not run.
My first time running. I really liked the 1/2 Marathon course. Plenty of water stations!
My pacer was wonderful (3:20, Trisha) the course was great and the organization was efficient and well planned.
My second Marathon at the young age of 65
New finish line!
Nice clean city.
Nice course, people and finish area
Nice course!
Nice flat run good people
nice location, scenic course, right number of people in race
Nice people everywhere. Beautiful run along the river.
Nice weather, a good course, well-organized
Nice weather, pretty course, friendly community
Nothing
Nothing left to chance. VERY well organized. Great gear, including finisher's medal. Perfect location.
Noticeable improvements this year at bus boarding - VERY organized. It's great that all participants were required to take the bus and no drop offs at the starting point from personal vehicles were permitted. That's a huge safety improvement for participants as well as law enforcement on site. Packet pick-up by bib number was also a huge improvement. Seemed to be a lot more volunteers this year and they are key to the event's success. Great job all around!

Oh gosh, where to start. It was amazing. The course was beautiful. Running next to the river was very peaceful. The volunteers were cheerful. The expo was fun. I was thrilled to listen to and meet Jeff Galloway. The after run celebration was fun. The location was perfect. I sat on the hillside sipping my moose drool and watched the river! The safety was appreciated. I made sure to thank the police officers for directing traffic and looking after our overall safety. The neighborhoods were enjoyable, all the spectators were giving out free energy...and the sprinklers were appreciated as it started to get a little warm. I also liked the idea of parking near the finish and being bused to the start. I felt no stress at all, had the most amazing time. This by far is my favorite run. Good ole Montana Hospitality at its best. I even enjoyed the shops near the finish line. I have done about 7 half marathons, and honestly, this was the best organized by far. I have been in very large to very small. The size was nice.
Oh my gosh, I LOVED everything about the event! The Missoula community ROCKS! there was so much energy and support on race day, everyone from the piano player, people with encouraging signs, cow bells ringing to young children passing out gummy bears and every single volunteer along the way. It was totally amazing! I was moved to tears crossing the finish line with my sister who had to withdraw from the race last year due to an injury. Thank you so much for organizing such a wonderful race! I also appreciated the bus transportation, great that everyone needed to travel that way.
OMG!!! It was amazing! The volunteers were over the top WONDERFUL! I was impressed by so many things. This was my first marathon and I can't even imagine it being better. The support along the course was really great!
Organization and signage
Organization Beautiful Route
Organization excellent
Organization of the event and the friendly volunteers!
Organization of the race, scenery, course elevation, or lack thereof
Organization this year really streamlined everything afterwards!! Hardly any wait for post-race photos!
Organization was well thought out. Shuttle system worked beautifully. Weather was perfect and fireworks at the start were a nice touch. Lived the race from start to finish.
Organization, medal, course, volunteers, expo, pretty much everything!
Organization, mostly flat course, and the many breweries in downtown Missoula.
organization, safety, race course, start time, fireworks, aid stations, friendly and supportive atmosphere, great support for slower runners, sprinklers, weather, food, gear bag organization, bus shuttle service, massage service, free picture, THANK YOU FOR A GREAT MARATHON
Organization. The volunteers were awesome. Well done. Spectator support was great. Buses were well organized.
Organization. Timing was very professional and accurate. Liked the activities at Caras Park, VERY WELL ORGANIZED RACE, GREAT JOB
Organized bus ride, start, nice course, good post- race food
Organized, beautiful course, excellent volunteers, only race I have ever done that offered a free picture. I also liked the medal and the shirt, the post-race food was great. I don't have any suggestions for improvement, this was a great race.
Organized, clean, easy to plan
Organized, community support, volunteers, number of participants (not too big)
Organized, great course support, weather
Overall great event, well supported, and nicely put on, the course, scenery, number of contestants not too many or too few, aid stations and help, shirts, medals (a little excessive ;-)
Overall I thought it was a wonderful experience, I really enjoyed the fireworks at the start!
Overall outstanding event. Very organized, friendly staff, awesome course including aid stations. Wonderful first half marathon experience!
Overall was excellent. Great course, smoothly run, good crowds. Not too crazy at finish or start.
Overall, the race was very well organized, with the exception of the bus situation, mentioned below. Volunteers were great.

Overall, well organized. Very busy and entertaining expo combined with farmers market. Very organized finish area with, again, lots of activities. Very nice medal. Appreciate the free finisher photo.
Pacers, course, amount of water stations, support
Participation with a broad range of ages and capabilities. That a local organization puts on an activity of this caliber.
People
People and the overall organization. Scenery is amazing.
People are awesome Organization is amazing
People cheering the walkers/runners on
People course weather
People of Missoula including volunteer staff very friendly and accommodating. Medals are awesome! Also the Whole Foods tent at the finish was very nice!
People very friendly and helpful.
People were extraordinary friendly. Race was well staffed. Neighborhoods put out hoses for us. Post-race food very good. 50 States allowed to meet at Runners Edge, thank you.
People were very friendly. Good organization for a smaller marathon.
People, course, time of year,
Perfect temperature, great organization (as always), great weekend of events and not just the race (beer run, expo, race day), great food after the race. It really does deserve the "best overall marathon" title.
Perfect weather and free beer!
Personally challenged myself. It was fun, positive and fun to run with so many awesome people.
Plenty of aid stations. Great volunteers and support.
Plenty of port-o-potties along the course. Earlier start time. Strawberry popsicles at the finish line. Thank you for keeping family and friends out of the runner's area at the finish line. It saved food and drink for the runners and those who were still on the course but would finish later.
Plenty of support and direction and organization
Positive and friendly atmosphere. Early start was nice. Lots of water and Gatorade available during run.
Positive atmosphere, community support, volunteers.
Pretty city, friendly volunteers
Pretty much everything
Pretty much everything.
Pretty much everything.
Pretty much everything. Especially the weather! Medals are awesome.
Pretty much everything. Was my first year and had a very good experience
Price, organization, route,
Race and events surrounding the race were well organized. The people of Missoula are AWESOME! Volunteers were super friendly and supportive. I really wanted to try the food, but had no appetite after the race, it all looked so good. Also, the extra safety measures taken at the race are appreciated. I felt safe the entire route and at the finish. Appreciate the efforts taken to get our gear bags back to us, that is no small feat to keep organized.
Race cap of 5,000 runners Excellent volunteers Friendly and fun community Nice tech shirts and awesome medals Excellent expo Well organized
Race results were up and loaded quickly. The fireworks at the beginning of the race were amazing...gave me chills. And I loved running by the horses in the early stage of the race. They were so excited and running and bucking and jumping -- you could use that in marketing. It's so uniquely Montana and was really sweet. The piano player was cool too.
Race was great.
Raising the awareness of health and fitness in the greater Missoula community - from youths to master participants. Wonderfully organized!!!!

REALLY WELL ORGANIZED AND PLANNED OUT. GREAT COURSE ROUTE AND REALLY FRIENDLY/HELPFUL VOLUNTEERS. GREAT RACE!
Relatively easy course. Outdoor expo. Small town atmosphere. Easy logistics. Great weather.
Relaxed, easy start.
route is beautiful well organized
Route was nice, volunteers were great. The St. Pat's aid station was amazing and they deserve great credit. Both High school football teams also did a great job at their respective water stations.
run along the river
Running along the river
Running in the mountains :) All the great spectators/supporters, sprinklers along the run, pianist playing baby grand in the country, nice medal, cool shirt, cheerful welcomers as we got off the bus at the start line for the half
Running on right hand side of the roads or in the middle. A number of the small ones force you to run on a tilted roadbed. Great medal, I would keep the design for next year, just change the date.
Running with a group of people from all ages and fitness levels, the amount of water stations, the course
Running with my great friend and all the support of people along the route!
Scenery, 1500 runner limit, fireworks at start, plenty of portolets, good course, dining & lodging in Missoula,
Scenery, community support, tech shirt, the experience
Scenery, nice course
Scenery, support.
Scenic course, temperatures perfect for running, friendly volunteers and spectators, water stations fully stock and best of all "no lines for the restrooms at start line!" Plus a fireworks display for starters!
Scenic race with great community support, law enforcement and free beer
Scenic running route; great little town filled with great food and drink; friendly people; easy to get around town and find locations; very well organized finish/exit area with plenty of food, bathrooms and room to walk around Overall, this was the best race I've participated in, and I have done about 10 organized races now.
Scenic, not too large, weather, half not starting with full
Set up, title sponsor ads
Size, location, organization, great town
Size, weather, community, course
Smiles on the staff faces and supportive, helpful attitude of volunteers
So fun, so beautiful, well organized!
So many best things. #1 was the 6 am start #2 was the weather #3 was the gorgeous and varied scenery #4 Excellent race organization #5 wonderful spectators running sprinkler hoses as cooling showers
So many dotted i's and crossed t's. I was amazed by the organization and creativity of the whole event. You can tell it is put on by runners for runners! Just an outstanding event!
So much fun!
So organized - from the buses in the morning, to the course being marked well, the wonderful volunteers, the aid stations and all the energy from the community. Love that it ends on Higgins right on the bridge and downtown!!
So organized, so friendly. I love that there are all body types and various athletic abilities. Thanks for being welcoming for all. In general, we all need to work to bring non-white people to our area:)
So well organized
So well organized! So supported by the community. Wonderful course.
Spectators are in tune cheering the runners. One man brought his grand piano in the middle of his lawn to play music for us that was very special; others set their sprinkler for us to cool off, some cut up fruits also over all the atmosphere was great.
Staff and volunteers were great. Route and people along the way was great. And water stations were well spaced and organized. Overall was a wonderful experience.

staffing and course
Starting time Course Finish
Starting with fireworks, weather, and post-race health food was excellent!!!
Such a well put together event. Beautiful course!
Super organized! I ran 4 yrs. ago and you have just gotten better ... way to go!
Super organized. Great course. Loved the support from the local homeowners along the course. The bus drivers were very professional and did not waste time, but they were friendly and courteous. It was easy to reconnect with family after the event-- funneling runners to Caras Park took a lot of congestion out of the finish area. Loved the 6 am start- any later it would be too hot. LOVED the fact it started on time!
Support from fans
Support staff rocked, it is a well-run race. One of the best I have been in, the reason I came back.
Supporters, the sprinklers, the volunteers. I loved the free picture and the good at the end of the race was awesome. It was such a great experience for my first 1/2 marathon!
Tall of it
Terrific setting. Nice course.
That it started at 6 before it got too hot. That the course was flat! The timing chip and the food at the end was all great. The announcers did a great job. The course was marked really well. Overall it was fantastic!
That it was in my home town, my house is on the route, it's pretty, well organized, stocked with volunteers. Having the bridge closed off to cars was *awesome*. And the food vendors on the bridge? A+!! Donuts were the best post 1/2 food. YUM!!! The course is great. Well marked, aid stations and water cup holders were great - (was gatorade first at mile 2.2? I thought water was supposed to be first) - I didn't use the portapotties so I have no idea if there were enough Trash cans to aim for 100ft past the aid stations are great The big flags marking the miles were really awesome - it was nice to be able to see those at a distance Thank you for the non-goody bag!! I was so happy to get home and not have a bunch of plastic from China to throw away. Seriously, kudos on the virtual goody bag. And I love that you used GreenLayer! If you want to get even greener (which I bet Missoulians would dig) check out https://atayne.com/ I noticed there wasn't tons of bottled water around. Bravo!! I hope that was a conscious choice. The post-race GFS spread was great. All I could eat at that point was watermelon, but I bet those with stomachs less trashed than mine were pretty psyched. Go GFS - thank you!! The big boxes to throw your warm layer in pre-race - that was awesome. And laid out and brought to me at the finish?! That was so great! Yes, thank you volunteers! You might let ppl know in the little booklet pre-race that that will be available. I saw lots of underdressed ppl in the morning. Or maybe I didn't see it in the booklet. Also thanks to CLIF for the gu.
That the community embraces the race
The 2013 Missoula Marathon turned out to be an awesome race. The crowds of people cheering you on were awesome as always. The press coverage was exceptional. Even though I didn't get to participate in the beer run this year I have enjoyed them in the past. I couldn't have asked for a better race location (my hometown), better weather (it was perfect) and better support (aid stations were on the money), heck even the mile markers were on the money this year. Although the final distance for the race appeared to be .13 miles too long, but hay you can't always trust a garmin.
The amount of people racing, the course, the spectators, organization, medals and shirts, aid stations, amount of bathrooms
the announcer at the half start; the course; the people; the medal; ease of getting to packet pickup, start line, and back to hotel after the race. Fireworks at the start. Plenty of porto-johns.
The atmosphere and attitude. How everything was based downtown. The emails
The atmosphere and community involvement is always above and beyond. I love Missoulians!
The atmosphere and the inspiration from all participants! Loved the Blue Mountain route as the sun was just rising. It was surreal.
The atmosphere route and volunteers were amazing! Thanks for making a marathon so fun!!
The atmosphere was GREAT!! All the volunteers were knowledgeable and easy to work with in giving directions. Everything was well planned out, for my first half marathon I was thoroughly impressed. Thank you so much!

The atmosphere was totally amazing!
The atmosphere, the spectators, the course, Missoula, the free picture, the medals, the trophies, the volunteers, the aid stations, and the finish area redesign was solid.
The attitudes of fellow runners and race officials/volunteers were super positive. I felt it with all the smiles. I love the buzz in the air on race day. I felt the support of the organizers and Missoula residents. It is tough to describe the feeling that accompanies cheers and whoops and smiles from people you have never met. Thank you for all the hard work in making the marathon happen each summer! You folks are stellar.
The awesome support of the local Missoula running store, runners edge, and run wild Missoula. The course is beautiful and clean and the aid stations are well manned and well stocked.
The awesome volunteers!!
The beer run
The best parts are the course and the atmosphere. It is well put together and well organized.
The best run race I have ever attended. Good job to all. The volunteers should be commended on the friendly and professional attitude.
The bus for the half marathon was organized. The line formation was much better than the huge crowd assembling from all sides of the streets as in the past. There were plenty of restrooms and the volunteers were friendly and motivating. The police officers were friendly and even said words of encouragement. Overall this was very organized event. The finish area was great and love the fact that the pictures are free and moved to Caras park as we were able to get a couple of finishers together as we finished at different times. The medals were awesome. I participated in the 5k and the half marathon. I liked the course of the 5k and of course the medals. The weekend was filled with great events. Thank you for the amazing race you put on. The Missoula Marathon is better than the Rock and Roll marathons.
The buses in the morning - very efficient at getting everyone on board/ Food at the end was GREAT sprinklers along the way - awesome free beer & music at the end.....awesome just LOVE it
The challenge.
The course was great.
The coming together of so many people makes an amazing event.
The community enthusiasm and support, the incredible volunteers, the amazing organization of the event, and the course support with hydration, energy drinks, and fuel. I ESPECIALLY appreciated the number of bathrooms available! Kudos to the Race Director for my favorite event!!! Oh! And the replenishment provided by the Good Food Store! Incredibly generous!!!
The community involvement was amazing. I'm from Missoula, but every year have avoided Missoula on the day of the event because of traffic and chaos. This year I realized that the community comes alive for the weekend of the Missoula Marathon. THIS is the place to be. Neighbors, friends, volunteers, tourists... they come out of the woodwork to support runners and walkers of all ability levels. Kids handing out water and food to the runners, playing music, turning on their sprinklers for runners to cool off, creating motivational signs of support- it was a first time experience for me, and one that definitely makes my top five list of lifetime experiences.
The community involvement was outstanding! The course was absolutely beautiful.
The community is excellent. The entire race has such a positive vibe to it.
The community support is awesome! Also is the most organized road race I have done. Buses on time are great!
The community support was amazing!
The community support was fantastic!! The course was super as well.
The community support.
The community was great in its support for the marathon. The aid stations were great too! Love the route of the course.
The comradeship of the runners
The course
The course
The course
The course and local support made it fantastic

The course is 2nd to none.
The course is beautiful and the people are very friendly.
The course is beautiful, my only request is that we are out in the country more not the city
The course is beautiful! I'm glad the race was well advertised, because a lot of community members came out to cheer us on or hold up signs, which was really great. It made the race more fun and more meaningful. The food afterwards was also great.
The course is beautiful. It was exciting to see all the people lined up to take the buses to the starting line. The fireworks are a nice effect. The organization of the event was impressive.
The course is beautiful. There were more bathrooms available than any race in which I've ever participated. Friendly volunteers. Massages by the physical therapists were great.
The course is gorgeous, fans were enthusiastic, volunteer were helpful, and weather was perfect even though I knew you all could not control it! Loved everything about it. Thanks for the great race and the great experience. Love MT. It's the first visit and am sure it's not the last one!
The course is great and I love Missoula.
The course is really a perfect match between fast and fun with plenty of opportunity for spectators. Probably the best finish line/services bordering Boston; great setup this year with splitting the Higgins bridge and providing bleachers for spectators. Great aid stations and support.
The course is so nice with the first part being downhill and along the river. The people support along the course is awesome as well.
The course is wonderful. The cheering supporters must be acknowledged, and the race organizers, volunteers, etc. deserve an A+
The course was awesome! Plenty of water stations and the Community support on race day was a blast/sprinklers and cheers!!!
The course was beautiful and the community support was outstanding coming out to cheer us on. I also loved the medals, best of any race by far. And I can't not mention the 2 pace group leaders for the 3:40 pace. They were great and kept those of us that hung on motivated through the entire distance. I don't know their names, but I want to make sure they knew how valued they were. I ended up running a 3:36 which was a 27min PR.
The course was beautiful and the helpers were very helpful and friendly.
The course was beautiful and the size was perfect.
The course was beautiful and the volunteers were great. The whole experience was great!
The course was beautiful and well mapped. I also love the medal; It's very specific to the region. The bag check was very helpful and well organized as well.
The course was beautiful, the directions were easy to follow and the expo was a piece of cake to get through.
The course was beautiful. The efficiency at the end was amazing. The Immediate results and ability to get awards was greatly appreciated for those Of us who had to leave town or had relatives who did not want to wait Any longer.
The course was fantastic! All the volunteers were very helpful/nice. I really liked the 'Virtual Coupon' bag. It makes so much sense and cuts down on a lot of waste. Great idea.
The course was fast and mostly beautiful. The encouragement and support along the route was fun. The aid stations were plentiful.
The course was gorgeous, and well supported. Lots of spectators, more than I expected. Great start line, lots of porta potties. Awesome medals! Great post-race food. Free beer. Free pictures. Gear check bags.
The course was great
The course was great
the course was great, amount of rest stops was perfect, with porta potties at each station
The course was great, not crowded, excellent water/nutrition aid stations, great weather, cheery folks along the way, fun finish on the bridge with good support, and I LOVED the medal!
The course was great, well-attended by the community, plenty of water and restroom stops.

The course was great.
The course was incredible and mostly in the shade! (can't beat that)
The course was nice and shaded and it wasn't too hot. The support staff was amazing! It was really fun.
The course was nice. Great scenery and saw parts of Missoula probably would not see if just on vacation. Crowd support was great.
The course was one of the most beautiful I've ever run - how wonderful it was to watch the sun rising over the mountains! I loved how excited the town was to support & cheer on the runners. Volunteers were all cheerful. The finish line crossing the bridge was sensational! It really added to the euphoria of finishing the marathon. A huge THANK YOU to all who made this race incredible. I'll definitely be recommending it to any runners (or not-yet-runners) I know, and I'll be back next year!
The course was so pleasant - loved the variety and route thru rural as well as town, well supported course, lots of community participation, great food at the end of race, bus transportation was easy, great energy all around
The course was spectacular! It is probably the prettiest course I have ever run and this was my 57 marathon. The spectators and volunteers were terrific. All in all an A1 event! Love the fact that the medal ribbon, shirt and number bib all "match."
The course was wonderful
The course was wonderful and I love to start so early in the morning so it's very cool to run. I felt very safe at all the intersections and I really appreciated all the sideline support. I feel Missoula really out does them self to make people enjoy the race.
The course, the fan support the organization and the volunteers.
The course, the finish area for runners, ease of parking and getting to start of the race and ease of leaving after the race.
The course, the finish, the mile markers, the entertainment, the water stations, the volunteers.
The course, the medals, the food after the race, the number of water stations, microbrew after the race and free pic. loved the number of racers - not too crowded.
The course, the organization and signage along the route. The ample water stations. The atmosphere and support staff was great. The course was beautiful.
The course, the staff and volunteers!
The course, the volunteers, the weather, the number of participants didn't make the race too crowded, the number of water stops.
The course, volunteers, aide stations, Facebook updates, the metals
The course, volunteers, and support from the community and event staff was amazing. Truly it was the best race experiences of my life and my first 1/2 marathon.
The course!!!
The crowd and spectators are wonderful. Run Wild Missoula is an amazing group. They do a fantastic job organizing and executing this race!
The crowd participation and the route
The crowds and the scenery!
The crowds, volunteers, and abundant porta potties were amazing. Pre and post-race were really well done.
The energy and support of the crowd! The awesome people at the finish line, giving out food and locating gear bags. The other runners... It was just an awesome event!
The energy was great, weather outstanding and the course was excellent!!!!
The energy.
The entire event was great. I appreciated the support of the locals the most. Seeing them cheering us on in the streets was a great encouragement.
The entire experience. Everyone I met connected to the Marathon was very helpful and kind. The course is absolutely wonderful and the Missoula crowds more than I expected.
The entire process was fantastic!

The entire weekend was awesome. The volunteers were fantastic. Great job again!!
The entire weekend with Jeff Galloway and the Galloway Group was incredible. I never ran before this May, but my wife has been a Galloway Group member for over a year. The last three miles are the best - the neighborhoods really turned out and made the end of my first half Marathon, very memorable. The first three miles and the last three miles are my favorites.
The event was so well organized and run. Plenty of water and aid stations. Better porta potty system in place this year. Short lines because there were plenty of potties.
The event staff and volunteers were awesome!
The event staff is a wonderful job. The course was fantastic and the people were very helpful. Enjoyed the fact the race started at 6A before it got to warm.
The event was very well organized and everyone involved was super helpful and just plain nice. Very welcomed departure from DC. The fireworks at the start of the race were a surprise and certainly inspires you to kick ass! Medals were wonderful and post-race food was great. Very impressed and well worth the 7 months of training.
The event was very well planned and executed. There was not a lack of anything! Loved the sprinklers that some people had out. The volunteers were wonderful and so was all of the support along the route. I loved seeing the two people on horseback and the guy with the huge Swiss cow bell!
The excitement level and buildup of the event. The firework at the start was a nice touch.
The excitement of everyone participating, the beauty of the course, the participation of the whole community, and the organization that was so well done by the staff.
The expo was well put together the run was perfect the buses and the volunteers wow
The fabulous community spirit and participation
The fans along the route are great and provide motivation. I also appreciated all the water tables.
The finish line at the end of the bridge, Blue Mountain area
The finish line, the piano guy, friendly volunteers, view of the Clark Fork River, shade in town.
The finish line!
The finishing area was the best it's ever been (this is our 4th year). Having the gear bags and the recovery area together was very convenient and the picture area was awesome. So much better than having to do it before you leave the recovery area and it was very streamlined.
The fireworks at the start, the fact that the citizens of Missoula pointed their sprinklers out to the street for racers to utilize, the scenery and the volunteers.
The flow of each part of the event was perfect. There were tons and tons of amazing volunteers. So much encouragement!
The free beer!
The friendly people and the beautiful course
The great energy and positive vibe.
The Higgins street bridge finish. Having so many cheering you on and a good sound system there.
The kindness and enthusiasm of the volunteers.
The larger number of participants, the volunteers, the staff and the outstanding organization of the race.
The level of support, very well put together, course....everything!
the limited # of people
The list is long but here are a couple thoughts. The welcoming attitude toward walkers makes this a uniquely diverse marathon. Movement is good and walking is a good way for those who cannot run to participate in this important facet of Missoula culture. The training classes were huge in increasing my confidence and enthusiasm. Gfs food and the espresso concession at the end.
The location and organization of race was, as always, excellent! Most things ran very smoothly, and details such as free photos and instant results were appreciated.
the location of the race, the volunteers were great!

The location was beautiful, the people were friendly and the people I was with made it extra special.
The location was fantastic. the people were friendly
The location was simply beautiful!!! The course was great.
The location, start time, finish line, race staff
The marathon was extremely well organized and thought out - every aspect from the gear bags to the shuttles made for a well-executed event and made it easy on the runners. The volunteers were very enthusiastic and support along the run was amazing. The pace groups were great too.
The medal was nice. Packet pickup was easy. Plenty of restrooms, aid stations, and volunteers to help with the race.
The medal, race director (although he unplugged my heat source - the flood lamp - at the start of the race, the race crew, the people along the course, the visible mile markers, the fireworks at the start, etc.
The medals are awesome. The race is awesome. The shirts are great. Definitely doing it again next year. I need another cool medal!
The medals, the course, the environment
the Missoula community and all the great volunteers on the course
THE MISSOULA MARATHON IS FAR THE BEST MARTHON EVER. THE PEOPLE, THE VOLUNTEERS, THE FANS, THE ORGANISATION IS ALL 100%
The Missoula runners atmosphere. The beginning of the run along the river.
The organization and amount of prerace communication from Run Wild Missoula staff was great. Registration pick up was a breeze and having the race on a Sunday gave me plenty of time to explore downtown Missoula and the surrounding areas. I really can't say enough good things about the race.
The organization and attention to detail is second to none. There were sufficient aid stations, the course is well marked, and traffic control was all major contributors to my enjoyment of the race.
The organization and positive atmosphere was superb! The cheering volunteers and fireworks at the start brought tears to my eyes...love it! Thank you
The organization and the community support. The medal, the free picture, the fun. The piano player. The people! The volunteers!! Amazing fun for a 13.1 mile run!!
The organization and the course itself were fantastic. Best run running event I've been to.
The organization and volunteer staff. They were both amazing.
The organization is incredible. Everything is fast, efficient, and easy.
The organization of the 'open course' with the appropriate local and state authorities. Expo was excellence. The medal was awesome and showcased the region. The course separation of the full and half race courses. Tech-Shirt was awesome.
The organization of the event was really top notch. I also enjoyed the route.
The organization of the marathon & 1/2 is one of the best that I have been a part of. Great course, transportation, sponsors, course cleanliness, and volunteers. I look forward to this event every year.
The organization of the whole event was so smooth and everyone was so helpful and encouraging. The people of Missoula along the route and the people at the start and finish lines were great. The pacer were so encouraging as well. Thank everyone one and organization who manned the water stations.
The organization of this race was really impressive. The bus rides to the start of the race were efficient. The gear bags to put your warmer clothes in worked out perfectly and with the cooler weather I was thankful to have sweats and a warmer shirt. I was grateful that every mile on the marathon was marked which seemed to make it easier to run. The water stops were close enough and the people handing out water were all very supportive. I can't say enough good things about my experiences at the Missoula Marathon.
The organization was flawless. Collecting the bib and chip on Saturday was easy -- helpful staff and an intuitive system. The gear bags were easy to manage and I collected my belongings after the race without trouble. The aid stations were plentiful and the volunteers did a great job (it never hurts to have them try to grab a cup on the run so they know how it feels on both sides of the exchange). The out of town portions of the course were scenic; the in-town parts . . . eh? The bus boarding was simple and efficient. I especially would like to thank our pacer, Trisha Drobeck -- she was great.

The organization was good from the expo, bussing, race execution, volunteers and spectators, all the way. The best part is that I had a PR! 6 am and good weather helped, too! Also, good to have a separate course for half marathon at the beginning.
The organization was great and the volunteers were extremely friendly
The organization was great, volunteers were wonderful, and the scenery was BEAUTIFUL!
The organization was great; the vendors; the pick-up was easy.
The organization, course, frequent aid stations and bathrooms, that the shorter races are on Saturday, the start time, the energy of the volunteers, the organization for drop bags
The organization, course, refreshments and food were outstanding. All the staff were very friendly and helpful too.
The organization, the email information and instructions the week of the race were very good. I liked the course and the supports along the way, ie water and toilets. Set up for registration the day before was good. Loved the piano player on the course, he was playing Chariots of Fire when I ran by!!!!
The organization, the people, the shaded route. I really wanted the unique medal. It Is my favorite half marathon.
The organization, the race route, the start time, the aid station locations, the volunteers, the date, that it's on Sunday, the volunteers, the busses to the start, the ride to the start, the timing chips, the colorful bibs, the gear bag drop and pick up, the finish line set up, the fireworks & canon at the start, the many porta potties at the start, the volunteers, the community support, the spectators and their wonderful signs, the piano player, the great food from the Good Food Store at the finish, the technical shirts, the traffic control, the pre-race expo, the free pictures, the mile markers...I Love the mile markers, the weather...please have the same weather next year, the friendly runners and the volunteers.
The organization, volunteers, free photos, food. I love the expo. I look forward to that every year. It is a fabulous event.
The organization, volunteers, water stops were all fabulous. We wished there were oranges along the course, but this is minor compared to our wonderful experience!
The overall event was so much fun and very well organized. The race course was beautiful and nice and flat!
The overall experience was awesome! Everyone was helpful and very supportive
The overall organization, kind and helpful volunteers, and the number of people cheering you along on the race course.
The overwhelming support! It made the race amazing! Also, it was a great course to see all the beauty of Missoula for out of town participants.
The pacers were great! Race organization was the best I've ever seen!! Beautiful course and great location. I can't say enough positive things about my experience with the race.
The people
The people along the running route were more than awesome and helped this 1st time marathoner keep on going. The route of the 1/2 marathon was pleasant for an old guy that does not do hills well.
The people and community were fantastic. Always are. This is the best race in the states. I will run this race until i am no longer physically able. Great course, great atmosphere, great people, don't change a thing.
The people and the course. The support is great.
The people and town
The people are incredible, and the volunteerism and community spirit are without parallel. It was so cool that every single time there was a turn or change in direction there were people posted that were all super-encouraging of the runners. Additionally, it was really awesome to run a mostly flat course!
The people in Missoula are very friendly, and the marathon staff was very helpful. I actually forgot to register one of my friends, and I felt terrible considering all the training and planning we did together. Even though the race was officially sold out, the staff had no problem giving my friend a race number. I liked how supportive the community is and how they cheer on the runners. The backpack with race numbers was really cool. Oh yeah, and free beer and pictures!
The people most polite and friendly I have seen anywhere. The variety of water and Gatorade at aid stations
The people of Missoula that came out to support, volunteer, etc. Everyone was so helpful and friendly. You all made Montana proud! This was my 7th race in the last year and by far my best experience overall. I wasn't happy about having to take a bus to the start but the staff had everything running so smoothly, it really worked out well. A smooth oiled machine. This is why I got into running. I will definitely be back.

<p>The people of Missoula were welcoming. Beer run was a blast; we had a great tour guide. Transportation to the start line was convenient. The size of the marathon was perfect; scenery on the course was beautiful. The food at the finish line was great! The start time was good. I was able to finish before it got too hot. The fireworks were a nice touch at the start.</p>
<p>The people were extremely friendly. I was impressed by the reception we received from people along the course. Although many of the races I do have entertainment every mile or so of the course, this race did not. That said, I don't think it was a negative at all. The people along the course made up for it! The guy playing the piano in the field was a big hit for us all. I loved the shirts, the medals, and the expo (even though it was small). The fact that the expo was next to the farmers' market was also a plus. We went over there after the 5K and enjoyed pizza from the portal brick oven, bought Ranier cherries that were delicious as well as huckleberry jam. There were plenty of porta potties at the start and along the course too. We used this race to also visit Glacier Park (before the race) so it became a very enjoyable vacation/race trip.</p>
<p>The people were great, the pacers were awesome and the atmosphere was perfectly motivating.</p>
<p>The people were very friendly, the weather, the location, spectator were very friendly, plenty water and gatorade at all the station, police were very helpful and friendly. The hospitality at the hotel was great. The food was excellent. The half marathon and the marathon started at different location.</p>
<p>The people, the energy. The spectators cheering us on. Look forward to next year!!</p>
<p>The people, the scenery, the course, the weather!</p>
<p>The people! I bragged to friends that every person I encountered who was a "helper" or supporter/worker was just that. I was impressed that all the volunteers cared and were genuinely being of service to make my experience the best. In addition to being a great run (location & route) it was my best running event experience. Thanks for that!</p>
<p>The piano was absolutely amazing. Made this a truly unique experience. Volunteers were incredibly helpful.</p>
<p>The police surveillance was awesome - especially after the Boston situation.</p>
<p>The positive experience and the organization</p>
<p>The post-race food was great again and the free beer was great.</p>
<p>The race and how well organized it was.</p>
<p>The race course for the half, organization, and being in Missoula~</p>
<p>The race has a nice course. It was fun and well organized.</p>
<p>The race is close to home; it's a great course. I see people I know. There are plenty of water stations. I never had to stop and wait to cross a road the police and volunteers did a great job. I never felt hemmed in by the crowd (except for a few minutes at the start), plenty of space to run.</p>
<p>The race is one of the most well executed races I've ran. The people at the aid stations were great as well as the crowd support along the course, especially at the finish line.</p>
<p>The race is organized and friendly. I love the small town feel.</p>
<p>The race is so well organized that you just need to get yourself to the bus and everything else is smooth. The volunteer and community support is amazing. The free race photo and free beer afterwards is a great bonus.</p>
<p>The race organization is fantastic. The best thing about it was the availability of bananas and water at the race start. The aid stations that get closer together as the race goes on are fantastic. The volunteers were helpful, and seemed prepared. Also, being in communication with the railroad and the ability to tell us when the train was coming, and that there would be no more was great. I like that the shirt wasn't white, black or grey, I have SO many in those colors from other races!</p>
<p>The race organization prioritized the safety and well-being of the participants throughout each stage of the event. The availability of traffic monitors, aid station inventory (ICE and Cold fluids), ease of parking/shuttle arrangements, cyclist patrolling, and fantastic community support and involvement showed the participants how comprehensively the race organization and community planned for the event.</p>

<p>The race organizers make everything about the Missoula Marathon easy...from registration to pre-race communication to packet pick up to coordinating buses to having an awesome finish line...they've mastered it all! On top of that, the volunteers and race day support from the community are the best! I regularly hear runners talk about a race they enjoyed and the "new" location they'll pick for the next run...and after running in Missoula, I hear more people say how excited they will be to return next year. I'm fortunate to live in Missoula, and look forward to 2014. Additionally, while I am so sorry for Meg's health challenges, her courage to share her story and serve as an inspiration to others takes giving back to your community to a level that cannot be matched. She will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. Finally, when I brag about Missoula, I always mention the Runner's Edge and the significant impact it has had on wellness in Missoula and beyond.</p>
<p>The race time and course was perfect racing conditions</p>
<p>The race volunteers were all so helpful and energetic (even at 4 am)! There was an infectious enthusiasm throughout the whole course, from the welcome committee at the start line, to the aid station personnel, to the police helping with traffic. It is nice to see such a successful community effort. Looking forward to next year.</p>
<p>The race was fine. Easy to get from finish to hotels/transportation.</p>
<p>The race was very well organized! Volunteers were happy and full of energy (even the early morning volunteers). The course was flat and beautiful.</p>
<p>The race was very well organized. Mile markers were accurate, course was well marked. Volunteers and spectators were enthusiastic. Course was beautiful. Water stops were ample. Enough portapotties. Shuttles worked well at the start. I loved the fireworks at the start- really a nice touch. Course was not too congested with runners - the right size of race. I loved the medal!! Fabulous. And the free photo was amazing - never got that before with a marathon. The texts with the timing results were great, so my family knew when to expect me. Everything was top notch, as well run or better than much larger sized city marathons. I also much appreciated that my hotel (Comfort Inn) started breakfast at 3 am for runners, I could walk to shuttles/finish line from hotel, and got a late check-out.</p>
<p>The race was well organized. Parking was not as bad as I thought it might be. I enjoy this race very much and look forward to participating in it in the future. The residents who support the runners are great. I give them a lot of credit.</p>
<p>The reorganization of pictures at the end of the race! So, nice to only wait in line for the pic, then you immediately get it after, and don't have to go to another place to pick it up and wait in line again. The ending was good as well with the food and gear off to the left. Kept people moving better.</p>
<p>The route</p>
<p>The route along the Bitterroot River and then through town was very pleasant. Enjoyed the spectators who cheered us on. The medal and t-shirt was awesome as was the food afterwards.</p>
<p>The route and all the support help.</p>
<p>The route and friendly people</p>
<p>The route is great (I did the half). Very well run--plenty of water/Gatorade & restrooms. Staff and police very nice & accommodating. LOVE starting early before the heat sets in.</p>
<p>The route scenery, organization was awesome, the volunteers, updating our time to Facebook, and text messaging service, free beer, free picture prints, start line MC and fireworks, cheer group getting of the buses, funny signs along the route that motivated us! The osprey catching a fish as I crossed the bridge going over the Bitterroot River</p>
<p>The route was a lot of fun! Loved the countryside at the beginning (along with the guy playing the piano). It was pretty easy for family to find place/places to cheer me on along the way. Crossing Higgins St. Bridge was awesome:) I enjoyed Jeff Gallway's presentation. Wish I could have been there to take the hike with him. The Pavilion area for the Expo was neat and it was nice to have the shade tents. The organization of the run was fabulous. Really appreciate all the volunteers who helped. Loved the transportation of the gear bags. Traffic was well controlled.</p>
<p>The route was amazing!</p>
<p>The route was beautiful and the support.</p>
<p>The route was beautiful. The crowds were encouraging. The music was great. It was well organized. Most importantly, it was lots of fun.</p>
<p>The route was great and the people were very supportive, both volunteers and community people watching.</p>
<p>The route was the best I have run! It was well managed and very enjoyable.</p>

The route, friendliness of the organizers/people of Missoula along the route, the organization, the medal, signage, food after
The route, the finish area, the markets on Saturday, among Many others!
The run is very well organized and I love the race route and community acceptance.
The run was fantastic. The course is beautiful and relaxing. The staff and volunteers were excellent. The community involvement, homeowners lining the course, children handing out gummi bears made the run relaxing and fun. I plan to run the half every year. I recommend your event to every runner I encounter.
The scenery and layout of the course were wonderful. The expo was helpful and pleasant. I loved it that volunteers were there to cheer for us when we got off the bus at the start area. The after race food was great - quite a variety and more healthy than many post-race offerings.
The scenery and route were amazing. Weather was perfect. The end and the things going on down at the river (booths, vending, etc.) were nice for all events.
The scenery The friendly people in the town and connected to the marathon The availability of hotels A very nice finish line and rest area A warm welcome at the finish line by the guy on the mic. He made me feel as though I came in 1st Cold beer at the end 50 State reunion A print-out of my results Cowboys/cowgirls on horseback Baby grand piano being played Decent food at the end -just the right kind although a little skimpy Lots of aid stations with COLD water and much needed gels Beer run had good music and great food afterwards (only \$10) Good restaurants in town (Iron Horse, Tamarack) Constant EMS support with bikers, police etc fireworks at the beginning - nice touch
The scenery was beautiful. The weather was perfect. Everyone in Missoula was enthusiastic and polite. The runners were even encouraging to the walkers! A first! I wouldn't change a thing about the race course.
The scenery!
The scenery! Missoula and Montana are beautiful!
The scenery and organization of the race.
The setting was awesome. I loved Missoula and will go back again to recreate.
The setting was fantastic. I also liked that the marathoners did not start at the same place as the half-marathoners. This made for a better race.
The spirit of the other participants, the course, the time of day and how organized it was. I loved it that your name was read as you crossed the line - who would not? I also loved being able to print all my personal information.
The spirit, atmosphere and volunteers were all amazing. It felt wonderful in the midst of suffering, and it made great memories that will never leave me.
The staff and location were amazing.
The staff and support was great.
The staff, the route, the atmosphere and encouragement are wonderful. the food after the race is great. the water stops and restrooms are at good locations. Most things seem very organized. Missoula is a great place
The staff/volunteers were great.
The start for the half was awesome, and the course was well marked. The finish area was well organized and the food was great! The participants were diverse and a lot of fun!
The start was a lot of fun, fireworks etc. Course was beautiful. Especially impressed with the runners chute, once you crossed the finish line. Very well organized. Gear bag pick-up was the best so far that I've seen. People here are very friendly. And the medal was just awesome!
The strong sense of community.
The sunrise start time! Running down the hill at mile 2 with the sunrise over the river with the horses romping in the field and the light mist - really incredible. Prettiest 1/2 Marathon EVER.
The support from the local residents along the course was terrific as well as the water stations.
The support of everyone. The staff and volunteers were amazing
The support of the community, and the beautiful route by the river

The support staff (sweeper cyclists) on the course was terrific. Several aid stations were MORE than enthusiastic as well! :-) This is my 27th marathon and I would rank the overall experience as one of the Top 5. I have no reservations about recommending this event to fellow runners! The citizens and city of Missoula should be proud of the quality of this event!
The support was amazing and the race itself was very organized.
The support was the best I've experienced at a race. Both with the number of drink stops and with the crowds to cheer on. Very well staffed!
The town and all the restaurants, coffee shops, bars, shops. The first 16-17 miles of gorgeous scenery. The spectators and hoses. The great volunteers and support stations even for walkers. Post-race food even for walkers (although no beer for 6+ people. Proximity of hotels on walking distance. No complaints. Great everything and even for walkers
The training class through runners edge. The aid stations and number if bathrooms the massage after and the free pic. And of course that others could track you along the way as you crossed the finish line and the good food store food!!
The view is amazing and the overall experience. The bus systems are pretty fast and flow well. Being greeted with cheers when I got to the Peak was wonderful as well!
The view was beautiful.
The volunteer
The volunteer staff that assisted with the race was great support and friendly from start to finish. I have run a number of races in the past but this race was the experience I will remember as many of the staff cheered us on and where making the extra effort to make the Missoula Marathon a worthwhile experience.
The volunteers and event staff were AWESOME. This is my 14th marathon and mostly I do big races. I loved how many volunteers and spectators there were for such a small event. Fantastic impression of Missoula! The Big Flat Road portion of the full marathon course is absolutely stunning. Actually, from the turn toward Big Flat and the entire Big Flat section were fabulous (I even loved that hill!). The medals are fantastic! I didn't have a great clock time (for me) but I enjoyed every minute of the race and getting that HUGE medal was a bonus! The start area was also great. It was organized, clean, easy to get to porta potties, bag drop easy, etc.
The volunteers and how organized it was. Great shirts and how the flow was after finish line. This is my 4th year and it has been a great experience every time. Thank you!!
The volunteers are amazing, the course is beautiful! It's well organized. 95% of the race is amazing!
The volunteers make the event what it is. They are cheery and full of excitement willing to help with any questions or concerns. I appreciate this the most.
The volunteers were amazing and the whole thing seemed to go off pretty seamlessly.
The volunteers were amazing; everyone was so positive and helpful. The course was beautiful! I loved everything about it!
The volunteers were amazing! The course was fun and well mapped out. I liked running through town.
The volunteers were amazing! They worked hard and it showed!
The volunteers were amazing. I was so impressed by the race staff, volunteers and police officers. The route was also beautiful.
The volunteers were awesome! I loved having so many aid stations and porta potties.
The volunteers were encouraging, helpful and energetic. Everyone had a positive attitude all were patient with each other.
The volunteers were great and made it a great experience.
The volunteers were great. The event is very organized.
The volunteers were incredible; the first half of the run is beautiful.
The volunteers, race organization, the course, the capped number of race participants, the staff at restaurants and people of Missoula....This was the most hospitable city I have ever visited I in the country....I didn't want to go home.
The volunteers, the course, the bridge lined with cheering crowd, the fireworks, the finish line, the finish area, the beer run.

The volunteers, the course, the bridge lined with cheering crowd, the fireworks, the finish line, the finish area, the beer run.
The volunteers, the organization, the beauty of Montana and Glacier Park.
The volunteers, the route, the organization.
The volunteers, the scenery, the start and finish. THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE.
The volunteers!!! They made this race what it is!!! THANK YOU! Also plenty of water stops! Even though this year the weather was perfect, last year it was VERY HOT! The water stops and the volunteers who ran them were incredible! Also LOVED all the signs along the way.
The water stations are well placed and the volunteers very attentive. The crossings on busy intersections were mostly manned by uniform officers and this is a real plus. Thanks for the gear bags this year. My name was called out as I crossed the finish line..... Nice touch.
The water stations were excellent, fully staffed, efficient and encouraging. All the volunteers were very helpful. The course itself was beautiful with the mountains for the majority and then the neighborhoods were very enjoyable (really liked the misters and sprinklers!). Overall it was a very enjoyable run. I would love to run it again but I am trying to run in different cities and states but if I do come back to one, this would be the one. Great race...had a great time.
The weather was awesome. Dial these temps in each year and it will be incredible. The race director is really hot and so is his wife. The organization of the event was top notch. I know next year I'm going to have to give the medical tent a try as they had a team of sweet nurses with a pretty snazzy looking doctor
The weather was perfect and the volunteers were wonderful. Even enjoyed the piano player on the course. He was fantastic.
The weather was perfect, lots of crowd support the last few miles, aid station volunteers were very friendly.
The weather. Nice planning on that!!!!
The welcoming from the locals
The whole experience was amazing! The course was beautiful!
The whole race was run well and this is the 5th half/full marathon I have run. The course was excellent. Water stops great. And start time of 6:00 absolutely fantastic-still cool outside. I ran the half.
The whole weekend was so well organized and volunteer support great
The wonderful community support along such a picturesque course.
Their race course was beautiful.
There was a lot of enthusiasm at the race, and the course was scenic.
There was such a great community atmosphere. I loved the beer mile post party (even though I didn't get into town early enough to actually run it!) I thought it was a great chance for many runners to mingle. I felt like I left Missoula with many new friends! The shuttles were very organized. Even though the lines were long, they moved quickly and there were so many volunteers making sure everyone was in the right line and keeping things organized.
There were LOTS of helpful, friendly, knowledgeable staff and volunteers. I loved all the water/Gatorade stations and porta potties. The community support was tremendous and much appreciated.
This event was very organized, loved the course.
This is a great event especially for a local first timer. The signage was clear and the energy was amazing.
This is a great race- loved it!!! Thanks for the great work
This is my 3rd year doing the half marathon- I've convinced several friends to participate with me. I told them how great it was. Apprehensive, they too loved the organization, support, t-shirt, metal, and refreshments at the finish line. We will be doing it again next year!
This is my far one of my favorite races to run. Very well organized, the aid stations are fantastic, everything is wonderful.
This is my favorite race in the world and it only gets better. The organization is fantastic.

<p>This is my third participation in the Missoula event (marathon in 2009, half marathons in 2011 and 2013). This year I ran the 5k with my daughter, in addition to the 5k. Missoula's event organization and information communication was excellent. Never did I have a question about where to go, what to do (pre, during or post-race). Never did I feel inconvenienced, in the entire event process. I also like how Missoula is carefully capping the runner head-count for each race, so that the race and the entire stay in Missoula can be an enjoyable experience for all.</p>
<p>This is one of the best organized races I have attended! There were enough water stations; the Staff/volunteers were wonderful! I was worried when I saw the line for the 1/2 marathon buses, but it took less than 10 minutes to get onto a bus even though we were 2 1/2 blocks away...that was impressive!! It really was excellent; I have not seen a race that well organized before. GREAT JOB & Thank you!!</p>
<p>This is such a great showing from the community and other runners. I love that everyone can participate and that it is such a big event. It has been one of the highlights of my year!</p>
<p>This race is very well organized. The people, aid stations, post-race food are all exceptional.</p>
<p>This was a very professionally run and organized run. My only other experience was the Vegas marathon. I like the smaller numbers and the hometown feel. It's like a marathon in Mayberry. Also the volunteer support was phenomenal.</p>
<p>This was a very well-run event!</p>
<p>This was a well-organized and friendly marathon. Staff was helpful at the expo and could answer questions without sending us on to someone else!! Course was beautiful and there were many porta potties along the route which is not typical. I have run 22 to date and I would recommend this marathon highly to others!!</p>
<p>This was my 1st marathon and I was very nervous about a lot of things, as you can imagine. The amazingly well run race along with amazing volunteers/staff made the weekend so enjoyable and many of my anxieties were relieved as soon as I picked up my marathon packet and gear bag. I went online to register for next year already... only to find I had to wait until October! Very excited about doing this race again.</p>
<p>This was my 1st year for the Marathon. I cannot say enough great things about this event as a whole. I will most definitely be back next year with the two others that were supposed to be there this year! Great Job!!</p>
<p>This was my 3rd time doing it and the best by far!!! The volunteers kicked butt and the expo rocked as well!!!!</p>
<p>This was my 5th Missoula marathon and I loved it the same each time. I particularly like the community support & motivation. The miles go by fast!</p>
<p>This was my 6th marathon and it was my absolute favorite. It was INCREDIBLE. Of course, you come out to Montana for the natural landscape and the climate and environment, but the size and scope of the race and the small size was great. But, the people were amazing. My pacer was AWESOME (I ran in the 4 hour group). I had so much fun and had a smile on my face the whole time. From my hotel providing goodie bags, to the fireworks at the start, to the cowboys before the hill, to the fans, to the friends I made while running, to the ease accessing water stations, it was a race bar none. THANK YOU to everyone who was volunteering, and who worked to make this race a success. You all should be very proud of the amazing work you did. You made this such a wonderful experience :)</p>
<p>This was my first half marathon and I couldn't believe the amount of volunteers. Also impressive was their positive, encouraging attitudes. Loved the vibe! Bathrooms were plenty which was very nice!</p>
<p>This was my first marathon, so I was a bit clueless. Great info online though -- told me everything I needed to know. Expo people helpful too.</p>
<p>This was my first race ever, so naturally I was nervous. It was very organized and all of the volunteers and people involved were very friendly and helpful</p>
<p>This was my first time running in the Missoula Marathon so the experience as a whole was amazing! Everything was extremely organized from signing up, picking up our gear bags, starting, running and finishing the race. I was so impressed with the event staff and volunteers. The course was absolutely beautiful as well.</p>
<p>This was my first time so I didn't have any expectations. It was very well organized, the route was well marked, and I thought the bus ride to the starting point was a great idea.</p>
<p>This was my first year participating in this race and it was an exciting atmosphere to race in; the course was great; the volunteers were awesome- it was just great energy overall! I also really like the shirts given out</p>

This was my very first marathon, and I couldn't have chosen a better one! An incredible experience and simply a very memorable trip. The people were so nice, and made it a very personal experience. Loved the feeling of coming across the finish line and the announcer speaking directly to me...incredible feeling to finish that way. I've had races announce my name before, but I could hear everything he was saying and the crowd responded! Very memorable to say the least.
This was one of the highlights of my life! I thoroughly enjoyed the tremendous support from our community. The event staff was all exceptional. The route was spectacular. Weather was perfect. I loved it. Thanks!!!
This was so well organized, beautiful venue, easy affordable travel.
This was the best event ever! My sincere compliments to all staff and volunteers for a job so well done that it exceeded my expectation.
This was the first time for anyone in our party to visit Montana and run the Missoula marathon. We stayed the first half of the week near Glacier National Park and the second half of the week in Missoula for the marathon. Our entire party was extremely happy with the race and the overall experience! There were so many positive comments from our group regarding the excellent organization, the friendly staff and volunteers and we were all most excited about the free race photos! Everything pre, during and post-race felt so easy and all very organized which was so much appreciated. We have all been to races where the experience was very different and it definitely makes for a tough race. We were all very impressed with the amount of coordination that went into bus pickup, bag drop off, course signs, bag pickup and just overall cleanliness of the course and how helpful all the volunteers were. It was a very pleasant experience and I have a feeling we will be visiting Montana again for the marathon!
This year I did the half marathon after doing the full the past two years. I missed having the five am start for walkers. However, I was so impressed with the super organization of the half start! Also, Glen is a fantastic emcee! Organization at the bus pickup was super also. I have participated in the walking class the past three years and cannot say enough about the leadership provided by Candace, Rolf, and Stan. They are so inspirational and supportive.
town support, well run, the run
Very beautiful route
Very friendly crowd, enjoyable experience.
Very friendly people, from the volunteers to other competitors.
Very friendly residents along the course, with sprinklers, gummy bears etc. Small size of race.
Very grateful for the number of aid stations and they all had gatorade and water incredibly helpful especially the last 6 miles! Oh and all the bathrooms thanks!
Very nice course. And very nice volunteers
Very nice course. People mostly seemed friendly.
Very organized and fun atmosphere!
Very organized and the most breathtaking views I've ever seen during a marathon. I felt like I was running in a postcard! Free pics! Wow! That's awesome! Best bib design I've ever had! And my name was on it! Nice! No confusion over Full marathon vs Half Marathon routes and bus shuttles! 7 1/2 hr time limit was very generous and very appreciated. Clear, concise race instructions in the days leading up to the race. The best and I mean THE BEST volunteers from start to finish I've ever experienced in a marathon. They had a ton of spirit and were very encouraging. I finished towards last place and they still had a lot of energy and supplies for me in the late hours of the race. That is very rare indeed. THANK YOU to all the wonderful volunteers! They made me want to come back and do this marathon again in the future. User friendly racing chips! Thank you for that. Easy to put on. Wonderful announcer announcing my name and city/state when I finally crossed the finish line. He even en paid a very nice compliment about my city and state. Very nice touch!
Very organized and what was provided after/during was great
Very organized, the scenery, abundance of volunteers, overall mood of the town along with the cheering volunteers.
Very organized.
Very satisfied with race! Really liked the transportation, fireworks, course markings, aid stations and finish area. Great job and glad I chose Missoula to get Montana for my 50 states quest.
Very very organized! Free pictures! Free drinks and food at the end! Love the flat course! Reasonable cost!

Very very well run. Plenty of water stations which was better than most half marathons I've done. Volunteers were amongst the best, especially at the the expo. The free picture was a really nice touch for remembrance. I feel everyone should be proud of the job that was done for such a great community event. Missoula has really embraced this event.
Very well laid out course, absolutely NO confusion about the route, where to make turns, etc (on my last Marathon, I ran off course!), excellent medal, post-race photos, FREE race photos, free beer after the Marathon, varied and well laid out food post-race
Very well managed race. Plenty of volunteers. Very friendly volunteers and participants. Fairly pretty course with varied terrain but only one horrible hill. Lots of hotels and good parking options.
Very well organized
Very well organized and everyone was friendly and helpful!
Very well organized and fast and beautiful course!
Very well organized and the crowd participation was great. The number of water stations and bathrooms Was great. I am Amazed at how many volunteers I have talked to and how happy they were with the experience. It is such a win win race!
Very well organized and the volunteers were very enthusiastic! Also the fireworks at the start and the finish being on the bridge.
Very well organized bus loading Offers of help for my wife who almost fell and was having leg cramps Fireworks lots of portapoties at the start gear bag drop off
Very well organized event. Friendly staff and volunteers. Beautiful course. Good aid stations. Awesome medal and nice tech shirts. Love the fireworks at the beginning of the race. Great post-race food.
Very well organized for transportation of athletes & bags. I loved the fireworks too. Awesome volunteers as well
Very well organized race and enjoy running it.
Very well organized Registration easy Transportation easy Good after race food and beer Great shirts and medals
Very well organized the volunteers were very friendly and great ambassadors for Missoula great mix of different types of participants
Very well organized with friendly volunteer staff! I loved that the volunteers at the starting zone cheered for us when we arrived and got off the bus.
Very well organized with lots of bathrooms.
Very well organized-beautiful course- great weather-great vendors post-race!
Very well organized, beautiful course
Very well organized, beautiful course, the community support along the course, the post-race food, the medals and shirts are awesome, the free pic and free beer were a great perk!
Very well organized, clear directions, excellent staff.
Very well organized, water stations, etc.
Very well organized!
Very well organized! The course is beautiful and the volunteers, staff, and other runners are all great. Like how you arranged the finish area. Much less congested on the bridge.
Very well organized.
Very well organized. Beautiful city and route. I loved the outdoor expo at Caras Park.
Very well organized. Beautiful course. Great amount of water stations.
Very well organized. Great weekend full of events. The 5k was great; the marathon was the best yet. I liked the bicyclists on the course as monitors, not atv's like several years ago. Traffic on the course, especially on Mullan and Big Flat was not an issue (which is really good!).
Very well organized. Plenty of direction
Very well organized. Community focused. Volunteers were amazing. Security was tight but good. Kudos to local police for what they did.

Very well organized. Great course. Lots of bathrooms at start. Awesome food. Free photos - I've never seen that at a race - wow! Immediate results were super. The timing company is really impressive. Probably best race I've ever participated in. Don't let it get too big - I liked the size of it. Running with 10-20,000 people isn't so great.
Very well organized. I thought the people of Missoula were wonderful, so friendly along the route.
Very well organized. Upbeat staff, fun to interact with. Great race overall, food at the end was tasty loved the icy fruit.
Very well ran.
Very well run race! Loved the Expo - combined with Farmer's Market - what a great Saturday! also - loved the virtual goody bag - great idea!
Very well run, beautiful course
Very well run.
Very well-organized and upbeat. Friendly and supportive atmosphere.
Very well organized. Great volunteers. Easy after finishing race to get water, food, etc. Loved the run. Extremely beautiful!!
Vic and Pat able to help with late packet pick up.... everything else was as expected. Great atmosphere. Loved the music, signs, and sprinklers in the streets during the run. Great community for such an event.
Virtually everything was exceptional. It has a feel of a small race but the professionalism of a large event. Excellent logistics management for a point to point race and I like the early start time. Amazing that you got everybody there AND started on time. Similar to St. George marathon (although smaller) which I consider a high quality experience. FYI this was my 20th marathon.
Virtually everything, great organization, great course, crowd support, expo and after party.
Volunteer staff is stop shelf! Thank you. Terrain is nice and level. Early start and the weather is nice and cool.
volunteers
Volunteers and other runners are so friendly and nice! Love that we get free pics and the t-shirt and medal are really nice too.
Volunteers and staff were amazing
Volunteers are outstanding and the course perfect.
Volunteers Course is beautiful Technical Shirt Ease of Registration
Volunteers on the course
Volunteers were amazing Crowds were awesome Organizers did a great job Police department was so supportive Email updates and Facebook updates provided great information Other runners were so supportive Beer at end was perfect Fruit at end was refreshing and needed Registration was easy Having a cap was manageable and I figure you could raise it a bit for next year and still keep it doable Loved the 5k Medals were wonderful Retailers were very supportive of tourists and shoppers, sparked great conversations
Volunteers were great! Thank you! I ran the first Marathon and it was hot! I like the new route with more shade.
Volunteers were great! Very well organized.
Volunteers were terrific! Great route. Enough bathrooms throughout the race. Wonderful race overall.
Volunteers, community and general vibe. The last stretch of the race is the easiest for me because you feel the energy of the community concentrated there. Staff and volunteers are so kind and encouraging.
Volunteers, course, atmosphere, support, organization, friendliness, food and drink provided. Everything!
Volunteers, organization
Volunteers, organization, course, weather (this year), pacers.
Volunteers, race day setup, medal, logistics, were all top notch.
Walker friendly event, at 3 hrs you weren't pushing To get me off the course
Was great event, more toilets than last year! Bus line fast! Great cheer squad at start. Great morning spent with friends. Plan on it for next year!! Thank you Thank you Thank you to all!!
Was my first half-marathon and was very fun. The finish on the bridge was cool and the free beer was awesome as well.

Was my first half-marathon and was very impressed with the organization, the aid stations, the signage and the course was great, as was the start time
We had a great time!! We had read great reviews from past participants and the race did not disappoint! We will be back next year for sure. Well done!!!
We loved everything about the marathon. It was very well organized. The water stops were well stocked. The volunteers were very friendly. This was my 11th marathon and by far this was one of the best, most organized and runner friendly. I was so impressed with how organized and smoothly this marathon was run. Missoula is a really nice place we would love to come back again. I also loved the 6 am start. Being July and warmer out I really appreciated the early start. Before the race I had emailed the race director I really appreciated his quick response.
We were very impressed with the whole thing, from the events on Saturday to the beautiful race route on Sunday. We have told all of our friends who asked how it was that it was an AMAZING experience even for rookie(1st time)runners like ourselves and that we are already planning to participate in 2014! Everyone we encountered associated with the Marathon were AWESOME! THANK-YOU for a wonderful experience.
Weather
Weather, location, flat,
Weather, race course, finish area, medals, beer run
Well done
Well organized
Well organized
Well organized and a fast course and the 3:20 pacer rocked.
Well organized and lots of volunteers made the event smooth. Nice thick, heavy medal - I also like that the full and half had different ribbons and shirts.
Well organized and the course. Excellent race. Missoula is also very warm city.
Well organized and well attended. Love the people of Missoula!
Well organized Beautiful course Great spectators Perfect weather I walked the half marathon with my daughter and we had a fantastic time.
Well organized except for the transport. Great medal. Food was good, liked the pasta.
Well organized in most every way- great positive energy and great volunteers
Well organized with exceptional volunteers.
Well organized with friendly volunteers. Plenty of hotels within walking distance of the race. Very friendly locals.
Well organized, all directions easy to follow and very timely!
Well organized, friendly staff, great support from Missoula.
Well organized, friendly volunteers, beautiful scenery, free marathon picture and beer, mile markers every mile, band at the finish. Ability to download the app to receive updates on runners progress.
Well organized, friendly, great scenery/location, sooo many restrooms (awesome), great race overall. I would love to participate next year but I don't know if I'll be in the area.
well organized, good communication
Well organized, good course
Well organized, lots of community supports; expo was great this year; course is nice.
Well organized, number of volunteers, start time, location, course/route, bus ride worked out well (we were on the very last bus and started 5 minutes after gun time but that was fine, less pressure that way :) bus line went really fast. GFS food was great. Music great....All of it, GREAT! Overall, great job, very impressed.
Well organized, well run, quick results, beautiful course
Well organized! Beautiful route! Great fans along entire route! Such friendly/helpful staff ! Great bathroom/water stops...
Well organized.

Well organized.
Well organized. Excellent community event with wide range of participants, not just elite athletes. Good support on the route. Appreciate all the efforts of volunteers and organizers.
Well organized. Terrific volunteers. Early start time.
Well organized. Aid stations were placed well and well-staffed. Ease of the race exit/food pick-up/family find. Location of the finish.
Well organized. Everything worked. Great course. Top notch!
Well organized. Great community support
Well organized. Great route.
Well organized. Great volunteers
Well organized, fireworks at start.
Well ran.
Well run, aid stations were spaced correctly for my needs. People and atmosphere was great. Bussing to the start worked well. Segregating the walk-runners was very beneficial to the real runners.
Well run, great volunteers and spectators
Well run...nice course
Well-organized, early start, scenery
Well-organized, community-supported, lots of activities for out-of-towners, show-cased the community well, immediate results (well, a small snafu, but that was a minor problem), complete results posted on the internet, more good pictures to come, lots of friends running the race, lots of volunteers, easy sign-up, good food, nice expo, massage, tv and Missoulia coverage, vendors on bridge, superb course, amazing finisher medals
Well-run event. Plenty of aid stations, friendly volunteers, and great post- race events.
What surprised us the most was the overall, complete marathon package. From the event staff, organization, course route, and volunteers to the local community support, it all added up to one great, memorable event. When an older gentleman gave us his glowing opinion three years ago of the amazing aspects of this race, we knew we had to make plans to do it. Missoula lives up to its great claims and this was a run we will do again!
Wide variety of fitness levels welcome and represented.
Wonderful community support
Wonderful course, great atmosphere, easy to get around town, great finish location and post-race set-up
Wonderful volunteers kept the entire event so positive! A huge amount of amenities for all runners to enjoy!
WOW!!!! There are so many things. The organization of all details was amazing and the correspondence right up through race day was exceptional.
You are my favorite marathon because you took the time to make it perfect. The fact that you said it was a 7 1/2 hour race and that all volunteers, police officers, and signs were still in place was awesome. So often a race will say it is open for 6 - 6 1/2 hours and by 5 hours they have removed signs and the officers are no longer controlling traffic. Besides trying to figure out where you are, you have to stand at traffic lights. Your support staff not only stayed to the end, they were so encouraging.
You do so much well, Missoula! Great volunteers, beautiful course, healthy amount of water stations, plenty of restrooms, noticeable mile markers, etc.
You guys have organization down to a science. Just the fact that you manage to get 5,000 odd people from downtown Missoula to the starting lines in just one hour is super impressive.
You guys take SUCH good care of us! This is my third marathon here and I am so happy to come back each year. Thank you all so much! Missoula hospitality is really great, we enjoy coming here. The facilities were great. No problems finding a restroom. No problems getting questions answered. You guys are consistently running an event where people know what's going on and things happen on schedule. And people are so nice to us. It's really great to see.
You have a beautiful location. Well organized.
Your volunteers were absolutely amazing. The race was well put together. The restrooms available on/before the course were ample. Thanks for all the water stations.

Please tell us what you did not like about the 2013 Missoula Marathon.

<p>1. I'm sure you have already heard about the problems with the bus transportation. I arrived downtown shortly before 5 am, and spent 40 minutes in line for a bus. By the time I got to the start line, I had very little time to spare. I spent some of that time in line for a port-a-potty, and when I was in there, I heard fireworks go off. There was no time for a warm-up run. I missed out on starting with people who might be running my pace. If I had known this was going to be a problem, I would have arrived downtown at 4:20 for the first bus. I think you need to warn people about this. 2. I wear small everything, but that shirt is too small! I am disappointed, because I wear my race shirts to school and talk to my students about the places I go. Being from Missouri, I'm not even sure if my kids know where Montana is.</p>
<p>1) I have a nagging notion the final 0.1 miles of the half marathon was not measured correctly. The difference between my GPS watch measured distance and expected variation was significant. 2) Some aid stations and finish area facilities didn't seem ready for early finishers. 3) No visible American Flag at half marathon start and dreadfully slow recording of national anthem. 4) Too many turns. 5) Usually not a fan of open road courses but excellent volunteer and law enforcement assistance at every intersection.</p>
<p>1/2 marathon participants not pulling over for the Marathon runners. This is an educational issue. People we observed simply were oblivious to the right of way.</p>
<p>1/2 marathon people were slow at the water stations. I was running the full and a few times I had to run around the 1/2.. did not like having to get on the bus so early, wish there was a warm place at start or drive your own car</p>
<p>6 a.m. start is brutal, but necessary.</p>
<p>6:00 is too early for a start time.</p>
<p>6:00am start, and especially not being able to drive to the start</p>
<p>8 hours for the expo was really long for vendors, though understandable for the number of participants filtering through. It would be nice if that would be 1-2 hours shorter.</p>
<p>A 'women's large' t-shirt or the full race fits like a small. I talked to many women that ran this year and all of their shirts are too small.</p>
<p>A bit too much winding around the last 5 miles</p>
<p>A few more porta potties on the course before the halfway mark. There were always lines and people were going, ummmm everywhere!</p>
<p>A little annoyed with having to pass the half marathon walkers who were occasionally walking 4 to 5 abreast when running through a roundabout intersection.</p>
<p>A little more organization on the bus pick up before the race start, not sure why multiple buses couldn't be loaded at the same time</p>
<p>A little warm but that was expected and completely out of your control</p>
<p>A lot of panhandlers.</p>
<p>Absolutely nothing---everything was absolutely great</p>
<p>Absolutely nothing, except that it's over!</p>
<p>Absolutely nothing! Loved it all!</p>
<p>Absolutely nothing.</p>
<p>Absolutely nothing.</p>
<p>Absolutely, no complaints. For us, it was a perfect race experience. We'll be back next year and every year thereafter.</p>
<p>Aching legs! Really, there was nothing I did not like.</p>
<p>After a while I thought there was no way that all the runners were going to get to the start line because of the bus situation. Alas I was wrong and it seemed to work out well.</p>
<p>After party should be set up better. The live music was cool but should be down in Caras Park where everyone is hanging out. Food vendors also. I was asked where I got my food from, by one person. Let's party it up in ONE location....Caras Park</p>

After sitting here for a few minutes, I can't think of one thing.
All good
All pavement. Perhaps there is a way to incorporate some trails.
All the walkers we had to go through whole running! None of the staff was asking participants to walk right and runners left!!!
All was good
All was great
Almost missing the gun because of not allowing the 'locals' to be dropped off at the starting line. We were downtown early to catch the bus but the lines were something else!!
Although completely beyond anyone's control - the afternoon high temperatures!
Although they were nice, I was very disappointed the medals were pretty much the same as last year. Also- the women's shirts are always way too small. I run a lot but I'm not an itty bitty person. They are too tight and too short.
Arriving just as the race started even though we were in line by 5:07 am
As a runner approaching the finish line, it was awful to smell the greasy food and deep-fried donuts. This made me lose my appetite at the end and want to get out of the finish line corral immediately. I understand the appeal of having food on the bridge for spectators but come on and consider the runners!
As someone who didn't bring my own gels or snacks, it would have been nice to have more than just gels available at some of the aid stations. The water/gatorade situation was perfect, but to have whole foods provided by the Missoula Marathon--bananas, oranges, peanut butter sandwiches (!), etc.--would be a great addition, if possible due to cost.
As we are on a tight budget, with 3 kids, the cost is a little steep. Wish there could be a discount for Run Wild Missoula members or some discount based on how many Run Wild Runs in the past year we participated in (a lot!). That would make it easier. We didn't participate last year because of the cost. I know other marathons are probably more, but this is Montana, where full-time workers have some of the lowest salaries in the U.S.
At the start, the speakers were too loud. I had to cover my ears and I noticed that several other people around me were covering their ears as well.
At the start, walkers in the front of the pack. I know it always happens.
Bathroom lines on route
Being from Missoula, I don't like having to drive into downtown to wait to catch a bus that passes my neighborhood on the way to the starting line.
Being lied to about the "mandatory" bus ride. I live 5 min from the start and followed the instructions in the email and drove all the way downtown. After waiting in line for an hour while buses stacked up with no one allowed to get on except the lead bus we rode back to the start only to see a "runner drop off lane". This tainted an otherwise great event.
Being over an hour early for the buses, only to find the line for the half go all around the block, then double back. Despite being downtown at 4:50, we didn't get to the start area until 5:50.
Being required to be bussed to the start and only one pick up location.
Best trip and Marathon I have ever experienced.....I have no negative words....
Better food. Fig newtons are dry and hard to eat when you've just completed a long race :)
Bib number assignment is different - no soda at finish - only beer
Big Sky only did one free beer at the pavilion and, if you wanted more, you had to go up on the bridge.
Bigger shirts - I am a larger female and ordered the XXL but not sure it will fit. They are pretty snug. I love being able to get the women's version of shirt but wish they were a bit bigger in size.
Biggest complaint this year by far was the shuttle in the morning. My group was very lucky we were able to have someone come pick us up from the line for the shuttle and drop us off at the half marathon start. If this were not the case, we would not have made it to the start before the gun went off, as I know many people didn't. Although it is chip timed, who wants to start a race late and wade their way through the slower participants. This needs to be

better thought out, maybe loading in more than one spot, it was very frustrating to see the busses just sitting there waiting!
Bus drive.
Bus line was stressful. I was nervous about getting to start line on time
Bus lines.
Bus loading for half marathon - stood in line for 40 minutes. Arrived at start at 5:57. No bueno! We could have more easily been dropped off. If you force people to take the bus, then get them to the start line efficiently. And, if you force people to take the bus, then don't have "drop off lane" at the start. Timing - Competitive timing had an error in their formula. Rather than subtract the Chip Time from the Gun Time, they ADDED the Chip Time to the gun time. Duh. Sorry, but seriously. I imagine you guys pay them a lot of money for that service, right? Tell them to double-check their formulas. It would have been less annoying had they not already given my 3rd place medal away to the woman who came in 5th. Tell them not to give medals away until they know their results are correct. Also, my bib number in my packet was incorrect. On the outside of my envelope, on the website, and on my chip, I was 4080, but they gave me bib 4078 in my envelope. They told me "don't open your envelope! You might lose things" so I didn't double-check at Caras. Then, when I got home, I found the error. So I had to go back down to Caras, and it took a while to get it sorted. I know errors get made, but it helps reduce errors when people have back-up systems or double-check their work. Again, I think you guys pay Competitive Timing a good bit of money. The marathon is mostly volunteer, and the volunteers work hard and do a great job. So why do the for-profit guys get to screw this up? I hope you'll pass this feedback along to them.
Bus pick up area.
Bus pick up was a bit chaotic
Bus pick up was a little unnerving seeing the half marathon line literally encompass an entire city block all the way around
Bus rides to start are never too thrilling, but not much to do about that. I loved the start and the whole course.
Bus route only from downtown to Blue Mountain was a bit much. Lots of backtracking for some locals from the south side of town at such an early hour. Please think about offering bussing from closer spots like WalMart, KMart parking lot or even Lolo or closer spot. Ask at registration where bus service from would be desired in order to plan and cut down on crosstown gasoline. I know a lot of people had to backtrack and family members usually would provide after race transportation anyway. Living in Miller Creek it was easier to have someone drop me off close to the race site.
Bus schedule for participants staying outside Missoula
Bus shuttle in the morning was a disaster!
Bus situation
Bus system needs to be improved...too long of a wait...
Bus system was timed tightly where a few folks arrived at the starting line right before the race started
Bus to half marathon arrived too close to the start of the race.
Bus transportation was poor. We arrived downtown 1 hour prior to the race and arrived at the starting area 5 minutes before the race.
Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Terrible bus organization
Buses started a little early. Got to the start line way too early and there wasn't anywhere to get out of the cold.
Buses to the start line. You could have a runner drop off.
Buses were chaotic! Took way too long to get on a bus. I wish the full medals had more distinct differences from the full. Think we should have gotten more than 1 beer each at finish.
Busing a bit slow. Little time to go to rr Before race
Busing in am not so good. I was there at 5am, waited 25 minutes, got to the start with 15 min to spare, barely time to get to port a potty, stretch, warm up etc. Was anxiety inducing.
Busing to start line was a bit chaotic.

Busing was a bit confusing this year.
Busses to half marathon start left too late.
Busses were a little behind schedule
Busses. Need more locations for pick up
Bussing Bussing Bussing! Having one location to get on the bus is simply ridiculous. Having more than one location to get on the busses would be ideal.
Bussing in the morning- too long of lines.
Bussing the morning of the race was a disaster this year. Not sure why it was different this year ... in years past we just walked right up to a bus and boarded with little or no wait ... this is the reason I marked 'neutral' on the question about signage; race route info and signage was great. But bussing signage and coordination was a mess. Even the volunteers didn't know why the lines were so long ... eventually no one knew where the marathon line began and the half-marathon line began / ended.
Bussing to get to start -too crowded -too stressful -won't take it next year
Cannot think of a single thing! You have this down to a science! Good, no GREAT job!
Can't think of a thing we'd change!
Can't think of any negative thought I had about the Missoula Marathon. This event stimulated Missoula's economy for the weekend and made a lot of runners happy.
Can't think of any; any problems I might have would be nit-picky. It's a great race
Can't think of anything and that's unusual for me
Can't think of anything negative.
Can't think of anything.
Can't think of anything.
Can't think of anything.
Can't think of anything.
Cannot think of anything.. The entire experience was so enjoyable!
Can't think of a thing.
Catching the bus that early was not fun. Instead, We drove out to the start which Was not a problem and allowed us an extra hour of sleep. Also, the course at the end was too windy and disconcerting when it led away from the finish line. Can you include more distance out of town so that the end does not have so many twists and turns and lead away from the finish?
Cleanliness of restroom on course
Color of the full marathon shirts
Color of the shirts puke green
Congestion at the beginning of the race.
Congestion at the beginning of the marathon.
Could not hear the start. So many people walking near the front. Was very hard to weave in and out of people during the 1st mile.
Could use more crowd support out in the netherlands (miles 1-13)
Course was on a lot of crowned roads, which really made my knees hurt. I arrived at 4:30 am to catch a bus to the start line and the line was around the block and then some! I got to the start line with 8 minutes to spare, but WOW - that was a long line!
Day after soreness
Design of race shirt was great, but I always order a medium shirt and this one is really too small. If I had known I could trade it after the race I would have put it in the gear bag to trade. Since I am from Oklahoma the chances of trading it are not very high.
Design on the technical shirts and posters.

Despite having checked with 3 police officers about where my car was parked prior to start of marathon & and being given the okay... (so I wouldn't be close to being late for shuttles), I found my car was towed to another location when I reached the finish line of the marathon. If another finisher hadn't been waiting for her friend and been in the same situation, I would have freaked out!
Did not like having to take the shuttle to the start when i was staying in Frenchtown with friends.
Did not like the color of the marathon shirt, and sizes ran small. Do appreciate the shirt switch though.
Didn't care for 6 a.m. start. Even one hour later might make a difference. I understand avoiding the heat but I had to be up at 3:45. I ran the marathon with my daughter from Colorado. Didn't notice until we were both home but we both ran the full but came home with half marathon shirts. VERY disappointing. Thought we earned the full. I have tried to contact someone to see about getting the correct shirts but have been unsuccessful.
Didn't care for that early bus ride out to the Peak. To stand around for a hour before the race.. Maybe we have no choice!!
Didn't get my name on bib even though I registered early. Bus pickup was disorganized and lines were long.
Didn't know the pictures were taken down in Caras park. So didn't get my free picture.
Didn't love the shirt color, but do like the material. Variety of food at aid stations would be nice :) (bananas, oranges, etc).
Directions to Expo weren't that clear. Expo could be open later than 4pm the day before. Not that many pasta options for pre-marathon. Location of hotels from start/finish not very detailed - a map would have been helpful in making a better choice. X-small shirt was too small and could not exchange it at expo.
Disorganized busing. I think you should load marathon in a different spot from the half Too hectic. Took a long time to load up. People were very confused
Do not like how high the Crowdrise fees are. Too much money is taken out from total donated.
Do not mind the Sunday race but, the coupons like Run Missoula store were only good on Monday and I left town after the race. Also, I wish that some of the hotels would be less strict about check-out on race day. We stayed at Guest House Inn and they said if we did not check out by 11:00 we would be charged. That fact prevented us from enjoying some of the post-race festivities.
Dodging walkers who were finishing the half marathon in the last couple of miles of the race. these folks either need to be more aware of runners coming up behind them, or the half should be laid out on a completely separate course
Don't like the busses to the start. Didn't like that the expo closes at 4pm
Early bus to start. prefer to be dropped off
Early pick up sat 8-4 day prior. We are from out of state so a later pick up might be helpful
Early start
Early start time... But that can't really be helped
Early start! Had to wake up at 4am... means I wasn't able to get more than a couple of hours of sleep (I work full time and have small children and no one to help). Could be 7am?
Ended up in the half marathon for a few minutes instead of the marathon line (might have been due to the early morning). Didn't see the shirt sizing chart when I signed up (maybe link it in the registration, or if it was... that's on me).
Even with 80 restrooms at the start, it seemed like it was pretty tricky to get into there.
Everything seemed great.
everything was fine
Everything was fine -- would not change a solitary thing.
Everything was great!!
Everything was perfect
Everything went well! There was really nothing that I didn't like.
Everything.

Exit line back to street was confusing and Time consuming to exit Prior runs seemed to have more bands along the course
Expensive to enter, trophies not adequate for winners, prizes not adequate. Award ceremony was low key and not impressive.
Expo is very small, I usually do my shopping at the expo for running gears but I was a bit disappointed to find out that almost nothing in there.
Expo seemed light.
Extremely long lines to board bus downtown and concern that we would be late for the starting gun (got there with 5 minutes to spare even though we arrived downtown at 4:45 AM).
Female pacer being able to place in the marathon. Never have seen a pacer actually participate in any of the marathons I have run.
Finish area felt crowded.
First marathon. Nothing to compare it to so I would change nothing.
For people finishing in the 6-7.5 hour range a lot was gone at the finish line. Free pictures weren't working. Free beer was out of all but one choice, etc. It can be disheartening to finish a marathon and have it feel like things are shutting down. If you're truly going to encourage walkers, you have to make sure they don't miss out on the rewards promised at the finish line.
Free photo booth wasn't working. Post-race.
Freezing start
From past experiences I could always say there was something to improve upon in a race, but this race was a great experience from start to finish. I cannot say there is anything that could truly be improved upon with this race.
Gels only available at one aid station very late in the race
Getting on a bus at 4:15 a.m.
Getting on the buses in the morning to get bussed to the run. The buses were not filled fast enough so even though we got there early we barely got to the race in time. We waited in the line too long and initially got misdirected to the wrong line. Then even though there are so many porta potties those lines were too slow and I was in the toilet when the gun went off! We had a bad day with picking the wrong line.
Getting to parking downtown for the buses was challenging - finding where to go when it's dark and lots of roads are closed was a little bit hard.
Getting to the start line later than I hoped because of the bus
Getting up at 3 a.m. to drive past the Peak (the Half's starting point) to go into Missoula to stand in line and ride a bus back to the Peak. Would love a "Lolo shuttle" for those of us in the Bitterroot. And I realize that with the race ending in Caras getting back to the Peak or a shuttle pick up on Lolo is the problem.
Getting up so early for shuttle, standing in long lines shirt graphics were hokey, medal too big. Could save money that way
Goodie bags
Granted I didn't have to use the bathroom but I heard some people say they were concerned at the lack of bathroom opportunities along the route?
Green color of shirts is disgusting. Upon finishing, volunteers had no water available in ice troughs.
Had a great experience. Enjoyed all.
Had to arrive a little too early due to bussing but it wouldn't keep me from doing it next year. I just could have gotten a little more rest.
Had to navigate through too many walkers and runners. Passing was pretty dangerous the first two miles (in the half) because of the water/ditches and the number of participants who did not follow the starting point guidelines (the signage referring to estimated time per mile. We are not very aggressive runners however; I was shocked that we encountered walkers all the way through mile two.

Had to wait 4 or more minutes for a porta potty during race
Half and full have same lane finishes.
Half marathon bus loading. We stood in line over half an hour and just made it out in time for the race. I know a few participants who did not.
Half marathon was too early. Could have started later than the full. The bus system in the morning was crazy. i walked for blocks to find the end of the line.
Half walkers at end
hard to see the dog sniffers and extra police force, hard to think about Boston
Hardly a race organization thing, but around mile 16 a bobcat (the small construction loader) drove by me at only a little faster than my pace and left me smelling his exhaust for the next mile and a half (he was driving slowly enough that he didn't catch anyone else over this time, then turned off). That sucked.
Have ran my 7th 1/2 marathon and this being the second biggest participation wise (las Vegas was 10 times bigger) this race by far exceeded my expectations. Therefore I really don't have any negative comments.
Having all of downtown parking taken up by runners makes it difficult for spectators. I thought it was tacky seeing a runner urinate in the trash and another runner who threw her water onto two volunteers trying to clean up after others.
Having to get up so early, BUT I wouldn't have it any other way!
Having to go back to work.
Having to take the bus. Very unlocal friendly
Having to wait on the bus even though I was there by the cut off time of 5:15am, had to get off the bus and run, literally!
Heat...don't believe that is within your control.
Hill at mile 14 :) Nothing comes to mind I would change.
Hmm, loved everything
Hmmm... nothing!
Honestly I loved every aspect of it!
Hour wait for the busses and no time to prep once at the start of the half marathon.
How cold it was waiting for the race to start after being shuttled out.
I honestly could not think of a single thing I did not like. maybe the really early time to get shuttled, but then when we were running in the delicious cool morning air, I was happy we had to get there so early!
I almost didn't sign up because of the cost but luckily our employer gave us a 20 dollar discount
I always think the shirts are smaller than average size and the expo seemed to be lacking a bit in vendors
I always wonder if there wouldn't be a better way to get people onto the buses. Having buses at multiple locations might be less hectic. Have a pick up at the University soccer fields. I realize this would mean having to have some shuttles during the day to get people back to the parking lot. I was worried about finding a place to park on Sun. a.m. and as it turned out I did not have a problem so maybe this system does work...for now.
I am sure I am not the first person to suggest you need to work on the shuttle service to the half-marathon start line. I was in line at 5:00 and arrived at 5:50. Missed the start. Heard the fireworks while sitting in a port-a-pottie.
I arrived downtown around 4:45 to get on the bus. Parking was difficult to find close by. I was in line by 5 and was on the bus at 5:20 with many more people still behind me. I think if they had loaded the 2 buses simultaneously they could have sped that part of the process up. Creatures of habit we all are all going to arrive closer to 5:15 so we have less time standing around at the starting line.
I bus situation was bad. The shirts ran very small.
I can't really think of anything. This was my first half marathon and it exceeded my expectations.
I can't think of a single thing I did not like.
I can't think of a single thing I would change!

I can't think of a thing
I can't think of a thing I did not like. Perhaps the end of the course could have been less convoluted.
I can't think of anything I don't like.
I can't think of anything that I disliked about the race. In fact, I am recommending this race to everyone I know who is interested in destination races or working on their 50 state half/full marathons.
I can't think of anything!!!
I can't think of anything.
I can't think of anything.
I can't think of anything. Again, this is a really well done event.
I can't think of one thing that i did not like about it.
I cannot think of any negative aspect/feature.
I could not find several of the marathon mile markers after 20. I could find the half marathon markers but not the marathon. We ended up asking several volunteers where we were.
I did not end up getting a free photo because their printer stopped working. I was a little bummed about that.
I did not like that at some intersections the police were letting cars through in very tight "windows" of openings between runners. Last thing as a runner you want to be held up by a car that isn't moving through the intersection right when the cop told them to go.
I did not like that buses were required to the start, no parking/spectators could not ride buses. Very few spectators on the course throughout and not friendly for people watching the race. The pace group I started out went out way too fast (3:50 pace group) and by mile 6, I realized he was running an 8:15 pace and hung back. The remainder of the race was "damage control" for me, so maybe that's why I didn't have a great experience. No one finished with this pacer, and everyone else I talked to who started with him also fell off pace quite a bit. Still, the profile actually made the race kind of boring.
I did not like that it was all on pavement.
I did not like that our hotel (double tree), did not open the restaurant to serve breakfast early on race day. Also shirts fit small
I did not like the bus shuttle to the start of the race. I completely understand the need to shuttle everyone out due to parking restrictions. However, having everyone meet in the same location seems to "muddle" everything up and really slow down the process. Thank you to the volunteers and organizers/bus drivers for doing everything they could to shuttle the large number of people in a short amount of time. I would suggest having multiple shuttle pick up areas throughout town. I know it would be hard to determine which pick up site would require the largest number of buses but maybe you could assign pick up places based on registration information? I do know that waking up extra early (even considering a 6am start) to get in line for the shuttle is rough. I don't mind the early wake up. I do mind the long line for an hour and rushing off the bus just to run to the start line. I know you encourage people to get the shuttle early but when you're running a race, you really want to get a good night's sleep.
I did NOT like the pushy staff after you crossed the finish line. Do not push people when they are gasping for breath and trying not to pass out! Totally rude!
I did not like the virtual gift bags, I would rather just receive the gifts or coupons directly. I did not like that I had to click on each offer individually, save it to my bag, then go back and select the next offer. Also, a lot of the gifts were only usable for people that live in Missoula or for people that were planning on spending a significant amount of time in Missoula.
I did the half and would like to recommend adding more water folks at the first corner station. There are so many people coming in at one time...the runners hadn't thinned out yet, so it was difficult to get water. People were stopping to get water and it made it difficult to get around them and to try to get water. LOVED the run.....great all around!!!
I didn't care for the technical shirts we received. They ran small so mine didn't fit. I didn't realize that until I arrived back at home. Other than that, everything was great.

I didn't know about the picture at the end. Didn't know I was to test my packet at pick up on the scanner. Shirt sizes run really small
I didn't like being told I had to take the bus which wasn't convenient for everyone.
I didn't like getting up as early as I had to to get to the race, but I did appreciate the early start later in the day when it began to heat up.
I didn't like that the number of participants was limited and the slots were filled by March or April - that's much too early.
I didn't like the fiasco of having to take a bus to the start of the half.....I really didn't like being told by someone at Runners Edge that if I was dropped off at the start my bib number would be taken away? Felt a little threatened!! That could give the Msla Marathon a bad rap!! I ran the first half 7 yrs. ago, this was my 4th. I feel like you are having some growing pains...like anything, sometimes a good thing is ruined when it tries to get too big....just like Msla itself (being said by a native....not really the same special place where I grew up anymore). I didn't think the expo was as good as last year, not as much apparel/running stuff to purchase. I didn't like the set up at the finish line as well as last year either.....after being filed into Caras Park who is going to go back up those stairs to the vendors? Why not have all vendors down in the park? I didn't go to any vendors, although I did last year.
I didn't like the route that went zigzagging through town. A more direct of riverfront trail route would have been more enjoyable. I also did not like the fact that there were no local drop-offs and we were required to take the bus. I also did not like that gel shots were not available in the stations advertised, and I only saw one location where they were available (this location was too late to be helpful to me).
I didn't like the winding through the streets downtown to get the distance.
I didn't need one so I may have missed seeing it, but I don't recall seeing a medical tent along the course or finish. It's not a crowded race, but I did have to weave a bit the last couple of miles to get around groups of half marathoners. I had to warn a few as I ran by when they were blocking nearly the entire road.
I DO NOT like or approve of the beer run or beer at the finish line. Alcohol has no place at an athletic event. Especially a family friendly event.
I do not like that marathon participants are forced to ride a shuttle bus to the start line and cannot be dropped off.
I don't have anything to comment on here.
I don't know how it could work, but I would have liked to go to the bridge and cheer and then go back to eat, because I wasn't ready for food or rest immediately after. And then I never made it to the bridge, but it could have been my fault.
I don't like it when the half marathoners start at the same time as the marathoners. It gets too busy at the start. I would probably not have the last aids station. The one about half mile from the finish line.
I don't like virtual goodie bags. There seem to be more and more runners who think it is okay to wear music devices that play for all to hear rather than using headphones. I HATE THIS. It annoys me to no end, because I think that 1) their music is crap, and 2) disturbs my peaceful run in the Missoula area. If this continues to be a trend at this race, I will stop coming. I don't find this on trial runs and at other races. I cannot emphasize how much I absolutely, positively HATE this behavior and find it to be incredibly selfish. Oh, did I mention how much I hate runners with their audible music? ;)
I encountered nothing negative about the marathon, from sign-up to race finish.
I feel a lot of the parking was taken up by the racers vehicles that were catching the shuttles and spectators had a difficult time finding parking.
I feel that being a MT event that it should try to incorporate/support more local/MT companies. My only complaint would be that it uses non-Hammer products. Part of the reason my wife and I use their products, aside from being the best tasting/consistency, is that they are from Whitefish.
I felt the bus was a little cluster I never got to the race until 5 minutes before it started and I was in the line for the restroom when the gun went off, I didn't really like that. They needed more organized help to get people on the bus and get them going faster.
I got a little confused at the finish, just because things weren't exactly where they had been the past couple of years.

Once I followed the signs, though, I was OK. :)
I got to the bus pick-up area at 5:00 am and didn't get out to the course until after 5:55 am. I don't know if it was the lack of busses or just a time lapse in getting busses back to downtown. I barely had time to remove my sweatshirt before the gun fired. Next year, I'd expect more transportation organization. Or I will be "illegally" dropped off at the start because that was ridiculous.
I got to the to the pick-up point at 4:45 A.M. and by the time I was dropped off at the starting line, the race was beginning. I was unable to stretch and this caused discomfort. Others were unable to make it to the start on time.
I guess I was expecting more because of the Runner's World 'Best Marathon' title. It was nice but not anything special. The food was not great, and I don't think it is very nice to have people selling food after a marathon.
I had to plan on an extra day to get to Missoula since packet pick-up ended at 4 PM. I know a lot of people enjoy coming in to the event days early. I happen to focus too much on the race the few days ahead and don't enjoy other activities.
I hate the medals, too big and heavy! I would rather get a gift card to somewhere, like a car wash or Montana downtown association!
I hated that we had to head back to golf course in last few miles of race. It made the last few miles harder. (going the wrong way)
I hated the color of the women's shirts, the green, especially with yellow...:(Though I love the cut and the sizing, I have not even tried it on yet, and just would never wear that color. Liked the course, although it should not be advertised as "flat and fast". Flat and fast is Arizona, not Missoula. Yes, lots of flat, but 3 miles of hills too that will affect time and pacing. Don't mind hills, but it is not truth in advertising...:) I don't like Clif Shots, the only one that I did take, no gel came out when I ripped the top off (it does not rip in the right spot). Thank goodness I had packed power bar gels. They are not so thick and they always open easily. I was under the impression there would be more food at the finish, from something in the advertising I think. It was pretty typical, but something I read made me think it would be quite a spread.
I have absolutely no complaints.
I have family there, so have always had them drop me off for either the full or half. Will still do that despite the "recommendations" not to in email from race director. That early on a Sunday morning shouldn't be a problem for private drop-offs as long as an area is designated for it; I think it will make local runners happier and relieve some of the bus congestion. My sister did the half and barely made it to the start with the bus...
I have no complaint.
I have nothing negative to say.
I hitched a ride with friends and I am glad. It would have been stressful trying to find parking and then getting in line for the buses alone. More shuttles would be great.
I honestly cannot think of a thing!
I hoped for bananas, orange slices, pretzels, and gu at nearly every station. Then I have the option to take what I need at the appropriate time for me. I was starving and ended up asking spectators if they had any food. Thankfully a woman ran into her house and grabbed a banana and rode her bike to catch me and hand it to me. She was wonderful! I wish I could thank her.
I know it was a permitting issue, but I was sad about the lack of early start this year. I'm a nearly 6 hour runner and there were quite a few things I missed. The Cafe Dolce aid station was gone by the time I went through. There was no crowd at Bonner Park. The GFS food tent didn't seem to have much available. And the free picture people were in the process of tearing down their stuff, which caused technical difficulties which made us wait to get our pictures taken for ages, in the heat and sun after running 26.2 miles over 5 or more hours. Some people gave up. Last year (2012) the Early start enabled me to avoid missing all of those things. Even better, it also enabled me to cheer on the lead runners and my faster friends as they passed me. It was pretty great. If the early start can be brought back, I would take advantage of it.
I last participated in 2010 and did not experience the horrible line for getting on the bus for the half-marathon. I am so relieved I showed up so early!
I like the previous shirts but didn't like the quality of this one. I wouldn't mind paying a bit more if it means a better quality tech shirt

I liked everything!
I liked everything!!
I liked everything.
I liked everything. Can you always have the weather be like this year?
I live locally, and understanding the heightened Boston security issues, would like better transportation options and the ability to be dropped off at the start. In future years I would likely run with a stroller, and it does not seem that the current system could accommodate this.
I loved everything, and feel it lived up to Runner's World's statement.
I loved it all - I just think the early morning signage could have been a bit better.
I missed a key GU offering that cost me late in the race. Just didn't see it.
I missed my 3:00 goal (quite a lofty one) by 64 seconds. That has nothing to do with the marathon, in fact everything fell into place for me to drop 6+ minutes off my PR. Thank you to everyone involved (including Missoula Residents, especially Kiefer who lead the 3:00 hour pace group.
I only did the half this year but I was expected a gel around half way but there wasn't one until the half's 9 mile mark or so. Perhaps there were notices saying where to expect gel but I didn't read anything and I didn't see any offered before that. Seems like the half way mark would be a nice spot for a shorter race like the half marathon.
I ordered a medium women's shirt and it doesn't fit well...too short...belly shirt if I reach up. If I would have known I would have exchanged the shirt, but I did not have it with me after the race.
I participate in the half marathon and feel that the route is great EXCEPT for the part where you are by Bonner Park - within a few miles of the finish line - and have to turn away from the finish line to cut over to South Ave and then turn back. It would be much better to re-route those blocks if there is any way to do so. Perhaps something around campus.
I personally wish there was more in town running so we had more crowds to cheer for more of the race.
I planned last fall for Missoula to be my 100th marathon and send the race director a note asking for bib #100 so I could frame it with my medal. He sent a note back saying yes. When I got to the expo, I didn't have #100 bib. I asked at the help desk and they said that number was given away to someone else. I was very disappointed, but still happy I picked Missoula for my 100th. It's a great marathon. Thank you for all your hard work:)
I ran the half marathon and it was very difficult to get around people who were walking and slowly jogging for almost 2 miles.
I ran the half marathon- I thought it could have been made clearer to people who are walking or plan on running slowly that they should start towards the back. It was crowded- as all races are at the start- but I thought there could maybe be more/better markings for different paces.
I ran the half marathon. Porta Potty Lines were very long at the locations before crossing the Reserve Street underpass. After reserve the lines were gone. Increasing the number of Porta potties in the first third of the course would be generally appreciated.
I ran the half, but doing full next year. I am concerned about first stretch being very desolate
I ran the marathon last year, and loved the early start. So I was sad that there wasn't an early start this year. However, the 6 am start worked out nicely too.
I really can't think of anything I disliked. If I were to choose one thing, it might be to have more porta potties at the rest stations so people don't have to wait in line as much during the event.
I really can't think of anything.
I really enjoyed it all.
I really have no thoughts or feelings about the middle of the half Marathon course. Missoula offers such incredible scenery, why can't we take more advantage of the views.
I really wish that there had been more sports vendors at the race expo and more healthy food options at the end of the race for runners.
I saw sport drinks at the finish, but missed the water bottles. The metal is HUGE. You did it best in 2011.

I suppose I was disappointed that local bus did not operate on weekends to and from airport. Less expensive hotel would be nice too.
I think bus times need to be bumped up. Last buses should run at 4:45a or 5a (not 5:15a). I heard that some folks missed the 1/2 marathon start (which really is their fault for trying to take the last bus), but with an increase in participation, I think the organizers should give themselves either more time or get more buses/drivers. I also wasn't in love w/ my gear bag. I liked the idea of writing our bib number on it, but that means the bag is also chintzy quality compared to the 2012 bags. And the shirts are ridiculous re: the sizing. Before I could even finish my sentence re: shirt exchange the gal already answered it. I asked if she'd been asked that a lot and she said "Oh just a few times". Not sure about the men's', but the women's' shirts were very small.
I think it would be nice for the full marathoner to have a finish which is on the same course, but divided so the competition isn't slowed down for them. You could have the same finish, with a divider.
I think it's a bit over charged on motel rooms just for the event. Some doubled their prices in non-busy times. But overall it was a good trip.
I think something needs to be done about the race route in the last 2-3 miles. The university plays such a huge role in this community and other races utilize the campus for their routes (riverbank run). I think the stretch down to South Ave is a very discouraging (swing away from the finish) portion, and we could still cover the 13.1 and 26.2 mile distances by including a stretch near campus, while not aiming participants on a whirlwind stretch near Hellgate High.
I think that the bus system was a good idea but not exactly ideal for the locals. There were a few people who missed the gun go off at the beginning because of the crowded buses.
I think the port-a-poties need to be spread out more... if they were along the course instead of all at the drink stops, it may go faster. One of my friends had to wait in line so long we didn't get to run the race together past mile #6.
I think the race spends a lot of money on medals, they are quite nice. However, I do not need a medal, I have two now that are in the bottom of a drawer. I think the t-shirt and gear bag are good enough and you could save some money.
I think the size of the technical shirts run incredibly small.
I think there should be more porta potties at the first 2 or three stops so there isn't such a long wait. There was no wait towards the end but had to wait several minutes at the second station.
I think you should extend packet pickup past 4pm. It's a little early.
I think you should strongly suggest people arrive around 4:45 to get on the bus...maybe not on the "official" info, but if someone asks I think the latest you can arrive at the bus pick up and not be rushed is 4:45. Those new to the race or new to running larger races seemed overwhelmed with the lines. The staff did a very good job of getting people in the appropriate line, but as the crowd grew it was a bit confusing when the line started winding around the entire block.
I think you've reached capacity on the current bussing method, and need two bus locations. I also think you need more port-a-pots at the first two aid stations for the half marathon.
I thought for the amount of the entry fee that the gear bags could have been a little more stocked with goodies, samples or even coupons.
I thought it was darn near perfect!
I thought that there could've been a couple more restrooms at some of the aid stations. In terms of the course, I thought the last mile and a half was a little tedious. I understand the need and desire to have it end at Higgins bridge but I'd rather have an extended mile elsewhere rather than zigzagging through residential blocks.
I thought the bus situation in the morning was a cluster. Never experienced crazy waiting line to get on the bus. The RACE SHOULD NOT START UNTIL ALL RACE PARTICIPANTS HAVE ARRIVED TO THE RACE START ON THE BUSES.
I thought the first 9 miles were boring.
I thought the medal was too big and tacky
I thought the race packet was weak. I understand the goal behind the virtual race packet, but I still think that for the \$60, \$80, or \$100 that people paid to register, there should have been some treats from local businesses in the orange bag.

I thought there should've been more porta potties along the route--I never had to use one, but it seemed there was always a line when I passed by?
I thought there was more energy gels available sooner in the half.
I visited my family in Missoula. They live not far from the half-marathon start. Although I realize new security measures were implemented this year, I was disappointed that I could not be dropped off near the start. Please consider having a secure drop-off area near the start for 2014.
I walked the 26.2 race and when I finished most people on the route and at the finish were gone and so it felt very lonely. It would be nice if walkers could start early so they could be part of the larger group so they could have the same support and experience.
I was a little disappointed in the number of vendors at the expo. I come to buy some items with 26.2 on it or more items with Missoula Marathon. (nothing)
I was a little disappointed with the gear bags. One of the best parts is going through the bag after you get it. I understand going paperless, but still miss the swag in the bag.
I was a little surprised the 'swag bag' contained only a t-shirt and racing chip
I was concerned about getting on a bus, the line for the 1/2 was incredibly long, and we got down town by 4:50 which I thought was early enough.
I was disappointed but totally understand why there were not more spectators along the route. Compared to last year. Sometimes the random crowds keep me going. I volunteered for an event after my race and found that it was sort of difficult to get back to the place that I needed to be. again understand due to tightened security
I was dumb-struck at the line for getting on the bus. The last two years I did the half marathon I practically walked onto the bus. I did not expect a line that went around a city block and then some.
I was expecting a little more from the GFS in their after race food.
I was not a fan of the design of the t-shirts. Like the material, but was hoping for something more artistic.
I was super excited for the shirt and they just fit really poorly. I did the race with 4 of my friends and no one like the fit of their shirt. The shirts ran really small and were short. Also, I think it really sucks that there are no shirts for xxl or larger. There are a few people I know who used the marathon as a goal to lose weight and get in shape which is so awesome, and then to not have the XL fit was really disappointing and discouraging. I am usually a women's medium and the large just fit me. So maybe try to think of other options for shirts so that everyone can enjoy them and wear their shirt with pride! Plus it's more advertising for the race if people want to wear their shirts. Sorry about the rant.
I was very disappointed with the lines for the busses to the half marathon. I waited 45 minutes to get on the bus, was separated from my group as a result, and barely had time to use the restroom by the time we finally made it out there (was in bathroom when cannon went off). They need to be WAY more efficient about loading the busses. Waiting in line for 45 mins is the last thing you want to do before running a half marathon. Didn't even have time to stretch.
I wasn't on the results ... got missed I guess, understand this can happen and it's OK ~I'm not real competitive. :-)
I went to the restroom right before the start of the race but I had to just #1 a couple miles in. I couldn't believe that there were only 5 portapotties there and there had to be 15-20 people in front of me. I felt really bad for my partner and we lost nearly 20 minutes which the difference between us both was setting PR's. I'm still bummed about it. I should have used the nearby bushes and next year will. 3500 people and only a few portapotties during the race.....
I wish I could have purchased a Beer Run T-shirt. I think some folks on the three-mile route missed a turn because there was no guide with the slower folks and the turn wasn't marked.
I wish I was faster and in better shape!
I wish the goodie bags were actual bags and not virtual.
I witnessed a policeman that was directing traffic be rude to a runner and as a Missoulian I was embarrassed and it really made me mad, he was at the corner by Hiberta and 3rd about 7am. Also disappointed I didn't get my name on my bib. I signed up early for that specific reason and it got missed somehow.
I would have liked a "finisher"shirt.

I would have liked the option to downgrade to the half marathon but was informed by the race director that the numbers had already been assigned (one week before race). I raced the marathon and was successful, however, I think this should be made possible for those who are injured and would like to participate in something other than the 5K I was offered or deferment to next year which would have been very difficult given I live in a distant state.
I would have liked to see a free photo at the end, but I never even saw that option. The activities at the finish were a bit confusing!
I would like less time in town and more in the rural areas where there are less people and cars. I also don't especially like going by Bonner Park twice. It's very tempting to cheat when I'm so tired, but I haven't done that yet!
I would like to see the marathon organizers to suggest to walkers to stay to the right to allow for joggers to pass on the left.
I would love to see an easier way of transferring registration from one year to the next; I wasn't able to run, but haven't been able to find a link or online way of transferring registration.
I would love to see more bands or entertainment along the way. AND, I have done the 1/2 3 times. Never once have I been able to wear my shirt. I wear a women's xx and am 5'9. This year's shirt isn't even long enough to reach my belly button. The red shirt from 2 years ago is just as short. I would love just once to get a tech shirt I can wear which means longer shirts.
I would perhaps have the expo at a different location but still in downtown ... it was so crowded with the farmers market going on at the same time in the park.
I would recommend having more than one gel station for the half marathon.
I'd have to think hard to come up with something! No complaints.
I'm not sure if there's any way to get around this, but the walkers/slow runners lining up in the front happens every year. It makes the beginning of the half marathon ridiculous as you try to bob and weave through the slower participants. This year we had a stroller and lined up in the back and it was a rather energy wasting first two miles just trying to get to a point where we could set our pace and go. We were still trying to get around groups of walkers at about a mile in. Even in years past when we've run without the baby jogger, the first two miles are always a little frustrating. I believe at Bloomsday in Spokane, they require your estimated finish time when you register and then line people up based on that time. The bibs are different colors based on time and they have color coded areas where you then line up. And if you have a baby jogger, you could then line up in the back of your designated color area. I guess it would be similar to lining people up based on pace groups, but I think people would feel more obligated to line up in the correct timed area if there was something on their bib designating that they should be in that specific area.
If I had to try and find something I did not like, I guess it could be the condition of the asphalt roads the last 3 miles of the race. It was pretty rough and it's no fault of the race, but more just a part of town the city could work on repaving.
In first 5 miles single porta potties not enough
In the past the Expo has had more events for the family: jumpy houses, face painting, balloons, etc. It was definitely lacking the family atmosphere, post-kids marathon.
Inconsistent shirt sizes and inconvenient times for exchanging shirts. I ended up giving my shirt to my friend that ran because we both needed bigger sizes. At least one of us got the correct size.
Insufficient restrooms for the first few rest stations along the marathon course.
It is very hard to think of something I did not like, if I had to think of something, I guess I would say I was not too impressed with the "goodie bag".
It can be too hot but the weather was great this year
It could cost less, but I still feel I got a good value overall. I think out of state folks may think the cost is high.
It seemed like some of the pace groups went out really fast. I ran the first half with the 4:15 pacers and it seemed like we were moving much faster than we should have been. I overheard someone I had been running near the whole race say we hit the 3 mile mark at 26 minutes and someone else say that they were nearly 7 minutes ahead of schedule. I was purposely not wearing a watch and relying on them to guess my pace and ended up going out way too fast. I know they finished on time but I understood that they would be running an even pace the entire race.

It starts at 6 am.
It starts so early - this year it was actually quite cold for a long time during the race - particularly since the course is in the shade nearly the entire time.
It starts sooooo early in the morning!
It was a little hard to find info on the website. Kind of had to dig for it.
It was a well-planned, wonderful event. Nothing to add here!
It was a wonderful event.
It was crowded. I know you can't help that. The line did wrap around the building to get on the school busses. It went fast though. Maybe see if there is a big parking lot you can use. We were stressing about parking instead of sleeping! It went ok though. We parked in the Central Parking garage. It was a bit stressful though. We had to go through people to get into the garage because of how long the lines were. I didn't want to hit anyone.
It was great.
It was hands down the best road race I've done. Can't wait for next year.
It was my first time and I can't think of anything I would change.
it was very cold waiting for the start
It would be more friendly to walkers if it stayed open just about 15 minutes longer.
It would have been nice if the course allowed loved ones to have access to cheer us on.
It would have been nice to be able to get a little discount on running gear at the expo. I was disappointed and even tried to go to Runner's Edge retail store to see if I could find some tanks or compression sleeves for less than \$40-50. The only thing I was really concerned about was the half-hour wait in line to get on the start-line buses. I had 10 minutes to spare when I got to the start line, but I had been in the bus line at 5am. That adds a lot to stress levels on start day.
It's always nice to see a race clock on the course. i had screwed up my watch and was hoping to figure out my official time at the halfway mark but there wasn't one there. It might be easy to do since you already have power for the timing mat.
It's far from me, but that's my own fault.
It's getting a bit expensive especially given there are only gels etc at mile 10 (they were covered when I got to mile ≈2.5 and I'm only a 12min/mile person so I'm assuming they were being saved for the full races which is not cool). Also I don't love the metal, I mean really a horse shoe? Please keep the business names off the items I will keep forever like the bib and metal ribbon.
It's just pretty expensive for me. I have to plan for months to be able to pay it and other associated costs (new shoes...) I would love to be a RWM member, but that too is an added expense.
Just a little confusion re: finishing times and place. Had to wait at the end as they adjusted the formulas. I get there early to the start, but the buses were long waits for those coming later.
Just one tiny thing!!! For food at the end, it would have been really nice to have something more with some protein. At the half marathons I've been at, they will have a sub place come and serve little sandwiches (ham, turkey, etc).
Lack of vendors at packet pickup.
Like start & finish same place. Did not like waiting hour to start.
Liked it all!
Liked it all.
Liked the gear bags from 2012 not so much this year, the start time just so early to get on the bus considering it's hard to get into a restaurant to eat the evening before and then get back and get some sleep and then you're up at 3:30am. I wish the expo would stay open past 4pm when your just getting into town the day before it should be open until at least 6pm.
line for shuttles was longer than expected and I did not get to venue quite as early as I had intended/would have liked
Line to get on bus

Line to get on the bus
Lines for the bus drop off very disorganized
Literally nothing. It was a truly wonderful experience in every way.
Loading bus in morning was chaotic and confusing. Maybe several different bus pickup locations? Didn't arrive at start line with even enough time to go to bathroom before race started.
Loading the busses should have been better organized. The line for the half marathon stretched all the way around the block so that the start of the line at times was in the area where the busses were loading -- this was confusing.
Long bus wait/line.
Long line for getting on the buses this year.....got to the race start with about 5 min. to spare.
long line for shuttles
Long line just to board the busses. I stay at a motel south of the city. Previously the shuttle dropped us off right by Peak Fitness Center. This year the motel shuttle had to drive us downtown where we stood in a very long line to board the school busses. I didn't get to the race site until 5:52. Can't they set up a safe area for shuttle vans to go out to Peak Fitness and drop off Hwy 93?
Long line/wait for the bus to get to the start.
Long lines for 1/2 marathon bus.... line was crazy but we got there just before the gun went off and the fireworks started. good thing for chip timing
Long lines for the bus that suddenly went faster when they knew we weren't going to make it to the start. I appreciate they got us to the start on time but whatever they did to speed things up at the end, they should have done that a little earlier. I got to the parking garage at 5:00am.
Long lines to take bus shuttle.
Long lines waiting for buses to start. We were there about 4:45 and just had time to hit johns before the start. I felt bad for people who started late. I've also been disappointed in the t shirts the last two years, bad colors and the design on front this year was just ugly. I love the race, but I don't want to wear the shirt in public. Disappointing.
Long straight stretches early in the marathon are boring but unavoidable so no big deal. I would prefer a loop or out and back course. The cost and inconvenience of busing is not worth the advantage of a point to point course. Too many apparently homeless or "street people" wandering around Missoula. This could be a major concern for single females.
Looping around Bonner park/crossing Higgins. Felt like we were close to the finish at mile 10. Disorienting.
Lots of turns in the town part of course.
loved everything
Loved everything about the marathon.
Loved it all.
Loved it!
Mandatory buses to take participants to the start line
Many of the walkers who participated in the half-marathon got in the way of the runners towards the end of the race. I think they tried to get out of the way. However, they were not incredibly successful.
marathon pickup by 4pm, this needs to be extended to 7pm without having to go to a bar
Mass start of half marathoners...with walkers and baby jiggers near the front.
Maybe a little expensive.
Maybe add a few porta potties along the course in the early going-a lot of people drink too much water before race and saw 4 or 5 guys run to fence line early in race-didn't bother me but some of the ladies had to be upset
Medals are too large and I would never take the effort to get it engraved. I liked the year that bandanas were handed out at the finish!
Medals were the same as last year. The expo and chip pick up were very chaotic. Expecting us all to arrive from the same direction and therefore able to see the entry signs is unreasonable. I came from the parking lot and it was basically the back of the event. It was awkward. Shirts were sized incorrectly. I have never worn an XL and the

large did not fit so I traded for an XL. It was too tight too. I won't wear the shirt. Medals were the same as last year so now I have two exactly the same. Would be nice to see a different design if I come back again.
Medals were too big and heavy. Didn't expect medal.
medical tents not having appropriate equipment compared to other races
Metals were like the previous year I like a change but could live with it. The tech shirts suck like last year snagged right away. Wish there was an option of t-shirt or tech shirt. Sizing is horrible in the tech shirt as well. Wasn't wild about this years color either but could live with it if it were a t-shirt. I save my shirts for a tshirt quilt and the tech shirts don't work we'll on it because they snag.
MHP123, Sergeant Breidenbach, driving along the first three miles burping through his PA, "Runners, stay right." Really? We're paying him about \$60 an hour to annoy us when he's the only vehicle on the road at 0600. I want the law enforcement presence to ensure that everyone knows there's a race going on, not belching exhaust and unnecessary orders at us.
Missed having an early start. While the course was open longer - it's much nicer for a slow runner/walker to be able to finish while people are still around, food is still at the finish line, people/chairs are still there and everything isn't being torn down.
Missed the food and beverages at the bus pick up, in 2012 they had that there and it was a lot smoother and faster in 2012 getting on buses and out to the start. It seemed a little messed up this year?
Montana is far away from me. I would love to run this race again, but time and travel costs may make it prohibitive. I will surely try.
More ports potties first two aid stations
More Aid stations. Waiting around for it to start because of busing issues.
More bathrooms
More bathrooms toward the beginning of the full, as the lines tended to be a little "costly" when it came to time. Gear bags were not the best (maybe a cooler design), and the design on the t-shirts weren't the coolest.
More porta potties at the early aid stations on the full marathon course would be nice.
More ports potties at first few stops would be nice. Took a group picture instead of a picture by myself at finish and was not given a printout. The guy printing the pics said they were low on paper and the paper needed to be saved for those taking single pics
More schwag! The t-shirt sizing was also completely off. Perhaps make a note on the registration form that the women's sizing runs extremely small.
Mostly the price - \$80 seems a bit steep for a half marathon. Also, (and this was mostly my fault for getting downtown at around 5:20 and not sooner), but I was not able to start the race until after 6:00 and thus had to weave my way through hordes of slower runners and walkers. This wasn't really a big deal, as it only slowed me down by 20-30 seconds or so and only lasted for about a mile. This is a great race and I am struggling to find negatives.
My bus showed up 3 minutes before the gun went off, so I was 7 minutes late starting by the time I got off the bus, ran to the porta pottys and dumped my gear bag. There were other buses behind us as well. We were in line for buses at 4:45 and still didn't make it by cannon.
My hotel, stone creek lodge
My husband and son ran the 5K and there was no aide on that route. Not typical of other 5Ks we have participated in. Even in the half there were not as many aide locations as communicated. There were plenty but not as mentioned. Also - while I truly appreciate the challenge with Parking and transportation, and the nice touch was the gear bag delivery, the bus lines were long and the wait was cold. In addition, as it turned out my parents could have dropped me closer but it was not communicated.
My knees hurt today. For a terrible second during the race I thought I might have aspirated a gummi bear...
My legs and back started to be sore.
My one complaint would be that the people who need the aid stations the most, people who finish in 5-6-7 hours, tend to not get them at full capacity like those who pass by sooner. If there were some way to make sure those that truly need aid stations are able that would be great.

My only complaint in an otherwise fantastic event is this - you really need to have more port-a-potties at the half marathon starting point. The lines were very long for each unit prior to start time, causing some of us to not be ready when the gun went off.
My only complaint is that my name was mispronounced as I crossed the finish line. On the application form a space to enter how to pronounce any unusual names would be nice.
My only complaint is the color of the marathon race T-Shirt given to participants. I would have preferred a neon green or a more true green than the green chosen. But, that is a minor complaint. I'll proudly wear the shirt.
My only complaint was that the t-shirt was sized VERY small.
My only concern was that I had to wait in line for a bathroom on the race course for 9 minutes. This was at mile 6. I opted not to wait at mile 3 because the line was too long. This really could have messed up my time, but I was feeling good so I made up my lost time, but it was a distraction and if at mile 3 and 6 there were more bathrooms available it would have been better.
My only critique is that I feel like the woman's shirts were really ill-fitting. I can usually wear a medium, but my large was really tight.
My only disappointment was that the t shirt is really nice-but the women's size runs really small. I order an XL and it is extremely tight. I had a friend who wears a medium try it on and it was tight on her as well. However, if that is the only negative, that is pretty small.
My own problems.
My print out after the race was off by 4 minutes.
My shirt was too small. I always order a size small and this one was smaller than usual.
My tee shirt was too small, but that is a minor issue
My time -- not your fault
My time :(
My women's medium t-shirt fits, but very snug. Sizing is too small!! Either advertise that we might want to size up, or order from a company that has more accurate sizing. That is truly my only complaint. I heard a few comments that the virtual race bag was kind of disappointing, but I rarely use the coupons and freebies anyhow, so not a big deal to me personally.
n/a
n/a
n/a
n/a
N/A
N/A
N/A
N/A
N/A
n/a.
na
na
na
Na
NA
NA
NA.
NA.
Nada to report.

Need a few more bathrooms w/in the first 6 miles of the marathon race
Need a few more potties at Curtis and 3rd.
need larger sizing in women's shirt bring back the drink coasters (great advertising for future races)
Need more potties along route....long waits
Need more trash cans at the water/gatorade stations-too many cups all over and not being swept back/away from course often enough.
Need to find someone local to sing national anthem live at start! Like shirt but logo design on front UGLY!!
Needed a few more volunteers at the shuttles. People were confused what lines were for what buses. The event was capped but towards the later aid stations they ran out of oranges and other items. Some aid stations seem very unprepared for the set amount of people.
Nice shirt, but it needs to be "Made In America"!!
No complaints
No complaints :)
No complaints!
No complaints!
No complaints. This is one of the finest marathons of the 71 I have run.
No dislikes
No food available in Caras Park (under the tent) after the race.
No fruits provided on course.
No parking....
No problems.
No protein food (? - maybe there was but I didn't see any) at the end of the marathon ...
No runners could be personally dropped off at the start. We drove past the start to get to the buses, to just be driven back out. That's crazy.
No snacks at the aid station (other than gu) My cousin, who was at the Boston Marathon this year, found the fireworks at the start to be alarming. Seemed insensitive given the recent bombing.
No staggered or sectioned starts. Regardless of pace, everybody starts at once with no order. It took a couple of miles just to clear a lot of slower paced and walkers.
none
none
None of our bibs were personalized and we all were looking very forward to this... The shirts were amazing but ran very small. Fortunately, we were able to exchange the size and they were very accommodating to do so.
None.
Nothing
Not a big deal, but some spectators do not understand the distance and some would shout you are almost done, when we had many miles to go...really not a big deal..so as you can see the race coordinators have no control....so there was nothing wrong!! Most of the runners would stay right if they were slow, some were in groups and not aware of others needing to get around. Still not a big deal at all. I really can't say anything bad as it was just a darn great run.
Not a blessed thing.
Not a fan of point to point races
Not a fan of taking a bus to the start. The course was a little hilly.
Not a huge fan of the horseshoe metal
Not a thing!
Not a thing!
Not allowing people on the course in the more rural areas.

not being able to be dropped off and the fact that you have only 1 day to pick up your race packet
Not being able to be dropped off at/or near the race. I totally understand about not wanting 10,000 people parking and the idea of the bus is great, but being able to be dropped off at the race start would be great.
Not being able to get dropped off at start. i stayed 5 minutes from there on purpose and then waited in line to get on the bus for over an hour after driving in the early am for 1/2 hour. my large shirt too small
Not closer to Seattle.
Not enough aid stations at beginning of half marathon. Of course wish for more bathrooms. I would like to have aid stations at every mile--that helps with planning/training. My race tshirt was very tight and even when I exchanged to longer size it was too short. I am pretty standard size women's medium. Please notify in advance if these are going to be super tight fitting. There were no pacing groups for the half marathon.
not enough bathrooms
Not enough buses
Not enough gels and not enough course porta-potties for the first 16 miles of the marathon until they met the half.
Not enough P o'Potties in the first 5 miles of Marathon.
Not enough port a potties at the first few aid stations.
Not enough Port-a-potties available; had to wait in line during the race for 5 + minutes.
Not enough porta potties the first 6 miles. Lines to long
Not enough porta-potties for the increase in participants. It took over 10 minutes to get through the line! Also, I love your race shirts but can't wear them because they are too short. Need longer length women's shirts.
Not enough potties early on. The bus line-up was worrisome. I arrived at race start ten minutes before the start. That was cutting it close.
Not enough restrooms along the course. Need more per aid station. I'd rather have an actual goody bag than the virtual bag, especially because I don't live in Missoula. Also the sizing on the shirts was bad and mine is too small. No suitable size was left when I tried to exchange it. I love the design of the shirt but I can't wear it.
Not enough volunteers or signage at the shuttle to tell people which line to be in. Only one person loading the buses--took a lot of time. Buses were lined up waiting to load--could have loaded two or three at a time, and loaded each bus much quicker with more volunteers who were better trained.
Not much
Not much, maybe gear bags could have had cliff bars and Gatorade in them so we don't have to go get them. Not much to complain about. Pretty kick ass day!
Not much!
Not much! Great race!
Not much. Will be nicer to see a more racial mix in the participants.
Not one thing
Not really any way to get around this, but it's VERY early, even if you could push back the half by half hour, including the shuttles, it would help to not have to get up quite so early. I know you're fighting hot weather on the other side, but having to get up at 3:30am also affects my ability to run effectively;
Not sure
Not sure how much you can do about this, but there was a part of the route where the asphalt wasn't completely sealed over the road bed. As a result, it felt like a cobblestone road except that the cobblestones were the size of pebbles. I could literally feel them pushing into my feet through my shoes. I wish I had thought to remember where along the route that was, but I had more important things on my mind at the time. :-)
Not sure there is anything that you can do about this, but the sizing of the shirts (both for the 5K and half marathon). Went by size from last year's shirt, and this one was much smaller. Would be nice to have some consistency in vendor of technical shirts so the sizing is not such a big question mark.
nothing
nothing

Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
NOTHING
NOTHING
NOTHING
Nothing we loved everything about it. Awsome race
Nothing - it was very well run!
Nothing ;)
Nothing about the event, I suffered a foot injury and was able to walk enough to join my wife and finish with her as she completed the half marathon.
Nothing comes to mind.
Nothing comes to mind.
NOTHING EVERYTHING WAS GREAT, WONDERFUL, LIFE CHANGING!
Nothing I didn't like!
Nothing I dislike. It was a very good experienced.
Nothing in particular.
Nothing negative to report.
Nothing noteworthy
Nothing noteworthy to complain about.
nothing of any signifgance
Nothing really -- but the beeping of the Galloway run/walkers -- the beepers to remind them when to run or walk. These were annoying and loud.
Nothing really except the morning shuttles were a little disorganized. Not much crowd control and some people were cutting in front of others that had been waiting a long time.
Nothing really. It's a first class race. It might be fun to see the expo grow to include more booths.
Nothing to add here
Nothing to complain about
Nothing to complain about at all. This was the best experience I could have asked for.
nothing to not like
Nothing to say:)
Nothing-
nothing- the entire set up was really well run
Nothing, it was all good
Nothing, it was all great
Nothing, it was fantastic.
Nothing, like it all.
Nothing!

Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing! It was great!
Nothing!! All was good.
NOTHING!!!
NOTHING!!!!
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing. I can't imagine a better event.
Nothing. It was great.
Nothing. All was good.
Nothing. It was well done!
Nothing. Keep up the great work! (-:
Nothing.....
Nothing...besides mile 22. That was a hard one for me :)
nothing...I finished under 4 hours
Nothing...it was fantastic!
On mile 20, just under the Reserve Street Bridge, I had to sprint to catch a runner who went off course. It cost me several minutes and energy - the runner had headphones on and didn't hear / listen to directions
One turn where the volunteer was position in front of the fork instead of standing behind the fork I kept going lost a few seconds before I realized I should have turned.
Only a tiny problem. The jell was not ready at the first aid station in the half marathon. The boxes were there, but no one was ready to hand them out. The other item is really being picky, but the gell is a thick version. Just prefer a thinner brand. Easier to get down when it's hot out.
Only complaint was that shirts were not sized correctly bit staff was terrific & I was able to exchange them after both 5k & marathon.
Only negative was bus to start line. Was at the bus location at 4:55AM and was not able to get on the bus till 5:35 and arrived at start line with about 10 minutes to spare. Not enough time to use bathroom and stretch. Drop off would have been much better as I was staying only about a mile away at the Super 8 and my wife could have dropped me off at 5AM. Other than that the race was really good.
Only negative was Clements Street sure was rough on my feet. Love to have that repaved by next marathon!
Organization at start line was a disaster. It would be very helpful to organize runners according to pace times (fastest times closest to starting line, and then walkers at the back). Ver difficult to weave through walkers/strollers, etc for the first one to two miles.
Our directions said packet pick=up for the 5K (which my husband walked) was at the Doubletree. Not true!

Overall I really like the marathon but the wait for the start after you got dropped off from the bus was pretty long and boring. It would have been nice to have more speakers to hear the music and chairs or benches to sit on too!
Parking and buses. People ended up missing start of half marathon.
Parking and sound effects
Parking could have been better. I got there early, before the 1st shuttle bus, and the roads were already closed to get to the parking garage (or maybe I didn't know where to go). It could have been marked better.
Parking downtown and buses to the start line. Terrible that some buses arrived after the half marathon had started. Also, the sticker with my time that I printed right after the race was not correct and not the same as the time that was posted online.
Parking, the shirt sizing was terrible for women.
Participants need to be beaten severely if they push their way to the front of the starting line when they're walkers or doing 12 minutes miles -- very frustrating to have to weave around them
People need to stay to the right especially when your faster runners want to past. Put an age limit on the half, no one under the age of 16. I would hate to think of the child's bone growth in a year or so. Early on set of ortho problems. Isn't that what the 5k is for? 18 years old for the marathon. No strollers.
Perhaps more fruit...water...or choices of bagels but really this was not a problem for me at all.
Perhaps the pot holes on the street routes. A bit dangerous for fatigued runners.
Picking up the bus if I had to find something. But in truth it was painless
Planned on there being more gel.
Please go back to early start. In July it gets too hot for walkers and slow runners.
Plenty of bathrooms the first 16 miles, but later on the bathrooms got less frequent. Less gu stations than expected in the last 10 miles.
Pretty much hit a home run - thought the people were amazing and it was well organized! Loved the popsicles and pictures!
Price of hotels...
Pricey Virtual bag is a joke Keep the businesses off my bib and metal Update the metal, it's almost exactly the same as last year MORE FUEL, it was still covered at mile ≈ 2.5 because the full hadn't come by, not ok
Psychologically I grew weary of the serpentine route approaching South Avenue; I kept thinking I was at the turn around to head back north to the finish and it seemed to always be further on ahead. Since I was staying with family in Missoula, I would have preferred to have been able to take a personal car to Frenchtown for the start. We wouldn't have parked it there; that could be a hassle for those from Frenchtown, but it was a long wait from the earlier buses' departure to the start.
Race shirts ran REALLY small
Race time!! 6am is way too early.
Ran out of some things for the late marathoners coming in. Technical shirt was a little short.
Ran out of water at the finish line
Really enjoyed the route
Really not anything other than the race shirts - sizes are off I feel and the Design was pretty general. I like bright colors with a design that "pops"
Results are not sized for a normal computer screen
Results obviously. Lots of problems at finish for marathon at Caras park.
Run/walkers spread across the road that just stopped running and began walking without a thought of people trying to RUN past them!
Runners area spread out, confusing where to go when brain dead after race, difficult to see family and friends when done with race and still in area, food selection.
Runners fair on sat. not has good has last year and

Running it. Haha. Although I did struggle with knee pain from the downhill the medical help didn't seem to offer help. I know I could've asked but after 18 miles some people don't think clearly. I asked one station for Advil and learned that, obviously, they couldn't give meds. But I also received no other options from them or interest in my pain. Not all limping walkers have cramps. Some just didn't prepare correctly. That's on me. I would think the med stations could be a little more proactive. I hope not to sound negative. I'm not fond of this part of the survey. I take full responsibility for not preparing.
Running out to South Ave. and the cramps that followed...
Rush to start from getting off the bus. Start gate and first 1/4 mile were very congested with tons of walkers to maneuver around
Same medal as last year, do not really like the design.
Saturday morning race would be more fun. Give us Saturday night to enjoy the town and not worry about the race. Maybe pair it with an event Saturday night.
See above
See above.
Seems like mid-July is asking for heat stroke....
Seems to be a lot of walkers at the start of the race which makes it difficult for runners to navigate through. I do like that walkers are encouraged to participate, just wish they could really start behind those wishing to primarily run.
Separate half marathons in the last few miles. They were all over the road and headphones made them impossible to get around. I ran into at least 6 people
SHIRT SIZE---THEY RAN VERY SMALL-COULD NOT EXCHANGE FOR LARGER SHIRT SO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO WEAR MINE :(
Shirt sizes were 2plus sizes too small. The gear bags did not have anything this year. I have ran over 20 marathons and this is the first one that had ZERO SWAG in the bags.
Shirt sizing ran small. Am hopeful that I can exchange it.
Shirts are very small
Shirts could be a different color. Blue two years ago. Medal was a little huge. Was not able to get the official timing printout.
shirts could be better -- sleeves are funny and they are short
Shirts need to be larger...I ordered a women's XL and i usually wear a M or maybe a L and it is tight!
Shirts nice but ran very small
Shirts ran small.
Shirts ran to small
Shirts ran too small
Shirts run small.
Shirts were iffy... But that is really scrounging for something to complain about.
Shirts were really small.
Shirts were small for the women. I had to return it for a large.
Shirts were too small
Shirts- the women's sizes run pretty small. . I am guessing there are quite a few women's smalls left over. In the future I will stick with ordering men's sizes. I don't like the women's cut.
Shirts: loved the quality and design of the shirts. Just not a fan of the green/yellow color combination. Just a personal preference. Maybe I just need to warm up to it. Just a minor thing. Cost: Granted, I think this is fairly priced compared to other marathons (perhaps it could be the best value), but these runs in general eat through my "race account" fairly quickly. It limits my ability to do others, and will likely make my trip to this race an every 3-5 year event rather than every year. I wouldn't suggest it would be worth taking things away from this event to make it cheaper, but these events are not cheap.
Shirts. The horse thing is ugly. Runners see the mountains the meadows and the river.

Shuttle only service to the start.
Shuttle was a little hectic but worked fine in the end.
Shuttles were a bit confusing. I got into the wrong line at one point.
Signage for the Half Marathon and the Full Marathon need to be more visible. Instead of one plaquered with small lettering on it, use an electronic sign showing the correct bus to take. One for the half and one for the full. People may notice it more at 5:00 a.m. I heard that someone this year took the wrong bus to the half marathon start instead of the full.
Slightly unorganized, wasn't sure where to go/what was going on after the race.
Small detail in comparison to all the superb things about the marathon, the technical tee was sized incorrectly and the logo was surprisingly lackluster for the caliber of race swag. More significant detail would be the placement of the first water stop and restrooms on the half marathon course. Not well thought to have so much convergence on one side of that corner. Some spacing or complete separation of water stop from the restrooms would have been a better idea.
Some of the buses ran late and I was unable to get with my pace group.
Someone really screwed up with the buses. Had to wait over an hour even though we were in line at 4:45. Not a real midpoint split for the half.
Sore calves.
Sorry, liked it all.
Spectators were few and far between but by no means a deal breaker. Taking the provided shuttle to the start was required and resulted in getting ready two hours earlier.
Standing around at the start line waiting for the start.
Standing in the loading line to take the bus to the start.
Start busing earlier
Start time is one hour too early.
Start time was too early. Coming from the Pacific Time Zone, I had to wake up at 3am "my time" to run the race. The announcer at the start of the half marathon said that there would be three gel stations, but there was only one.
Start time, bus loading time. It made for a short night, not enough sleep. Details came a little bit later than I would have liked about where to catch the busses and how to find places that we needed to be. Also, the course map for spectators was so small that my people couldn't follow it. Sometimes the running lane was too narrow, and people were running three abreast blocking others. The walk/run timers became annoying to those not in those groups. Also, the walk/run groups tended to get ahead of people then slow down suddenly becoming a source of irritation. Two groups kept my approximate over all pace, but repeatedly beeped, ran ahead of me several yards, beep again then suddenly slow to a walk and weave around in the lane talking to each other. I would weave around them or one time I ran into one, get several yards ahead, they would beep again and the process would repeat. This lasted for miles and got pretty annoying.
Stawberry gel was nasty! More fresh oranges next rime
Stressed out re: trying to catch bus. No parking. Huge line. Got off bus as cannons boomed.
Stupid I know, but the color of my shirt haha hey if that's my only complaint hats off to you guys!!! (It was Swamp green)
Sugar free drinks at the end.
swag, meh
T shirt color. yes, I'm being that picky
T shirt sizes were to small and the metal is the same as last year just a bit bigger. If you could change it up and give out better size shirt. The shirt itself was nice and loved the color.
T shirt this year Previous ones much nicer, because of discreet sponsor names, design, nice fabric I don't want to be a walking billboard for auto dealer, your premier sponsor; probably won't wear this year's shirt.
T SHIRTS ALL RAN TOO SMALL;

T shirts aren't as good as other races. Everything was very good though
T shirts ran small...women's shirt ran short don't like that...after running that far was looking forward to wearing a shirt to brag about the accomplishment...doesn't look good to tight
T-shirt color/style.
T-shirt size could have been bigger. The lines waiting for the buses in the morning were the ridiculous. Maybe allowing drop offs would of been better.
T-shirt sizes were way small - need to disclose that shirts run small, true to size or large. Went to exchange after the race but there were no shirts available in size I needed.
T-shirt sizes! Ladies large WAAAY too small!
T-shirts run small. I will know this for next year.
T-shirts were a bit on the shorter side - don't cover the muffin top when I bend over or reach for something :)
T-shirts were smaller than expected.
Take the video of the race off your web site or change it. It doesn't do the course justice. I was so pleasantly surprised during the run!!
Technical shirt
technical t-shirt sizes too small, it seemed everybody had to exchange shirts, last year's seemed to fit better
Technical t-shirts not true to size.
Technical tee for the half marathon ran very small compared to previous years. Very crowded start for the half marathon.
Terrible half marathon bus lines. Last year was quick.
That I had to get a man's shirt as the women's shirts ran small and there was not an XL available at the shirt exchange.
That I wasn't able to predict the nice, cool weather so that I could have run the full instead of the half.
That race result print-out at Caras Park being incorrect and then a long lag between the race and the availability of correct results on-line. And the bus line for the half marathon wrapping around the block at 5am caused quite a panic. Also, I'd love the Run Wild Missoula website to include up to date information. Some of it was carried over from previous years (last bus leaves at 5:30 or 5:15? And where does the Kids marathon start on Saturday morning?).
That the race was over so soon! Maybe I will try the Full next year just so it doesn't end so fast!
That the shirt exchange wasn't until the following day. Both mine and my mother's shirts fit a little too tightly.
The 3.5 hour drive home... nothing you can do about that!
The 6 am start although the cool temperatures were good (I just need to figure out hpw to get more sleep the night before!) I wish the course was not entirely on pavement. None
The 6a start seemed way too early. Even 7am with 5am buses would be much better.
The after race food was good but didn't have a lot of variety.
The air travel was a bit pricey to Missoula or Bozeman that might limit when I can come back. My shirt was too small, although I ordered my normal race size (women's medium). They did not let me exchange it for a larger size at the expo and told me I could exchange it after 1 pm after the race. But I had a flight at 2 pm. Turns out after the race, I saw them exchanging shirts earlier like 11 am - had I known, I would have brought my shirt to the race. I was disappointed. But that is my only complaint.
The AM buses out to the race start seemed to be quite backed up... the half marathon runners were looped all the way around an entire city block in line for the bus. We got there around 5:00, thinking we were making good time... but were then nervous about not getting to the start on time. But, everything worked out in the end. Other than this, everything else was perfect.
the amount of run/walker that got in the way
The backtrack loop around Bonner Park.

The band at the end drown out the cheers from the fans, I would rather hear people at that point rather than some random band. I do not like cliff gels, but that is minor.
The band on the bridge was too loud.
The big hill at mile 15 =)
The bus drop off system, so early, much waiting around for those early risers. I know it's not an easy thing to find a good solution to.
The bus line
The bus line for the half was wrapped all the way around the block. I showed up at 4:50 and waited until 5:30 to get on a bus. Also, in all communications but the printed pamphlet in our race bags, the bus pickup time was listed between 4:30 - 5:30. The pamphlet said 4:15 - 5:15, what did you want us to do? Also, on behalf of my wife who ran the 5K, she mentioned that there were no water stations or any food afterward.
The bus lines were way too long as a result we didn't get to the starting line until 5-10 minutes before the start of the half marathon. I much rather be at the start line at least 20 minutes before start to warm up and use facilities etc.
The bus loading.
The bus only system could be better organized.
The bus only to the start line was a little odd. Very long line. And there were no oranges left by the time we reached that mile.
The bus pick up was a lot more frustrating and disorganized this year. We made it to the bus pick up the same time as last year at 4:40. Last year we were able to get on the bus within a few minutes and to the start with plenty of time to warm up and use the bathroom before the race. This year there was a huge line at pick and we had to wait an hour and as a result we made it to the start with only a few minutes to spare. My 10 year old was very disappointed to miss the fireworks and the start because he had to use the bathroom before starting.
The bus shuttle needs an overhaul - arrived downtown at 5:05 and waited 35 minutes to board a bus, arrived at the start 10 minutes before the race, making a warm-up impossible. Not the greatest thing for race performance. It isn't reasonable to expect people to show up at 4:30 AM in order to get to the start in a timely fashion. If the buses can't be improved then the start needs to be pushed back a bit. There were people still getting off the last bus essentially when the gun went off.
The bus shuttle was too crowded, needed more buses, as an elite athlete and only getting there with 5 minutes to warm-up but was in line at 4:50 (3:50 my time) -
The bus situation for the half was crazy!!!! Got in line at 5 am and was not even able to Warm up!!! Only had time to drop my bag and start my watch And go! Not happy with standing in line for an hour!! Come on! Load those buses!! And then to see the "runner drop off signs". Really???? The shirts were too small!! Too big last year! Love this race....expensive! Need to get the bus sit. Figured out! Thanks!!!!
The bus situation in the morning left something to be desired.
The bus situation in the morning was a cluster. We got there within the recommended time (5:05am) for the half marathon, yet did not get the race until 5 minutes before the start. We had to start in the back and I think we could have run a faster race had we not had to weave through the slow people.
The bus situation was a little hectic.
The bus situation. We were in line by 4:50 and did not get on a bus until 5:33.
The bus situation. I arrived at the line by 445 and did not make it to the start line until 555. That was unsettling. I paid a lot of money to travel to the race and participate in the race, I do not want to miss the start or feel rushed. If I would have known there was a drop off line I would have had my friend drop me off but I was trying to follow the rules. I was also extremely unhappy with the race shirts. The women's sizes were extremely small and when I got done racing there were no men's mediums left so now I have a shirt that doesn't fit me and I will never wear.
the bus thing was a little hectic
The bus transportation to the start was really late this year. This caused my group to start 5 minutes late per gun time.

The buses should go more than one at a time. We almost did not make the start of the race, we were there over an hour early and had to wait in line around the block.
The buses to the start of the half were not organized this year. I waited in line for 40 min and arrived at the start just 5 minutes before the guns went off. I would suggest assigning ppl bus times based on their bib #, or based on when they register, or let them pick. Last year I took an early bus and felt like I was standing around at the start for a while so this year didn't arrive as early. It was very stressful not knowing if I would make it there in time for the start!
The buses were a tad late. We got to the race at 5:55. We had time to go to the bathroom...then the race started. We were in the back and it took 2 miles to get to a good pace. We had to go around many walkers who were in groups. The shirts were really small. I have done this race 4 times and ordered the same size. The small, was more like an xxs.
The buses. We showed up at 445 and didn't get on a bus until 535 and were only left with a couple of minutes to warm up. Poor planning. Also the cliff gels were advertised to be at the first aid station for the half marathon, but when we got there the gels were all covered up and not available for us runners. Unsure what happened.
The busing line ups were exceptionally long this year. Very little time was left for warm ups and port o potty line ups at the start.
The busing to the starting line.
The busing, but it moved fast and it was safe.
The bussing to the start lines needs to be more efficient. I drop off zone for the half marathon would cure these problems and nobody would be late for the start of the race. The race coordinators should have ear pieces and better communication as to where the front runners of the races are so that they don't miss the finish of the winners and top three placers of each race like what happened with the winner of the men's open/overall marathon.
The cars on the course
The change in bus loading downtown was less convenient than in years past. It would have been nice to know about that ahead of time, since we had to stand in a very long line (and walk around an entire block to find the end of the line). The times were not accurate on the texting results, and our initial after-race printouts were also off (although it would have been great to run a 5-min/mile pace, as the printout indicated!).
The cones along Mullan Road were a hazard. I thought it was impractical to think that runners should get over that far within the first few miles when there is no traffic out there at that time in the morning. The technical t-shirt colors get worse each year. The puke green for the marathoners was cruel when the half-marathoners got a pretty blue color. Also, I'm tired of the horse-theme motifs since we're runners not riding horses. I don't like medals are necessary in the first place since what do you do with it after the race, but I think you might want to move on from the horseshoe.
The cones! What is with putting the cones in the middle of the right lane? I saw several people trip over them. Looking at my pictures, there are places in the hill section where the cones are 3-4 feet from the right white stripe. Were we supposed to be running in the section between the cone and the white line? If so, then you'd barely fit two runners in that space. Place the cones on the middle yellow line in future and explain to your runners to stay to the right of the cones. We won't, but at least we know we're supposed to be there and can't bitch when the MHP car tells us to move to the right.
The course did not have good signage once you got into town.
The course is pretty zig-zaggy. Some of the areas you run through are pretty trashy looking. Missoula is such a scenic place, it could be a beautiful course the entire time. The shirt design wasn't great and the shirts ran real small. The expo was a disappointment. Thought there would be so many more vendors. The virtual swag bags were also disappointing.
The early bus shuttle. Even though they said no drop offs were allowed, they actually were. I would have much rather done the drop off had I known you really could.
The elevation really killed me, my performance was seriously degraded; but it was partly my fault. I should have adjusted my pace to accommodate, but was going for a PR. I noticed it on my shakeout run the day before. I am at 945ft in Topeka KS. So where it says it is not an issue on the website may be a bit misleading, however, I may have just been extra sensitive to the elevation change. It was a great course!!!
The event was great...

The Expo did not have as many booths as previous years.
The expo didn't have a lot of vendors.
The expo seemed too small. No chocolate milk after the race (or other post-race protein options). No cold water either at the finish. Medical tents/stations not available or not easily visible.
The expo was pretty lame... not much going on there. The gear bags were empty. No free gels or anything. That was a bummer. Also, the shirts were so ugly (sorry!). I wanted to wear mine with pride, as it was my first marathon, but it fits badly and is just plain ugly. I won't ever wear it.
The fact that I didn't win it. :)
The fact that you HAD to take buses to the start.
The first few restroom stops on the half marathon course were overly crowded. We waited five minutes to get through the line.
The food that they had after the marathon didn't seem very appetizing.
The food vendors at the finish line contributed to my need to vomit. Who are the food vendors for???? The food post-race for participants is substantial to refuel. We do not need fried food nor do the spectators. This event is about health and celebrating our ability to complete the race. Please do not allow fried food vendors at the finish line. Let's change!!
The food was a little too healthy and light. When I came in, I wanted to eat something sweet, like chocolate, gummy bears or cookies. The plates for pasta and salad were skimpy, but wonderfully tasty. There was a sign there discouraging runners from eating too much and not being considerate of other runners. I didn't like that. I wanted to feel free to eat what I wanted and go back for 2nds if I wanted. The cold ice cream bars were wonderfully satisfying. I could have used more pasta.
The full marathoners should get 2 free beer, because they went twice as far as the half marathoners
The gear bag and expo were not very good this year. I wish there were more booths and freebies. The tshirt design and style was not very good this year. It didn't remind me of Missoula style and the colors were terrible. I wish it was more of a fitted cotton t-shirt than the mesh shirt. The parking/bus situation upset me this year. I stay at our second home which is very close to the race start and I usually get dropped off by a friend. This year I had to wake up over an hour earlier and drive all the way downtown to take a bus and double back to the race start. I understand that traffic and drop off can be a problem but I wish there were a few alternative locations to grab a bus for locals so we didn't all have to drive downtown. Maybe one at each Walmart.
The gear bags have nothing in them anymore!
The good food store pasta seems a little too flavorful for a half marathon finisher at 8 am. But this is not a deal breaker. They do a great job and are very appreciated!
The goody bags had no goodies in them! Most/all of the virtual goody bag was buy one get one free or advertising a different race (and not at a discount). If I pay \$90 for a race, I would like freebies in my actual bag.
The green marathon shirt is ugly and I don't think I will ever wear it
The half marathon shirts were very nice for 2013 but the full marathon shirts were an awful color and they run small which is ok but would be helpful to know when ordering.
The half marathon shuttle busses had a humongous line! It made getting to the start difficult by canon time.
The half starts a little too early for me. We woke up at 3am to be sure we could get down to the busses, etc. Not used to running this early.
The half-marathon has the feed locations in the wrong locations. I think they were at 3 and 10 and should be at 6 or 7 mile markers.
The hill - but what can you do about it.
The hill at mile 13 :)
The hill at mile 13.
The Hill, but you can't beat the view from the top

The HILL. But I would not take it out!
The hotel - Doubletree - did not accommodate for breakfast for participants as they only open at 6:00 am
The huge size of the age groups for the younger set. There is a tremendous difference across the ages of 0-14 so a fourth grader competing against a high schooler is a little tough.
The Inn on Broadway, where I had the misfortune to stay, more than doubled their prices for Friday and Saturday nights and then claimed that we got their "best price", which was bullshit. I stood there at checkout and listened to the desk clerk book a room for \$80. We were charged before taxes, \$170 per night. There is no way that I would list that hotel as a preferred hotel for out-of-town visitors with the extreme price gouging they do. Hotels like that one give an otherwise stellar performance by the city of Missoula and the race event staff - a bad name. If you want repeat customers, deal with the extortion of the hotel staff in the community.
The lack of parking on site. Taking the bus at 4:30 sucks, but I understand the problem with thousands of cars
The lack of people of color was the only disappointment / not the race organizers fault...
The lack of restrooms! I waited for nearly 10 minutes during the race!
The last 5 miles in the city are boring. Feel like a rat in a maze. Have more porta-potties the first couple of stops where the crowd is denser.
The last mile of the course: sharp turns, uneven surface, dangerous drains - very tough for tired legs and stumbling feet. The shirts :p The medals are big, bulky and useless. How about something that could be hung on a rear view mirror? Or a "cowbell" that could be rung for fellow finishers??
The last part of the route is confusing as it winds back and forth at the end, although it is very well signed and marked. A little bit of congestion waiting for the buses...see below.
The last three miles :)
The line and wait for the buses to the start of the half was gruelingly long. It eroded my excitement for the start.
The line for the bus in the morning
The line for the buses to the half marathon were very long and I did not arrive at the start until 10 minutes before the race.
The line for the buses was scary but actually moved fairly quickly.
The line for the buses went completely around the block - so the end of the line was wrapped around the block all the way to where the buses were loading. I made it but was nervous about making the start. We had to park 3 blocks and left the house at 4:30am and we are only 5 minutes from downtown.
The line for the half-marathon shuttle got extremely long, and it didn't give us much time before arriving at the start.
The line to get on the bus to get out to the race start, understand the process and why just didn't like it.
The lines for the buses had many worried about the start time. Turned out to be great timing for me. Can't speak for others. It may not be a big deal since you are running against your clock not the start clock.
The lines for the shuttle system were too long. There needs to be multiple staging areas to get on a bus.
The loading of the buses was pretty overwhelming compared to the year before. I liked when we could park in the parking garage. The line going around the entire block to load was crazy.
The long line for the bus! We got there at five and just barely made it to the race in time. I admit, though, we will get there earlier next time! That was probably our fault.
The map of the finish area and the Caras Park area showed there was parking in the area nearby the carousel. However, when we were leaving we noticed two tow-trucks there hauling vehicles away. If there was no parking there then why was it shown on the map that was on the Missoula Marathon website? We were lucky to get out of there before we were towed too.
The Marathon itself was perfect. I wouldn't change anything about that.
The marathon shirt was extremely small.
the medal is a little big (heavy on neck), but kind of cool
The medal was huge.

The medals are quite nice but unnecessary and useless - how about something useful instead like a finishers coffee mug / cup? The concept of the virtual goody bag is great but the contents were lacking. I chose not to redeem any of them. How about making the goody bag available before the race to all paying entrants so the local community could benefit from pre-race spending???
The medals are really nice but I am not a fan of plaques, medals, trophies.
The medium shirt fits too tight and the large is too big. Normally the medium technical shirt is fine. The medal is nice but the shirt is what really matters because you get to show it off on your hometown runs. So it is a major disappointment.
The mix of the Winning Marathoners crossing AFTER the 1/2 marathoners. Seems anti-climatic and they get lost in the "slower" runners. Not sure what the solution might be but I've seen other races deal with this issue. San Francisco's 1/2 Marathon finishes in Golden Gate Park but I don't think an alternate finish is the solution. Maybe a later start for the 1/2? Could be just an hour later to give the elite marathoners the opportunity to capture their glory!
The morning bus ride...waited in line forever and arrived at the start without time to warm up.
The morning bus situation could have been better organized. May need to use more buses and organize the line for participants to get on the buses more efficiently. I got to the bus line at about 5 am and did not get the the start until 5:45, barely enough time to use the porta potty before the start.
The morning of the race getting on the busses seemed a little chaotic, maybe a few more volunteers and drivers. The atmosphere was fun and exciting but a little stressful wondering if we would all make it on the busses. i think this will encourage people to drive to the start. I heard they could not get enough drivers that wanted to drive at 4 to 6 am. They probably need more money to get up that early :) The race does not seem too expensive, especially given all the visible costs.
The morning was so early to get to the bus, and then have to wait at the start line for so long.
The mural on the technical t-shirt. The horses were kind of weird. Also, the course seemed one tenth longer than 13.1 miles on the half? I had three GPS devices that confirmed this. Another thing was that the official time print out was wrong as it later changed on the website? Chip time?
The necessity for the bus ride and waiting a full hour before the start, not sure how to solve it. The course needs food/gels/goo slightly earlier in the race. Hopefully all the garbage gets picked up.
The number of restrooms during the race seemed to be lacking.
The olive green shirts for the full marathon were not my favorite... kind of jealous of the half's blues. But I like the design and the fit.
The one thing I would change if I could is to have the drink table people use the same size cups, but only fill them half-way.
The only complaint I have is the last .2 miles...seemed like much further than .2, but I may be mistaken.
The only complaint I heard was that the shirts were poor fitting and quality this year
The only complaint was shuttle bus system was bottlenecked and ridiculously delayed (limited parking downtown followed by bus load area was 'bottlenecked'. We witnessed several buses leaving with empty seats (best to load back of bus first so all seats are occupied). Also I suggest having more than one pickup area downtown so the buses don't have to sit and wait in long line to board passengers.
The only downside was the wait for the marathon to start after the buses let us off. It was uncomfortable and cold sitting on the asphalt for over an hour.
The only issue I had was the bus pickup in the morning. My friend and I arrived at 5 for the half marathon bus, but did not get on the bus until 5:40. This didn't allow us time to warm up or even use the restroom when we arrived at the start line.
The only issue our group had was only one portapotty at mile 4 and the line was pretty long. We ended up waiting and then going to the aid station that was just a bit farther down the road. So, maybe an extra potty or two earlier in the race would help. The shirts were a bit on the small side & had I realized it sooner I would have switched to a larger size so I probably won't be wearing it which kinda makes me sad :(

<p>The only negative both this year and last was the sizing of the shirts. I normally wear a women's medium so ordered that last year and it was really an extra small. So this year I ordered a women's large and it was uncomfortably tight. Luckily I exchanged for a women's XL - the last one - about 10:30. It would be helpful to know if the vendor's shirts run small and have that on the entry.</p>
<p>The only real gripe I have with the technical shirt handed out for the race. Last year it was recommended to size down (I usually wear a medium and got a small that fit perfectly). I did the same this year and the shirt did not fit at all. Apparently they switched shirt vendors. I would recommend doing research into sizing to let people know whether or not to size up or down or not. That's really my only complaint.</p>
<p>The only suggestion for improvement would be to have more port-a-potties in the early miles of the marathon race. I was stuck in a bottle neck trying to use the bathroom around mile 4 which used up a few minutes of my time. I saw a few people that refused to wait in the bathroom lines and ran out into the fields/behind bushes to urinate. I considered that - but I'm not that hard-cord of a runner.</p>
<p>The only thing I can think of was the 6am start ... But it's not a deterrent</p>
<p>The only thing I did not like was the T-shirt. The women's shirts were sized very small. I will never be able to wear the shirt, but I will hang it on the wall.</p>
<p>The only thing I didn't like about the race is I had to wait 5 minutes to use the bathroom (I used the 3rd stop). I would of used the bathroom on one of the first 2 stops but the lines we very long.</p>
<p>The only thing I didn't really like is having the after race food on the side street, I wish it was just spread out on the same road as the finish. It was weird to have the after race venue down in the park too.</p>
<p>The only thing that could even be counted as "negative" about the entire weekend was that my women's medium technical shirt seemed fit very snug, like a small or extra small. I did notice however there is a "sizing chart" for next year's race shirt. I'll be sure to pay extra attention to that when marking my shirt size next time. We also had several issues with the Holiday Inn Downtown. It took 3.5 hours to check in after guaranteed check in the night before the race. No discount was offered for the delay and the hot tub was out of order.... on MARATHON WEEKEND!! Not sure if the race organizers have any control over that issue, however.</p>
<p>The ONLY thing that could have been more organized was the bus lines! By announcing to locals NO DROP OFFS, you added many more people taking the buses. I have never waited in line, just walked up to the corner and got on a bus. This new "line" caused me to get to the start at 5:50. Not enough time to really prepare. Maybe start the busses earlier next year if you are still going to do "lines".</p>
<p>The only thing that I bothered some runners around me was the smoke from the fireworks. Some people really didn't like it, I had no issues just thought I could be look at for next year</p>
<p>The only thing that I did not like about the race is that it is on a Sunday. I have not participated in the past nor will I in the future, because it contradicts my religious beliefs. Also, I have to work the Mondays, so it is difficult to heal before work duties start. If the organizers decide to switch the day to Saturdays, than yes, I will participate every year in the future. I just wanted to experience it, and now would like to run it every year, but can't because of the day it is scheduled to proceed.</p>
<p>The only thing that mildly irritated me was the fact that walkers did not listen to the directions at the start of the race to let runners/joggers go first. It made the first mile or two a bit frustrating.</p>
<p>The organization of the shuttle system. Not horrible just needs fine tuning.</p>
<p>The pace times at the start of the half-marathon were too low, people were all clumped together and it was difficult to line up according to pace. Need pace times up high and easily visible.</p>
<p>The parking situation was a little confusing. Many thought they could park near the park and got towed.</p>
<p>The parking situation was difficult. The buses should have been loaded as they stood there, instead of loading them one by one.</p>
<p>The parking the morning of was a little chaotic. Locals should have the option to drop off at race start.</p>
<p>The parking to get on the bus and kinda a mess with how that is setup.</p>

The parking/busses for the start. If you are going to ask "locals" to use the busses, it would make sense in my view to have busses available at the south end of town (Kmart Parking Lot) or nearby there. For those of us who live in Miller Creek area, or those who live south in Lolo, Florence, Hamilton, it makes little sense to drive downtown only to turn around and drive back.
The people serving beer down below in the pavillion would not take cash for beer after they crossed off your number. This is contrast to many years previous where you could buy more beer after you got your initial free beer.
The photo booth ran out of paper to print the after the race photo. I waited because their computer was down at first. That was disappointing.
The police cars driving on the course.
The prerace transportation. It was not fun waiting in line around the block.
The problem with the race times. I'm still not sure that my race time was right.
The race shirts weren't really true to size (of a normal sized human). My shirt fit fine, but it was a size Large, and I know that some larger individuals had trouble fitting in the sizes they got.
The race shirts. They were a terrible color, and cowboys? Umm no.
The race was a little early for us as we needed to fuel about two hours before start. We came from a different time zone so that meant we were up at 3 am our time and running at 5. But this would not determine if I would attend a future race. I would still go. Besides it was so nice and cool and that made the run good, so it's not much of a ding
The repeat in town streets, miles come slow. More on the road would be good, save the last 2 miles for town
The required bussing to the start line. Not sure of a solution, but a drop off area of some sort might help.
The shirt could use some work, nice material. more stuff in gear bag, more gel stations through 1/2 marathon course- it only had 1
The shirt ran very small. I always order a small shirt at races, but this one was far too small. I was told they would send me a new one if there were any left, but I'm not sure if that will happen or not. I was not able to stay after the race and go exchange it in person due to travel. I am hopeful that I will get one that fits...Next year I guess I will order a larger size.
The shirt sizing, PLEASE alert women that shirts run small. Even after trading (only certain sizes available) my shirt I still too small and I am heartbroken that I cannot wear it! I ran my butt off and can't even show off my shirt! Only complaint, the rest of your event is AWESOME!
The shirt was disappointing. Way too small. My favorite shirt was the blue one from the half marathon a few years ago.
The shirts are tiny!
The shirts are ugly and cheap The end of the race, tracking backwards is not my favorite
The shirts did not fit.
The shirts fit a little poorly. Too short for me to wear comfortably (women's medium). The fit was good other than length.
The shirts ran small which was disappointing since I am so proud to finish and would have worn it more if it fit better.
The shirts ran small, the medals were gigantic - too big to keep on for more than a minute or two without feeling it's burden, bus boarding took way too long - we arrived downtown at 5 and got to the start line 2 minutes before the race started.
The shirts ran small.
The shirts ran small.
The shirts the runners got! I loved the picture on the shirt but it was so small! I ordered a women's large because I know from experience that they run small. But it's very tight and so short! I won't be able to run in it since it is so short. :-/
The shirts were absolutely Awful.
The shirts were horrendous.

The shirts were mis-sized. The last miles were tedious and not as scenic as the first 13 miles.
The shirts were not as expected...sizes way too small and seemed cheap. LONG lines to get on the buses even if you showed up early...and the port-a-potties were right by the buses, rather than along the line. Move the potties along the block where people are standing in line...once you got to the buses there was no way you'd get out of line for fear of not getting on one.
The shirts were not as nice as last year, the fabric last year was better
The shirts were not true to size - much much smaller than the size indicated.
the shirts were too small large size was really small
The shirts were too small. I usually wear an extra small and I had to switch to a small but then switched to a small only to find out later I need a medium. Can't wear my shirt now. The medals could be smaller in size too
The shirts were way too small! Very disappointing! The shuttle busses took to long to shuttle everyone to the start. I felt rushed once I got to the start. I was frustrated to see a "drop off lane" when it was very clear everyone was to use the bus shuttle. I should have been in line a lot earlier however this would have meant being downtown at 4:30 am. I didn't like the food vendors on the bridge. The food smell was very overwhelming And made me feel sick as I was running to the finish line.
The shirts-we are bigger girls and the shirts ran être melt small
The shuttle bus line was very long. We arrived at 5am and it wrapped around the entire city block. However, it did move pretty fast and we were at the starting line in plenty of time to see the fireworks and start the race. The first four miles were difficult because of the masses of people, but maybe that's just part of the experience.
The shuttle in the morning was a little worrisome but worked out fine.
The shuttle line
The shuttle line was really long. It made me anxious about getting to the race on time. Parking/traffic downtown was pretty crazy.
The shuttle system was chaotic and disorganized. Some buses didn't arrive for the start of the Half. This also led to confusion about whether the race would start on time. It did start on time, but many (most?) people weren't even lined up when the gun went off.
The shuttles were not provided from one of the race hotels to the race shuttle! But it's a very minor problem.
The size of medal - last year size was better...why did it get bigger???
The south turn around Bonner Park is confusing and wasn't well marked. It messed with my head being so close to the finish but turning *away* from downtown!
The start time and the necessity to take the shuttle buses. No same day packet pickup, especially coming from out of town.
The start time. Too early. Especially when you have to get up and catch a bus.
The starting point for the half...buildings should be open for warmth and warm up. It was published that NO ONE would be admitted to the half starting point unless you rode the bus. We were staying in Lolo and came all the way into Missoula to ride the bus at 4:30 only to discover that we could have been dropped off at the starting point...and we would have a little more time to sleep. Not happy about that.
The t shirt sizes were way off making it difficult to get the correct size. Nice shirt otherwise. Like the design on it.
The T-shirt - The sizes were very OFF. The shirts are not consistent year to year - the sizes never seem to run "true to size".
The T-shirt sizes were a little small. Also, don't like the homeless people on the streets, gives Missoula a bad name. I don't want to go back if I am getting harassed by homeless people
The t-shirt was not a true womens medium. Last year I got a womens medium and it fit - I wear it all the time. I can't wear this years' shirt. Very disappointing to complete a race and not be able to be proud and wear the shirt.
The t-shirts were horribly small :(
The T-shirts were not a great color and the sizes run way too small.
The T-shirts were sized too small. That's about it!

The tech shirts are getting 'busy' with print. Keep them simple (i.e., a neatly placed logo on front and sponsors on the back. Lastly, (and this is the point I would like to stress the most) of all the colors in the spectrum available for use, how did you end up with camo-green? Please suggest your artist use the basic color wheel when choosing 2014's shirt. While I admit 'blue's' are overused for race shirts, that shade of green is depressing and slightly offensive to the senses.
The tech shirts were small, the design was poor. Having worked in clothing design, manufacture, and marketing, I'd expect this race to have done a better job, especially with the sizing. My wife gave hers away, and mine will probably make it into the Goodwill box, because it's more of a Medium than a Large. I did, however, like the odd green color. The virtual goody bag, while eco-friendly, was otherwise a joke. This is the first race I've participated in where I didn't use a single thing in the virtual bag.
The technical T-shirt chafes the insides of my arms at the seams--kind of a bummer. Also, my GPS unit and I had a hard time finding our way to Caras Park since I've never been to Missoula, so directions on the race web site would be helpful.
The technical t-shirts for the women were soooo small.
The tee shirts fit small!
The tee-shirts run very small in size and no opportunity to exchange. Cost is a little high, especially when you get a shirt that doesn't fit. Not sure what happened, but either my watch was slow or the timing chips were approx. 30 seconds off.
The timing printout after the race was incorrect. It was later corrected online... The gun time was listed as the chip time incorrectly and that made a HUGE difference in me meeting my personal goal.
The timing should have been exact and better. (difference between gun/chip time was the problem) The timing eventually got corrected which is fine just shouldn't have happened at such a large venue. The bus schedule or the way the busses got loaded could have been better, we waited for 38 minutes in line which put us at the start not long before the gun went off. And we were in line before 5 a.m.
The trip back to the airport was a little expensive - OK I'm grasping at straws here.
The turns at the end. It would be great to straighten it out the course, especially the last two miles.
The University Of Oregon comments
The very large hill at the halfway point, however, the views from the top were great.
The very long wait to get on the bus to be taken to the starting area. I was freezing outside and the lines were wrapped around the building. I wish it would have been allowed to be dropped off at the starting place by family or friend, to avoid the long wait in the cold and also because I had to go out of my way to the bus...would have been a lot closer to go from my house.
The virtual race bags were pretty lame. Nothing really usable, especially for out-of-town runners. Real (physical) race bags with swag are better.
The volunteers at all aid stations were AMAZING and WONDERFUL (except the Hellgate football team. A few of them were great but a quarter or so were downright rude and inattentive). As a slower runner I was a little bummed at how early the "party on the bridge" ended.
The wait for the shuttle busses was concerning, although we did make it to the race on time.
The waiting for the bus was a tad frustrating. We live a "stones throw" from the race start, we got up at 345 (which I love the early start) to comply with instructions and were "early" but didn't even get to hear the National Anthem. We got off the bus and went right to the start. I hated missing being a part of the pre-race atmosphere. The only other thing was no food of any kind until mile 8. I have never brought things with me in a race but when I am training I eat something at 5 miles. I will definitely NOT leave without something again. I felt fine running but had a horrible time "catching up" afterwards. Please know that neither thing "ruined" my experience. It was awesome and I will be back next year!
The way the buses were loaded in the morning, took way to long, we stood in line for almost an hour to get on a bus, then had 6 minutes when we arrived at the start line before the race began.
The way too early morning shuttle. Sitting in the cold for 1 hr before race.

The weather toward the end of the race.
The woman's technical shirts were too fitted. Not all female participants are skinny runners. Need to fit all body types.
The women shirt sizes were a bit small. A lot of women were not happy.
The women's shirts are cut small and I am always bummed out that I cannot wear them. I can fit into a large men's shirt comfortably, but the 2x in women's is too small. I don't like tight shirts. Wish there was a way I could order a unisex shirt.
The women's shirts ran VERY small, which is disappointing.
The Women's shirts seemed oddly sized (very small) this year.
The women's shirts were small! I normally wear a Large and this thing is skin tight, it fits my 4 year old niece.
The women's t shirt was too little:(
The women's large T-Shirt was on the small side.
The women's shirts seem to run small and short but I'm glad you offer the shirt exchange, I was able to get a size appropriate for me.
The XXL tech t-shirt they gave away was way too small. I don't know if they run small or it was made faulty. I wanted an official poster of the race like they had in the past, but they did not offer one. I was looking forward to the colorful boot mile markers that I read about past races. But they were replaced with the more common flag markers you see at just about every race now. But at least the mile were marked. No organized pre-load pasta dinner the evening before the race. Those are always nice and you meet a ton of people at those dinners. The expo was very crowded. Needed more elbow space. The electrical cords on the ground were exposed at the expo. They need to be covered so no one trips before the race.
There are not enough Porto potties in the first half for the 1/2 marathon. Spent 2 min 45 sec in one porta pottie stop in first half. In the second half there were no lineups but the first half needs more potties
There is nothing that stood out that needs changing. It was my 9th marathon and I loved it!
There isn't anything I didn't like.
There isn't anything I didn't like.
There needed to be a few more signs at the bus area. It was a little confusing if you didn't see the first signs for the 1/2 or whole marathon race buses. The t-shirt sizing was very disappointing. It would be nice if they were cut a little bigger so some more women could actually wear the woman's cut and not have to go with the men's t-shirt to get one that fit.
There seemed to be a lot of people that registered and didn't show up. That didn't seem fair to people who wanted to register but couldn't because it was capped.
There was no chocolate milk in the recovery area.
There was no energy packs available at mile 2.5 for the half marathon which they said there was which made planning difficult. We got to the parking garage at 4:45 and did not get on a bus until 5:40 which was stressful and did not give proper time to stretch by the time we got to the Start.
There was no pre-race dinner or entertainment. The Iron horse was a poor venue, too crowded, no seating poor menu for the money
There was no sign to indicate where to drop off gear bags at the race start
There was not anything that I did not like.
There was nothing I did not like.
There was nothing that I did not enjoy!
There was nothing to complain about. I loved the whole experience.
There was too much confusion at the start of the race. Too many runners were in the walker start area. I REALLY did not like the small shirt sizes!
There wasn't 1 thing I didn't like. :-)
There wasn't anything I specifically did not like.

There wasn't one thing that I didn't like.
There were less restroom/portalet available along the trail.
There were not enough portapotties easily found before catching the bus.
There were obvious signs that dogs were not allowed, but many people had dogs in the Pavilion area. It made me nervous as a runner that some fluke could happen--such as someone getting tripped by a dog leash, etc. Dogs SHOULD NOT be allowed in that area. I'm not sure how, but could it be enforced somehow?
There were several individuals on bikes riding along with different runners even in spots where there was a good deal of congestion,
This is just my opinion. That was the largest medal I ever received after running in 88 marathons. A little smaller medal would have suited me just fine.
This is not a dislike, just a concern from a first timer. Who gets stuck with clean-up of such things as cups etc.
This is nothing against the marathon, rather the town people of Missoula as their general lack of enthusiasm on the race route. Granted, I have ran almost every year and it is getting better, but considering the flavor of the city, could a contest for the most zany, funny uplifting or enthusiastic group be awarded? Maybe have all the non-profits compete and money would go towards their cause, so it is a donation back to Missoula.....
This is super picky and I wouldn't raise it if I could think of something else to gripe about, but I wasn't stoked on the gear bags. The knot on mine kept pulling through so it wouldn't stay on my shoulder. Definitely not a deal breaker and the fact that the gear bag is my biggest problem is pretty solid evidence that you guys run a hell of a race.
This may go with the next question also..... I was really looking forward to the Expo. We have been to many large events and love the expos. Was a little disappointed with the smallness of this one. Not a lot of booths and samples.
This survey
This was my 3rd year in the Missoula Marathon. As a walker I was terribly disappointed that we couldn't start at 5 before the runners. Previous years we were allowed to start one hour before the walkers and for the first 8 miles we were "ahead" and it was so wonderful to have the runners begin to pass us while in route....and also to be able to be welcomed by the crowds along the route...MOST of the day in years past walkers weren't alone....they were part of the action. This year, my energy level and interest was deflated to find our small group of walkers out on the route alone after the first 20 minutes all the runners were gone and it felt like a practice day instead of a race day.
This year's shirts were a bit disappointing. They were more fitted than in previous years and not as comfortable. Like the Logo on the shirts better than the horse-runners.
This year's t shirts were not so great ... The design was actually quite ugly but it was more in the sizing - they were cut smaller and shorter. My husband usually wears his to work out in but will not be wearing this one...it fits but is definitely smaller and shorter than previous years and others we have received in other races.
Thought you had to get to the start too early. Since out of town, would have preferred to be able to drive to the start and had "my support" with me, so wouldn't have had to be in the cold for over an hour! And wouldn't have had to leave so early.
Thru town section of course is a bit tedious.
Time to load the buses. No time to warm-up.
Time-frame for picking up packets too narrow--especially for people coming from out of town.
Too bad it was the same medal? Maybe that's the case at other marathons, but Missoula is the only one I have repeated? It's so trivial to the big picture.
Too few potties near the beginning of the race. I had to wait in line for over 5 minutes, maybe even 8 minutes, to use the restroom during the race. My run time is not stellar, but that is a pretty long wait.
Too few Potties at first part of race, too many at last part of race
Too long a distance between the first bathrooms for half marathon and 2nd bathrooms. After that bathrooms spaced well.
Too many non-runners on course with no etiquette. This cost me time and almost injury after months of training. Walkers need to heed to runners! They clog the course with no common sense.
Too many people at the start of the race. It was really hard to set your pace when you had to weave in & out of the

racers you were trying to pass.
Too much pavement. No dirt shoulder to run on. Rough on the knees.
Too much winding back and forth the last 4-5 miles, but the course had a good variety.
Tough one...but the shirts were too small for their size
Transport to race
Transportation made things stressful. Also, need more port-a-potties.
T-shirt design Wish there had been more music
Ugly t-shirts.
University of Montana exercise physiology department lied about the effect of altitude
Unless I somehow missed it, I thought there was going to be two stations on the half that had energy gels available. I planned the gels I brought according to that. I only saw the one station closer to the university.
Very disappointed in tech shirt. Loved the color and design but Got a medium and it was extremely small! Exchanged it for an extra-large and it is still small! Also, would have been nice to have oranges or something of the sort at about mile 22-23. You might have had them, but none left by the time stragglers like myself got there._____
Very long line for buses in the morning.
Very long lines to get the bus out to the half marathon.
Virtual Gear Bag...ugh. T-shirt does not fit (XXL is more like a large). Disappointed with crowd support...I expected more people in town.
Virtual goody bag was useless for us since we were only in town from Saturday 3 pm to Sunday noonish and from NYS. We were not able to use any of the coupons.
Waited in line way too long for buses.
Waiting 1/2 hour for a bus (it was a chilly morning) wasn't ideal, but I'm guessing this is inevitable for large events.
Waiting for the bus to start location
Waiting for the busses and not getting to the start until 5 min before start time.
Waking up super early for the race and I don't really like races on Sunday morning. I was in town on Friday and Saturday night and I would have preferred to run Saturday morning and then been able to relax and hang out with friends afterwards. As it was I ran the race and then had to drive all the way home (9 hours) to Portland on Sunday. Not really ideal, but I survived. While I disliked waking up so early for the race, I did like the early start time as I prefer running in cooler weather.
Walkers should be grouped together they slow you down. sorry.....
Wanted to drop down to 1/2 but was not able to.
Was told by mouth and it was in book handout on the map that there would be a gel at mile 2.4 of half marathon. Was very disappointed that it wasn't until mile 10. I was counting on it earlier. Had I known it was going to be so late in race I would have taken my own.
Water and nutritional stations were used up by the half marathoners. Some slower marathoners got warm water at a couple of water stations. I also did not like the food at the end of the race.
We arrived at 3:15 to register and found almost all the concessions closed and registration all but gone except for one helpful guy who also gave us his info book on shuttles, etc.This was really irritating -- until we realized we had forgotten the time zone change from Wa. OK, our dumb! But perhaps in your last marathon e-mail you might remind some of the slow folks from the west that registration closes at 3:00pm Wa. and Idaho time
We arrived to catch the half marathon bus at 5:40. The line already stretched around the block. It appeared busses had not been running, or at least not keeping up, for quite a while. We waited nearly an hour to get on a bus and arrived at the start just a couple minutes before the race began. The pickup seemed very disorganized.
We didn't get any safety pins to go along with our race bib. Otherwise everything was great.
We got held up at the second aid station on the half marathon course for 7 minutes to use the bathroom! 7 minutes! It killed our pace! More porta potties for the half marathoners! There are more than twice as many of us, keep that in mind please.

We really had a long wait for the bus.
We went to Johnny Carinos for dinner like we have before the race for the last several years and they were NOT prepared for the crowd they had (a 45 minute wait at 5 pm). Perhaps notifying local restaurants that serve pasta would be beneficial. Plus our hotel forgot to staff somebody to help with breakfast at 4 am like they did last year. This is of NO fault to the race directors but still left an impression on us and the race in general.
We were instructed that there would be no drop-offs by personal vehicles at the start of the half marathon. Rode the bus and saw a dedicated traffic lane for drop-offs, felt a little duped. Also had to wait 30+ minutes for a bus from downtown to the start of the half marathon. In 2012, there was no wait for the bus.
Well, it was a huge crowd, but it was handled so well, I can't complain about being in a mob of happy friendly people.
What I did not like and what others on the course mentioned when running was the bike sweepers shouting at us to keep to the left because the marathoners were coming in. This is a race. If the marathoner doesn't know how to race with people, then we have bigger problems. Made us half marathoners seem not as important and the streets are big enough for all of us. I remember this from 2011 as well.
What's not to like?
When it ended
When signing up it wasn't clear that we'd get women's sizes shirts and they ran very small but I did exchange with no problems.
Why were there no wheelers?
Wish I could have had more of the course in the area outside of town. I did the half, and much of the race was turns and not very nice area to run through. Would like to have looked at the hills and mountains more.
Wish it was not capped. At least let MT residents unlimited entries!
Wish that we didn't have to take a shuttle to the start.
Wish the staff would have been able to contact each other after the race.
wish there were more people cheering (especially near the end)
Wished volunteers (not volunteers at aid stations, but in between) were more enthusiastic.
With regard to the half marathon, I have no improvement comments. Good show, keep up the good work! This was the first year I ran the 5k. The course was excellent, race was coordinate well, and however I was quite surprised/disappointed that there were no water aid stations along the route. My 11yr old daughter suffered a bit on this race, as no water availability was a letdown. Please consider putting at least one aid station at mile 1.5 at the 2014 5k.
With the additional people this year, the busing to the start was very delayed and crowded. In previous years I could get there at that time, get right on a bus and get to the start. This year the line wrapped around the block ... we'll have to plan for earlier buses and earlier arrivals next year.
Women's shirt sizes ran small
Women's shirt sizes were far too small. They need to be more true to an actual women's size.
Women's shirts were a lot smaller than we thought they would be.
Women's tech shirts ran too small. I always order a size larger to accommodate this, but these shirts were even smaller than normal. It is a very nice shirt though and design is great.
Women's shirts were a bit short and sized wonky. Just a few more porta potties at the start line! Jeff Galloway's seminar was way too expensive~
Would have preferred to have been dropped at the start. Even though emails were adamant that the buses were mandatory, a drop off was allowed.
Would like parking at start so spouse doesn't need to get up so early. Start is too early, 6am is just unbearable, might prevent me from doing in the future. On the half marathon... should have more potties at the first few aid stations?
Would like the expo to be open later than 4PM.
Would like to see oranges sooner in the race or at least more than one person handing them out.

Would not stay at the host hotel again. The Doubletree was old, our room smelled bad and it was not as clean as it should have been. Next time I will stay elsewhere.
Wrong t-shirt in my packet at the pickup, did not notice at the expo, however I contacted the race staff & they said they would mail me the correct shirt. Did not like the "virtual" goody bag, would have preferred a few of the vouchers to have been paper and in the packet at the expo.
You didn't have as many vendors before race day.
You need to stick with a brand of shirts that are true to size every year we get different brands of shirts and they are never true to size. Stick with a women's size shirt and stay with it. Last year I got a women's small and it fit perfect this year I got a women's small and it fits my 10 yr old daughter!

What suggestions do you have to improve the Missoula Marathon?

Water station tables too short and congested ie trying to avoid line up at the first volunteer and go to the last volunteer still a line - one water station too close to right turn on the route and very close to running people over as you came around th
1. Fix the bus issue 2. Warn us if the race shirts run small! I hope I haven't been a big complainer. I have talked up your race to EVERYONE I know because I think it was just a fantastic race!
1. More bleachers at the finish line. When I got done with the run I wanted to watch my friends come across the finish line too, but there was nowhere to see them. I bet you could line the whole bridge with bleachers and people would fill them. 2. Also maybe cots in the runner's area. Somewhere to just lie down for a minute. I was up at 3:30 and didn't sleep a lot the night before. So needless to say I was tired. I think that if I had a moment to rest I might stay longer. 3. Have more signs along the course letting nonnatives know what to look for. Such as the osprey nest by kona ranch rd. bridge. Or when you are cresting the hill to look over at the river. Maybe some facts about the river or something. Maybe something talking about the age of Mclays bridge. Not everyone is running so fast they can't read signs. 4. Have a table with a marker right by the shirts so they can mark their number on their bag right away.
1) Add a section somewhere out of town and trim off the serpentine route on city streets around mile 24. 2) Start 1/2 hour earlier -- we got lucky with the heat this year. 3) Allow personal shuttles (no local parking if you prefer) for drop-offs in Frenchtown. 4) Make the starting chute more spacious -- it was a bit congested.
1) Fewer turns 2) Make sure aid station is logically placed on side of road that runners are likely to use. I think the 2nd Bonner Park aid station was the most obvious misplacement. Also aid station at HM/FM convergence seemed to close to the corner.
1) Have at every aid station at least 2 toilets 2) find better fitting technical shirts 3) maybe smaller/lighter medals
1) See above 2) Would like to have the 5K and Marathon medal a bit more unique from each other. 3) Green for shirts is yucky. Blue, black, red or white make most people look better than green.
530am start
7:00 am start
7:00 start time.
A better pre-race start.
A better tech shirt color. Everything else is superior to every other marathon.
A few more busses in the morning would have been better.
A few more port a potties on the half course at the beginning few miles .. That's where everyone stops and were lines !!
A few more toilets on the course. I would show a map on your website of Missoula.
A little more room at the expo. It was a little crowded in the tent this year
A little route tweaking? See above suggestion. Thanks for everyone who set it up. It was a great weekend. My brother and his family from California are coming next year, and hopefully my sister and her family will come out from the DC area, too.

A wave start at the 1/2 marathon. Transportation - I had a few people suggest The City Bus do a pick up at various hotels on the Sunday morning prior to the race to bring participants down to the bus pick up. This might alleviate parking issues downtown on the morning of the race. Would love to see an even Bigger expo!
Above Pat yourselves on the back. You are doing a great job!!
Absolutely need more port a potties during the early aid stations of the marathon. There were two or three and I ended up having to wait 5 minutes to use one.
Actually glad I'm not on a committee to improve this race. The only thing I would add is coffee at the start line.
Add 2 additional porta-potties at each place where you already had one in the marathon for the first 16 miles (until they meet up with the half)
Add a shirt size chart to the registration.
Add gel blocks in addition to the gel packs.
Add local information into the event booklet.
Add potties at the first 2-3 aid stations.
Add restrooms and we are good!
Additional portapotties at the first two rests on the 1/2 course.
Additional speakers or band at south end of bridge so spectators can hear times and names. Metals were very big, not necessary if closely. Make sure shirt sizes match the normal sizes you would think they would be. Clocks around the routes with pacing times.
Addressed above- I loved this experience!
Again, keep doing what you are doing--but keep the cap limit on the number of runners you can safely support. Way to go Missoula and Anders Booker staff!
Again, make it all happen at Caras park afterwards. Food, beer, music, and anything else.
Aid station at mile 23 needs to spread out so that you have time to get your gel, open it, and consume it then get some water. They are so close together you would have to stop to accomplish this. Everything else was great.
Aid station with electrolyte pills right after the tough hill.
All marathons give out short sleeve shirts - Missoula is obviously different, I'm surprised they also do short sleeve shirts. I'd think they'd do something different.
Allow drop off close to the start line.
Allow drop offs in the morning.
Allow drop offs or more/alternative bus locations. Better shirts and bigger expo
Allow drop off at start -will do it anyway if "allowed" or not
Allow for both buses and a designated area for drop off.
Allow more runners in the Marathon.
Allow non-shuttle drop-offs.
Allow people to be dropped off at the start. Otherwise, fantastic race!!!!
Allow people to switch events even if you have to charge extra.
Although I know it's difficult to manage- it would be nice if walkers were either made to start after runners or were somehow forced to stay to the right at the beginning. Because the start is a little congested, it was hard as a runner to zig zag around all of the walkers that were in the middle of the course and were starting ahead of runners.
An actual "beer garden" where people could hang out afterwards. Especially those waiting for others to finish. More food available for purchase.
An app would be fun, but not necessary.
Another block or so used to load the busses. Perhaps utilize both sides of the street.
Another race I did they had chocolate milk at the end. That was the best thing I have ever tasted after running. I was looking forward to it on this one but there wasn't any. It had lots of protein in it and it was the most satisfying.

As someone from Missoula who has done the race before, I would love it if the course could go along the river. I know that trail is narrow, but it would be a beautiful view of our city.
As to the bus only system - it could be possible to load up to five busses at a time even with the number of volunteers you had for this year since at about 5:30 a.m. that is what happened - without incident. This way not so much stress on the runners/walkers looking at a line wrapping around a building and fearing they won't make the start even though they got up at 4 a.m.
Aside from a warning about how the technical T's are sized-not a thing!
At least have a coordinated spot for locals to be dropped off at start which would help with the long bus lines. We stood in line for 38 minutes before getting on a bus.
At the expo: Marathon pins, shot glasses, and coffee mugs.
At the finish line please consider speakers facing north.
Baby wipes at after tent on front street so you can wipe salt from face and sweat out of eyes. At Cafe Dolce aid station Gu, gummy bears and oranges offered--too much all at once. Move oranges to Bonner or Paxson after hot non shaded area. I couldn't do both Gu and oranges at same time. After my race I handed out orange slices on Burlington from my house and runners were very thankful. Didn't like the food trucks on Higgins bridge. Coming into the finish smelling greasy food cooking made me feel nauseated.
Besides the beer you guys are awesome.
Best event I have participated in to date.
Better awards - more contrast between bib colors - assign bib numbers by time
Better gear bags next time.
Better half course Small shirts for women were pretty small, could not exchange for a med, as none were left.
Better idea for were to park your car when going downtown for the marathon
Better instructions at the end for the first aid tent/food. It was just kind of a cluster.
Better maps of the hotel options, Expo, start/finish placed on line well before the race. Don't offer an x-small ladies shirt if it is the size of a kid's shirt or at least let me exchange it at the Expo (I will never wear the shirt as a result).
Better marked parking areas. The police officer told us that since the parking ramp was full all parking was free. We found an area, but it was marked that cars would be towed. We didn't know if this was true, or if it was an "every day sign." Anyway, a sign saying "free event parking" in the various areas would have been helpful. Also, I think this is universal, that the comfort stations cannot provide ibuprofen. By mile marker 2 I had strained a muscle and needed some ibuprofen badly. An elderly couple in their yard gave me some at about marker 5. It was my own fault for not bringing it. Even at the medical assistance tent at the end of the race I was told there was no ibuprofen ... I needed another dose at that time.
Better Missoula Marathon items for sale at trade show. Didn't have 1 item in a men's XL I was interested in buying. Lots of ladies stuff.
Better organization of the pickup, or increased number of busses, or both.
Better organized parking and transport to start line.
Better quality shirt.
Better shirt colors, and more accurate sizing.
BETTER SHIRTS, BETTER COLORS, THE MATERIAL IS GREAT EVEN THE BRAND, COLORS ARE OK
Better shirts. Maybe a few more toilets opposite the water station markers.
Better shirts. Maybe a cotton finisher shirt.
Better shwag (ie. virtual goody bag was pretty worthless), have the water after the gatorade! Anders told us it was going to be this way (gatorade first, water second), so I'm not sure if it was supposed to be and was a mistake (?).
Better sizing on women's shirts.
Better sound system
Better staggered start for the half marathon. Too many walkers starting ahead of runners
better t shirt design, get more in gear bag, add gel stations along 1/2 marathon course

Better variety of protein sources after running
Better water stations Start busing earlier
Bigger map for spectators to view. Driving directions to all critical locations. Wider running lane and tips for preventing road rage (don't run in front of ppl then stop, don't run three or four abreast, discourage loud timer beeps.).
Bigger t-shirts Start the buses a little earlier or have more to get people there before the race starts.
Blacklist the Inn on Broadway!!!
Bravo!
Bus leaving later, or having a heated tent for marathoners to be in waiting for the start, especially when cold out. Or having a building open we could wait in out of the weather. Going thru more downtown area.
Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus, Bus
Buses at different locations. Maybe use the High School parking lots & bus from there also.
Busing to start location
Busses need to have a second person counting off the number of people as they board to ensure full busses. Expo open until 5pm would be nice.
Busses need to loaded at least 4 at a time and more busses available
Can you change the route? Provide more gu?
Can't think of any---thanks so much!
Can't think of any.
Can't think of any.
Can't think of any.
Can't think of any.
Can't think of anything
Can't think of anything - it was perfect!!
Can't think of anything aside from the cost. It's a little difficult for a hard-working family of 5.
Can't think of anything.
Can't think of anything.
Can't think of anything. It was perfect!
Can't think of anything. This was my fourth marathon and I've run a number of other shorter distance road races as well. With the exception of Bloomsday, the Missoula Marathon is the best race I've run.
Capping participation.
Change bus system.
Change shirt brand to a truer fit, or warn us it runs small when registering. Other than that, the important stuff (directions, parking, support, on-course water, Gatorade and potties) was great. I loved the size of the race and that the town could accommodate us all.
Change shirt keep up the good work
Change the course or starting time, or educate walkers, so that 1/2 marathon walkers do not interfere with marathon runners. Improve the course- break up long straight sections (4th Street and 7th Street). Consider not going out to South Ave, but rather just going around Bonner Park. Instead of gels at mile 23, have a gel station on the marathon only course, like at mile 10 or something.
Change the day from Sunday to Saturday.
Cheaper price for kids who run
Chocolate milk at the finish would be greatly appreciated.
Chocolate milk would be great at the finish!!
Choose a different color for the race T-shirt - kind of an odd pick.
Clock at the starting area (maybe there was one and I didn't see it). Better instructions before the start?
Competitive timing seemed to have a problem.

Concessions for runners under the bridge. I love a burger after a run. Not so fond of the stairs. Other than that a good show
Continue whatever you are doing! It's an amazing event!
Correct sizing on women's shirts.
Could have more actual medical stations. It was nice to see the medical on bikes.
Could the race packet be mailed to those who want it? i would be willing to pay for postage and handling up to \$10 to have this option. i have run this race several times and on more than one occasion I had to make 2 trips to Missoula on the same day as we were not planning on arriving to Missoula late. normally we stay in Hamilton until the night of the race
Crazy I know but would like to start at 5 am. It would be awesome to see sunrise and cooler for us slow pokes.
Create a way to drop off participants without clogging traffic.
Delay the start time by one hour.
Design a course that includes the river trail. Go back to swag bags. Have a jam packed expo. Make sure you get sample shirts in from the company you are ordering and try them on.
Ditto above.
Do it again! I thought it was wonderful!
do not have any ---Kudos
Do not permit runners pushing strollers. It might be cute, but it is not safe for the other runners.
Don't become too big. You might lose the «small town» feel of your marathon, which is what made me select it to begin with. I don't want to run big marathons like New York, Chicago or Washington as they don't cater to the runners the way smaller marathons do. It gives you the sense, at a smaller marathon, that you are part of a great family, among friends, not just some stranger. I loved the friendliness of the locals. Amazing people! Thanks for such a good time! (-:
Don't change a thing
Don't change a thing!
Don't change a thing.
Don't let it get too large.
Don't make the medals bigger and bigger. It's not better. They just get heavy and too heavy to carry/store. I think my favorite (of the 7) is the third year - nice looking and not huge. However, anything is better than the year (4) of the "scary runner dude".
Don't run out of beer. Gluten free beer for Celiacs?
Don't take away any porta potties next year. I might suggest that you might get even more volunteers by advertising the cool shirt and party they get. That was a really nice shirt this year, and, being shallow and superficial, I wanted to volunteer just for that. I also think that some of the cheering groups along the way should qualify for a prize they worked so hard. Also, if it isn't a huge deal, those misting machines could be set up along the course.
Don't raise the cap on entrants.
Drink cups need to have less fluid in them, there was too much to drink. It would be cool if there was more race side entertainment. It would be nice if there were the gels at mile 7 or 8 for the half marathon participants. I also didn't like how it was hard to get to the fan side of the bridge to cheer on the other runners.
Drop at start line for half marathon.
During the bus loading - there were several empty buses waiting in line as the line of runners waiting to board wrapped around the entire block plus some... - if there were more than one loading position it could be more efficient. At the end of the loading period they actually began to load the buses more than one at a time & the line started to move very quickly.
Earlier bus times. 5:15 last bus was too late.
Easier transport to the start.
Either allow some parking at the start of the half marathon or figure out a way to shuttle people out to the course faster (more busses or better coordination) because people shouldn't have to wait for a shuttle for over 45 minutes at 5 am.

<p>Either bring back the early start, or make sure things stay open and stocked for the back of the pack. I passed so many people in the last 10 miles, so I know that other people behind me experienced the same thing I did, or worse. A gluten free option for the free beer would be SUPER awesome, too. But I can live without it. :) Also, please don't make the medals any heavier. I love my medal, but wow was it heavy on my neck.</p>
<p>Either train the half-marathon walkers to walk on one side of the road (so those of use finishing the full don't have to weave all over the place around them) OR make the half-marathon and full marathon completely separate routes</p>
<p>Eliminate the beer run and alcohol at the finish.</p>
<p>Encourage all nearby motels to grant "late" checkout on marathon day. Mine was 10 A.M. and only changed reluctantly.</p>
<p>Everything seemed organized and timely!</p>
<p>Expand the registration if you can. I had some friends that wanted to run but did not register in time. And the shirt thing that I mentioned above, give us a heads up on any sizing idiosyncrasies.</p>
<p>extend the cheaper entry fee out</p>
<p>Extended packet pickup (but I understand why you did it the way you did...)</p>
<p>Fantastic event. It would be nice to have a little music along the course, but I understand it may be tough since it's an early start and neighbors may not appreciate the noise. Well done, organizers!!</p>
<p>Figure out a better shuttle system. Permit (encourage?) drop-offs at the start.</p>
<p>Figure out a way for locals to drop off participants within walking distance of the start.</p>
<p>Figure out accurate sizing for the t-shirts, keep the logo simple, and choose a decent color. Also, put some stuff in the gear bags! Other than that, it's a great event - I plan to do it every year! Forever and ever!</p>
<p>Figure out how to get people on the buses faster and don't lie and say that drop offs aren't allowed when they clearly were.</p>
<p>Figure out how to get this many people to the start of the race.....</p>
<p>Find a few more local or state companies to show support of the race in the runners expo. We enjoyed the vendors for Ruby's lube, Omnibar and the Roo pouch! Wished there was some presence of the vendors that participated in the virtual race gear bags. In particular, would have liked to have seen The Silver Maple company. Purely because while running is a vigorous sport, there is calm and peace from the practice of yoga to balance that. The Silver Maple company does more than just running jewelry. There was a large area dedicated to women and fitness under the expo tent that could have been better utilized for more like-minded vendors. Or better promotional signage for their company? For their presence to be so large at marathon, it was just odd to be there with no direct point. Since the largest sponsorship was coming from Cliff, we expected there to be a few more opportunities to try other flavors; in our gear bag, at the expo, on the course or in the recovery tent post-race. We saw little presence on the course, save for one station toward the end or possibly did not know there were other opportunities to grab a gel or shock block from previous stops. The two flavors in the recovery tent seemed like the "leftovers", white chocolate macadamia and the mint chocolate chip. A final suggestion, since this marathon is clearly popular, having all the vendors under one tent and race information under their own tent would be helpful. The volunteers were wonderful, gracious and plentiful to help guide on us from one area to another, but having it all corralled under one area would be nice. Four of us who were running the marathon, commented that we felt like we were in a cattle call. Bouncing from place to place, while randomly sidestepping others who were doing the same: pick up gear bag, write number on gear bag, activate timing chip, check out the swag, and visit the vendors. It just felt like controlled chaos. Better signage up above the crowds maybe? Instead of at shoulder height or on table fronts.</p>
<p>Find a more efficient way to get people filled into the buses for the half. Other than that, superb job!!</p>
<p>Find a more scenic route and different parking options</p>
<p>Find some way to have a local drop off/short shuttle in Frenchtown to alleviate some of the Missoula downtown congestion? Sounds impossible really to fix this issue.</p>
<p>Find someone to do a live performance of the national anthem. With so much talent in this town, there must be a local university or high school music student who would love to sing at the start of the race.</p>
<p>Finisher socks that could be handed out at the bag pick up? or socks instead of t-shirts. More clothing for sale at the expo, people were buying tons of clothes.</p>

Fireworks at the start--Given increased security concerns; I suggest not having fireworks at the start. Besides jumpiness at loud explosions, I couldn't tell when the actual start gun went off. Chip removal at the end--I need to be able to walk at the finish before coming to a complete stop. Having to completely stop at right at the finish to take chips off is challenging. Suggest moving this further away. Food and gear pickup--This year's food tables got backed up pretty quickly. Suggest spreading this out more. Gear bag pick up worked well. Buses--Bus lines generally moved well, however there were times when three buses were ready to load, but only one was loading at a time--suggest a lineup system that allows multiple buses to load at once.
Fix bus situation. Perhaps only bus full to start (but still need more busses) and have the half start and finish downtown. Get more beer sponsors to provide more complimentary beer at finish.
Fix the parking issue at bus pickup, don't like walking 2 miles after running marathon
Flatten the hill. Just kidding. This was the best of 8 marathons that I have done. So well organized. I received so much personal attention just when I needed it.
Foil blankets would be good. I don't think the medals were needed.
Food at bus pick up and better organized not sure what happened this year but it was kind of a mess!!
Food options at aid stations other than just gels. Like banana, oranges, pretzels, etc.
For the half marathon, I wish there was an aid station prior to the first one. It was rough to wait that long for hydration.
For the half marathon, somehow lengthen the portion in the blue mountain area and cut down on the amount of running through the neighborhoods.
For the virtual goody bag it would be nice to have some offers that can be used nationwide as well as for local establishments. Since many participants travel long distances for this race, it would be good to have offers that can be used when you return home.
For this being my first Missoula Marathon run, I feel that you have set the bar high on my standards for how a race should be coordinated and operated. I don't feel there is an improvement that needs to be said to this race, I think that other races around the state need to take a serious look this race and take as much from it as they can. It truly begins and ends with the staff and I want to say thank you to all the people who were there helping make this race so great from beginning to end.
Free massages? Have cliff bars and Gatorade inside the gear bag.
Gear bags like the 2012 race.
Get a new retailer for the shirts! The women's appeared to be youth sizes. Move the food vendors off the bridge. Make adjustments the shuttle busses so half marathon runners don't wait in line for 45 minutes.
Get more of the neighborhoods involved. Could there be a contest/award for most supportive/enthusiastic block or neighborhood? Best/funniest/etc. motivational signs? Costumes or themes?
Get rid of that mountain. JUST KIDDING! I think it is a great route and the hill was very cool.
Get rid of the band, or move them to Bonner park.
Get shirts that fit standard sizes. Figure out a way to truly separate the walkers and the runners at the start line.
Given the small area in Frenchtown, I'm sure it's been considered and rejected, but I would try to come up with a drop off area for runners to get their own rides to the start line.
God bless the volunteers things happen just remind them we are competitors and in the heat of battle we are not always pleasant people. Sorry if I seemed pissed because I was.
Gosh, everything was just about perfect! Thank you! George Ted Hobart Bib# 386
Great event -- not sure what to improve! Maybe the course could include a part by the university? It seemed strange to be in a college town and not see the university.
Great Job!
Great race!
Great work! I thought it was very well organized from start to finish!
Gu option rather than Clif Shots?

Hard to improve what is successful!
Have a different race or course for run walkers. I'm pretty slow, but they suck!
Have a drop off point at the start for people without gear,
Have a runner drop off at the start line
Have a second bus pick-up location for people who live on the south side of town / bitterroot. Bitterroot residents had to drive right past the half marathon start go all the way down town and then wait in line for a bus. It would have had been great if there was a second location for example Walmart on Brooks
Have a water stop and food available after the 5k event.
Have goodie bags. The virtual idea is horrible!
Have it start later. If it's too hot, move it to a different time of year.
Have more buses next year
Have more vendors. Was looking for a sticker to put in the window saying Totally crazy 26.2. What do you think about putting the city name on the magnetic stickers for those who are collecting for all 50 states or collecting just because?
Have people boarding multiple busses at once with a volunteer that knows how many fit and just counting them off and getting the busses moving.
Have some feed at either 6 or 7 miles for the half.
Have some gu/hammer gel/power gel at every aid station (or at least more frequent).
Have the free beer ready earlier!
Have the GU packets available at maybe mile 7 or 8, earlier than they were available. (talking about the half marathon)
Have the shirts a better color - not Bobcat colors! I wasn't crazy about the logo on the shirts either. Not sure where the horse theme comes into a running race. I don't think of Missoula as a horse town (again it seems more like Bozeman!). I would rather see Griz colors and something more fitting to the Missoula area such as the rivers or the "M". I thought the award trophies were a bit hokey. Sorry but I guess you want feedback.
Have the shuttle to the start be optional.
Have training classes offered on Saturday also!
Have visible signage for the "information" table. Had a hard time finding it.
Have waves at the start of the race (half marathon specifically)...I spent a good 8 minutes weaving my way through very slow runners and was somewhat frustrated.
Heat tents.
Heaters at the start! :)
Hi - I deferred until next year, so technically I didn't do the run. I volunteered at an aid station instead (which was ridiculously fun!), and I'm filling out this survey to issue this comment: I live on the race course, and walking my dog this morning (Tuesday after the race), I noticed quite a few of those little gel packets littering the street. We don't live particularly close to any aid station that was dispensing them, so I imagine there are many more scattered about town. Since marathon-based trash is super recognizable, it might be wise to have a few volunteers do a trash sweep at the end. :)
Hmm. Since you can't fix the altitude I can't think of anything.
Hmmm....maybe have the packet pickup go to 6pm for those of us who drive a ways.
Honestly, if I could think of one aid would tell you. tell you. I will be back for #6 next year.
I am not sure....maybe having space to cool down instead of coming to a complete stop after the race.
I appreciated the buses to the start and having my car available at the finish. I know some locals that did not and think that maybe if they understood the reasoning and logistics, they'd appreciate that arrangement as well. Also, I saw a LOT of cars being towed from Caras Park. I know I'd hate to finish 26.2 miles only to find that my car was impounded! Therefore, I recommend warning everyone NOT to park there in advance.
I can't imagine the event being better honestly, unless you clone your volunteers...
I can't think of any. I was amazed how organized everything was and how smoothly everything ran.
I can't think of anything now.
I cannot think of anything that would make it a more positive experience.

I do not do well with the gels that are over 2-3 gm of sugar, so I cannot use the ones that are often provided on the course. This leads me to having to carry everything. I also like the variety of some solid food on the course. I did notice there had been oranges at one of the aid stations, but they were gone when I came through. Overall it was a great experience and my husband and I look forward to visiting again.
I do wish you had live music. I do Austin (TX) regularly in Feb., and it's so much fun to have the music and drumming along the way; it's a great energy-booster as the mileage gets long. Missoula has some great bands.....how about putting some on the route?
I don't have any suggestions. I think you do an amazing job! I will definitely be back to run again. Thank you for all the hard work you do to make this a great event.
I don't have anything to comment on here.
I don't remember if there is a size chart for shirts when you register but I think if you add one including the length that will help people gauge the right size.
I don't usually eat after the marathon, but...by the time I finished (6 hours & 40 minutes) there were only bananas and oranges and some pasta salad.
I enjoy this race. Hard to pin point how to make it better. Everyone is committed to making it a great event. Well, maybe two free beers after the race.
I got in too late to do the beer run. :(Maybe they could do one at two times? 6pm and 7pm??? Just nit-picking.
I had enough time, but I heard a lot of people say there were not enough buses in the morning. It sounded like it was a combination of people not planning to get to the buses early enough and not enough buses.
I hadn't realized that the gear bag drop off was at the start line (I thought it was just at the bus loading zone in downtown), so I didn't have any extra layers with me at the start, which was rather cool. Perhaps a clearer indication of the gear bag drop off locations would be more helpful in the future. (Disregard this if you were actually quite clear and I had no idea.) Otherwise, you all did a fantastic job!!
I have been running for many years and participated in a lot of races and the Missoula race ranks as one of my best experiences.
I have no recommendations, it was so well ran and such a great weekend!
I have no suggestions at this time.
I have ran over forty 1/2 marathons, and this one is in my top 3!!! Keep it small!
I honestly don't have any. It was great.
I hope next year's expo can be bigger, like it was last year. I would like to know in advance how small the race shirts will be so I can estimate my size appropriately when I register
I hope you are able to expend the number of participants next year. Make the start chute lager and make sure the pacers spread out more so that the participants do too.
I know that some people complained about the lines for buses. I was OK with it, but perhaps looking at loading buses in more locations might make sense?
I liked it just as it is. You could always make the airline fares cheaper! (JOKE)
I liked the sign up on the net for volunteers. However, I knew people who wanted to volunteer and said there was nothing to sign up for and yet Missoula Marathon kept putting out requests for volunteers. And when I talked to one of the Course directors for the event I was told that they could have used more people. Maybe some way to contact the specific course directors directly even through email?
I loved it. Thank you.
I loved that you had ample porta potties this year as compared to previous years. I'd like to be a little more well rested for this race- perhaps allow folks to drop off at the start line so we don't have to wake up at 4am? This is my 4th year running this race and it is one of my favorites EVER! Thanks for all you do to make this a successful race and a fun weekend.
I loved the color of the shirts. I would suggest ordering a few samples to make sure the sizes are true and if not then make participants aware of it.
I loved the tracking apps for friends and family, but the Facebook one had some confusing wordage. It used "segment" which I think a lot of people misunderstood, perhaps change that to a range, i.e. start to 6.2, 6.2 to 13.1(halfway), 13.1 to

20 mi., and last 10k
I might have missed the information, but I feel like people should have a better idea of what kind of medical help to expect at Aid Stations. I think my running partners would have tucked some Ibuprofen in their sports bras had they known they couldn't get any on the course.
I missed the theme signs along the way (last year was code of the west sayings)
I participate in the half marathon and feel that the route is great EXCEPT for the part where you are by Bonner Park - within a few miles of the finish line - and have to turn away from the finish line to cut over to South Ave and then turn back. It would be much better to re-route those blocks if there is any way to do so. Perhaps something around campus. It would be nice to have another option for the shirts - I never work out in a t-shirt because I can't stand to have sleeves while sweating. A tank top option would be nice - surely there would be a way to still include the sponsor names on the back of a tank top. One last thing - the medals are really over the top. Who in their right mind would do anything with that? Something smaller and less Flava Flav would be nice. If it were something that somebody might actually wear throughout the year it would be great advertising for the event.....
I personally do not care if I get a medal. I would suggest it be optional, save a few dollars for you. For me, the shirt or something that I can use is more worthwhile; leave the medals for the folks who place. This was my first 1/2 marathon, it was very fun, I did not expect to have this much fun. THANKS
I probably would have used more downtown business coupons had they been in gear bags...restaurants and bars specifically...dollar off a drink or 10% off dinner.
I ran the marathon. Finishing with the half-marathon walkers was a bit of a chore dodging in and out of them. Maybe have them finish on a different route? Or have them start earlier?
I realize this was the first year that people weren't allowed to get dropped off, but the bus situation was ridiculous. We arrived at the bus line up at 4:50AM and didn't arrive at the start line until 5:57AM. I would say the majority of people, at least for the half-marathon, are going to try and catch the 5 - 5:15AM buses because there really isn't any need to wait around longer than 30 minutes for the race to start unless you're one of the elite runners. Everyone had the same idea and there just weren't enough movement/buses to get us there at a reasonable time. In the past we've literally walked right up to a bus and gotten on.
I spent the Saturday before the marathon on Flathead Indian Reservation -- my friend and I visited St. Ignatius, the Bison Range, and the People's Center. We learned about these places on-line (neither of us are from MT). We're both into sustainable travel that supports small businesses and communities, so these activities were important to us. (This is also why the virtual goody bag is AWESOME -- saved paper and supported small businesses!) I would encourage you to promote these places on the marathon website, to show that there are lots to do and to have more of a regional economic impact.
I suggest having several places for bus pickup, such as Dornblazer, the university, or somewhere on the South Hills side of town. This would help with parking and shortening the line. Also, instead of loading one bus at a time, loading more would have sped up the process (which they had started doing by the time my friend and I got on the bus).
I talked to Eva and like the Bank Run, I think it would be a hoot to do a mar-fecta. Or Mo-fecta, or Soul-fecta. In example, register for the Beer run, the 5 K and then either the half or the full and you get something.... I would definitely think that would be a great idea.
I think all drinks should be non-sugar free.
I think everything was great; this was my first half marathon so I don't really have much suggestions. I was very impressed with everything.
I think for the Half, you should consider a point where locals can be dropped off by family if they desire. And/OR you should have more than one place to catch the buses. Somewhere south of the race, i.e. Lolo and maybe another location like the Southgate Mall? It just didn't make sense that someone from say Hamilton, would have to drive past the start and all the way downtown and then get on a bus. You should have people choose an option to get to the start when they complete their registration.
I think it is very well done.
I think it was fantastic. I think the cap was a good idea...slowly grow the race, as it is currently contained and I think you did a great job!

I think it would be fun to have some prizes like "most improved" for those of us who have no hope of finishing near the top.
I think there should have been at least 2 shuttle locations. Downtown and I think there should have been one on the west side of town - what comes to mind was at the old KMART area, there was a huge area for cars so not everyone would have converged on downtown at once.
I think you all did a great job, loved having so many water stations! Loved the mile markers!! I really think you did a great job and I most definitely will come back.
I think you can open it to more people but keep it manageable. I hate to say this but I would pay twice as much money (in entry fees) to participate in this race (and I would convince others that it is well worth it). THANK YOU!! (Todd Vanek, Colfax, WA)
I think you need two separate city blocks with two separate lines for the half marathon buses. Maybe you should take over the Mountain Line bus station as well? It isn't like the city bus line needs the station at 5am on a Sunday. Just so that you can make three total lines- one for the marathon, and then two for the half. That'd make the 5am enormous line for the half much more manageable, but the parking would still be right by the finish line. You could even suggest that you'd prefer everyone with half marathon bib 0-1700 go to Mountain Line Station, and 1701-3500 goes to Main Street. Or something. Just so most people divided up in a sensible manner.
I think you should ask everyone who wears a jacket to ditch it after 15 minutes into the run and make it one that the runner wants to donate to a cause!
I think you're doing a great job!
I thought it was great.
I want to emphasize that, overall, the Missoula Marathon was well organized and enjoyable. I loved the first 2 miles of the half-marathon course. After that, the course was nothing special until the end. I'm sure you will address the shuttle issue.
I was worried when I saw the line around the entire block to catch the shuttle for the half marathon starting line at 4:45. The lines moved fast and it seems like everyone made it to the event before the start. I think the event coordinators handled this very well, but it could be a problem in the future. Otherwise this was an extremely well planned event.
I wish there was a way to get there in time and not freeze waiting for the race to begin!
I would add a disclaimer when you sign up for the race stating that the shirt sizes tend to run, at minimum, one size smaller than what you would normally wear. That seems to be the one snag the past couple of years is that a lot of participants want to exchange their sizes for a larger size.
I would be careful about growing too big. Not sure that a larger race would be better. There are limited hotel choices in the area and they all filled up. I can't recall if rooms at the University were an option but if the race does continue to grow, leveraging the housing at the university might be an option (they do this in Duluth for Grandma's Marathon). I don't think that Missoula has the best restaurants (though the beer was pretty good and I don't like beer). We ate a lot of burgers, not our typical food choice. Maybe more information for visitors like us to know where to eat.
I would have put the Cliff-gels up a little sooner. First one was at 11 miles and most would need something before that. Last one was 23 miles and that's too close to the finish to be really effective. so if you moved it up say by 5 miles then it may have been more effective. But that's a really minor point in an overall really enjoyable event!
I would have ridden my bike or walked if that option would have been offered
I would have signed up for the 5K had it not been at the same time as the start of the Expo. I'm a schwag slut and I know how fast the good stuff sells out at marathons. I would recommend starting the 5K at 8am and the Expo at 9am next year. I think you'll sell out the 5K if you do that next year! I can't remember, did you advertise the 5K as a run/walk or just a run? Add walk to the title if you didn't and sell it as a family run.
I would like to continue to see the race grow. This is such an awesome event for Missoula, and, as a resident, I want this to be a marquee attraction for our town.
I would like to see a catered past dinner at Caras park with entertainment for folks to meet.
I would like to see more involvement with the neighborhoods in the middle of the race. The first three miles are so scenic and then there is a "thud" after the bridge where I have no real memory or the half Marathon, then crossing third street the energy really picks up and propels the runners through the final miles.
I would love a variety in shirts - which might not be possible. But I find that I prefer technical tanks or long sleeves to short sleeves.

I would prefer a later start time, but I realize that many people would probably not agree. Also, I would have liked at least 2 gel stations for the half.
I would prefer a long sleeve cotton tee
I would suggest having walkers or runners start earlier or later -- it was very difficult to work around people who were going much slower.
I wouldn't mind some 1/4 and 1/2 mile left signs at the last mile when I was almost there, but the 3 turns left were good too! Next year hopefully I'll be more prepared; I didn't know I was going until June 9th! It's always been a money issue for me, and I didn't find someone willing to go with me until June! Loved it, loved it loved it, have wanted to do this since the first one!
I'd really like to see the walkers be able to start at 5am instead of the same time as the runner. Thanks for all your hard work, dedication and organization to make Missoula the best marathon in the country!!
I'll leave it to the experts.
I'm an early bird and I'd love an earlier start! I got hot at the end.
I'm not sure if this is something that can be done, but my running partner and I discussed a program similar to that of "Couchsurfing" and "Warm Showers" specifically for marathon runners. Maybe folks in and around Missoula could offer a space in their home to visiting marathoners in exchange for good conversation, a meal, a presentation, whatever. It would be a good way for folks from out of town to get to know locals in Missoula as well as meet people. Especially with a sport like running, the more comfortable we are with strangers, the more we get out of an event like this.
I'm not sure what you can do about that early part being kind of boring. The few spectators that came out were most appreciated since it was 6am on a Sunday! The Big Flat and final 10miles made up for the first part. I heard some comments about the bus situation not being ideal for the half (however for the full I DO consider it ideal. Great job with this race!
I'm really reaching here...a few friends who walked the marathon wish they could have started at 5am.
I'm sure you guys are already thinking about this....but somehow being able to ensure the runners being bused get there when the race starts. I remember about 5 minutes before the start the announcer said the last bus was leaving from downtown. Yikes! Glad that wasn't me!
I'm thinking about (mostly) walking the full marathon, but the finish line would have to stay open longer. If it was open for 9 hours instead of 8.5, I think I might be able to make it. And this might be a very rookie observation, but I think I would have liked to be able to sit down in a chair for 5 minutes or so at one aid station. Just long enough to adjust my shoes, etc. I was afraid if I sat on the ground, I wouldn't be able to get back up!
I've enjoyed 25+ years as a runner, getting my start as a HKXC runner. When I ran for the Knights in the 80's I always wanted to see more running event opportunities in Missoula. I'm very pleased that the Missoula Marathon event is taking hold. I love running, and love running in Missoula even more! Keep up the excellent event organization and communication that you've demonstrated thus far. Although I've been happy with the existing race course routes, consider a careful investigation into alternate courses that would take runners through different parts of Missoula. Again, good show, and great work to the whole event team. I will be back for many half marathons & 5ks to come, perhaps another marathon even! Scott Orr, Lafayette IN.
I've run large marathons and half marathons and when you over 2,000 participants you should consider corralling people or setting them up into timed groups. For example, I was in line for the bus at 5am, our bus didn't get to the race start until 5:54am. I only had six minutes to get to the bathroom and to the race start. With the long bathroom lines, I didn't get to the race start until 2 minutes past the official race start. Even then I had to run past 150-200 people to get out of the cluster. There were people walking already. Walkers need to be at the very end of the line.
If I could solve the bus ride thing, otherwise it would be great to have one earlier aid station with gels/go/food
If it's going to be expensive to enter, I would like a chance to win some money back, or at least some nice prizes from sponsors.
If it's possible the bus loading situation not sure if it is with the amount of participants though.
If there are free pictures they should be taken at finish line. I don't think I got mine taken. Possibly move the food tables back and have photos after receiving metal. Please leave route as is. It was beautiful. This was my first event since sustaining a traumatic brain injury in 2009 which has left me disabled. Becky Rice 4499

If would be nice to have Duncan Donuts or some other sponsor serving coffee at the start.
If you are going to have fireworks at the start I would suggest shifting more of them to the earlier times, say between 5 and 5:45. Having most of them go off right after the start was not ideal for two reasons: (1) it was already light enough at 6 that they do not show up well and (2) the runners cannot look at them anyway because they have to stay focused on the other runners surrounding them at that time. I would have found it more enjoyable to be able to watch the fireworks while waiting for the start.
If you have never ran this race then the medals were awesome, but if you have every one of them then the repeat of this medal is disappointing! Plus if you run the 5k the day before and receive the medal I think it should be different as well. I now have three exact medals besides the finish and size.
If you require that people take the bus, please have bus transit be expedient. 10 minute lines are ok, 40 minute lines are not. At registration, a short check-list of what you need to be doing, checking, and verifying would make it so that the volunteers don't have to remember every last detail. Make a check list, laminate it, and tape it to the table as bib and t-shirt pick up, and chip confirmation. Tech t-shirt - you can't please everyone. But cowboys? On a running shirt? Give a good harassment to the Competitive Timing people. Man things can be "close enough", but timing is important to get correct.
In addition to gels at the stops, maybe some bananas or other real food. I can't stand eating gel anymore. Also massage at key hotels will be marvelous. I would have booked it at hotel once I have a chance to shower. Bus ride back to double tree after the marathon - heaven.
In general everything was well planned and organized. It was a very successful event. The organizer did a great job..
In my opinion, it was perfect! Thank you for everything. At first I thought the price was a bit much but when I realized all the man power that goes into everything - the buses, the streets being blocked & marked, the shirts, the Gatorade, the free goo, the price was very reasonable.
In the future, people should be allowed to drop themselves off at the start. With the large volume of participants, it is unrealistic to expect that the busses will be able to facilitate 2,500 people in an efficient manner.
Increase bathrooms at the aid stations in the beginning third of the courses
Increase communication between volunteers helping line up and load the busses, it was a little chaotic.
Increase the number of buses to the start line at 5:00am. I could have taken an earlier bus but did not want to sit around at the start line for that long.
Increase the number of restrooms for the rest stations.
Instead of coffee in the morning- water! Maybe coffee after instead.
Instead of having everyone bussed from downtown, maybe have a drop-off only bus location at the walmart or car dealership right before miller creek that people can get dropped off at, but not park there. This would allow a few busses to make lots of trips to deliver the people that would otherwise be dropped off right at the start line.
Is the horseshoe now the logo? I would have liked something with the "M" in it but maybe that has been overdone. At least the horseshoe is kind of original. And I like the "runner".
It all seemed to work well so I can't think of any changes I would make.
It appeared very congested for people trying to park in the parking garage. As a local I knew not to go there, but other options should be mentioned for out or towners, or move the bus pickup area a little so there is not so much congestion
It appears every detail has been thought through, and there probably are improvements to be made but I have no suggestions.
It is currently done so well I really can't think of anything more.
It just seemed you could improve on the bus staging area, maybe having the full and half pickups on different streets.
It really was a great race.
It was awesome!!! But more spectators is a motivator when you want to quit.
It was great in every way!
It was great! Keep it small.
it was great. have probably ran 30 others before and this is one of the best
It was great. I can't wait to come back again next year!

It was great. Move the post-race beer closer to the finish line and increase the cap on on runners.
It was so well done I wouldn't know what you could improve on :) maybe just maybe a little more food other than pieces of watermelon and oranges. But I say this reluctantly because it was so well done. :)
It would be awesome to have local bands playing energizing music at some points along the course. I realize that this might wake the residents at 6 a.m, though.
It would be cool if we got a finishing t-shirt also.
it would be fun to have Pacers on the half marathon course
It would be great to have pacers for the half marathon.
It would be helpful to have more clearly designated pacing areas in the starting area of the half marathon. I heard someone near me say we were in the 9 minute mile pace area, which is where I wanted to be, but I didn't see anything indicating certain paces. As the race started it was clear that I was in the middle of a much slower paced group, and it required quite a lot of passing and weaving to get settled into my pace.
It would be helpful to have one volunteer check on the parking garage and when full put up sign to alert late comers that the garage was full. I intend to arrive earlier at the bus shuttle since there was a long delay on the shuttle. Give out more parking hints in the race data. Can you add runner's hometown on bib? Meeting others who are coming here from other places is a real plus. So many people are still putting their bibs on their back. Add a line about where to wear the bib in the race data. I thought the Facebook feature was a winner. Suggest you have a geek table at Expo staffed with ultra-geeks to assist with the set up on Facebook. I would have signed up for next year if you took registrations after the race. At least make the brochure available on race day. The food is great after the race but it is same-old, same-old. Jazz up the food offerings... Surprise us.
It would be nice if local restaurants promoted the race with pre-race specials with proof of race registration like number, etc. The coupons for racers good the weekend not the Monday following the race when most of us have had to go back.
It would be nice if the race was a little cheaper - maybe \$50 for the half marathon? I wouldn't mind running with a few thousand more people if that would allow the organizers to drop the price. However, if participant capacity were to be raised, it would probably make sense to start the race in heats (a la Bloomsday).
It would be nice if there was a water source in Caras after leaving the race area. Maybe there is/was and I just didn't see it.
It would be nice to see more vendors in the park after the race. People are jacked up on adrenaline and want to buy stuff! :)
It's a good idea to keep runners moving for a block or two after the finish before having them stop for any reason. Sudden stop for medals and chip removal can be dangerous. Move finish to the south side of the bridge and have runners walk across the bridge before having them stop for chip removal.
It's almost perfect!
It's already amazing! But make the t-shirts true to size!!
It's great!
Just keep doing it!
Just keep doing what you do so well now.
Just keep doing what you're doing!
Just keep doing what you're doing.
Just keep doing what you're doing. It's a great race!!
Just keep the temperature it was for this year!! LOL!
Just more bathrooms - other than that it was a great race.
Just more food/gel at the water, Gatorade stations. Thanks.
Just the above - otherwise an amazing event!
Just the logistics piece.
Just the transportation to the race can improve.
Just the two things above. Otherwise an awesome, well run event.

Just to make sure everyone UNDERSTAND that they really need to be at the shuttle EARLY. It was a little stressful worrying that we might not make it.
Keep adding capacity and runners! It's a great thing.
Keep doing what you are doing!
Keep doing what you are doing!
Keep doing what you are doing! Maybe a huge spot for people to park. Other than that it was a great race!! Thank you to all the volunteers!!!!!! Maybe provide gummy bears at the water and Gatorade stations.
Keep doing what you are doing.
Keep doing what you are doing. Loved it!
Keep doing what you are doing....Don't change a thing. Keep the number of participants the same. I live in the Chicago area and used to run the Chicago Marathon when it was small and great...Now they have 40,000 participants which is chaos, confusing, frustrating and lots of very rude people. I have run many marathons across the country and yours is the best and you should be proud of that....I am planning on returning next year for a longer duration to see more of your area.....
Keep doing what you're doing! I LOVED my first experience and cannot wait for next year!
Keep going
Keep growing, slowly
Keep it at its current size. Too many marathons try to grow beyond what they can comfortably accommodate. Include a pasta dinner. Slightly larger expo. Would like to see the course continue along the path to the UM and loop back to the bridge--it would be more scenic, though less shady.
Keep it going!
Keep it just the same - you guys are wonderful.
Keep it simple and fun. Don't grow it too big.
KEEP IT SMALL
Keep it up!
Keep it up!
Keep it up!,
Keep it up!!!! GREAT job! Thanks so much for a great experience- would love to do this again if back in your beautiful state.
Keep it up...GREAT JOB!
Keep the fire going (the enthusiasm)
Keep the numbers near where they are. It was great. Good people around you but not too many.
Keep the water/Gatorade order consistent. It's amazing how consternating that can be after 20 some miles. Make sure the TP rolls are started. When they're still in the protective wrap it can be a frustrating and time-consuming when you make that pit-stop at mm10 and your fingers don't want to cooperate and you know there's someone dancing outside waiting their turn. Keep up the good work. I will definitely be back.
Keep up the amazing work!
Keep up the fantastic work! And Thanks for putting on such a fabulous event!
Keep up the good work
Keep up the good work, see you next year
Keep up the good work!
Keep up the good work! Other than rethinking the bussing to Blue Mountain I would change nothing. You are amazing and it makes me proud to be from Missoula.
Keep up the good work!! Amazing race!!
Keep up the good work!!!
Keep up the great work

Keep up the great work and don't allow the race to grow too quickly. the half marathon was bogged down in the 2 hour finishing time for the entire course, it wasn't bad noticed a big difference from prior year. This isn't completely bad as there were people to run with.
Keep up the great work, very impressive race!
Keep up the great work!
Keep up the great work!
Keep up the great work!
Keep up the great work!
Keep up the great work.
Keep up the great work. I think you could handle even more racers.
Keep up the great work. It was the best marathon I have ever run!
Later race time!
Later start.
Less waiting for the prompt racers.
Let a woman pick the color of the shirts! :) Don't claim that it is flat and fast... :) More bottles of ice cold water at the finish (I got one, but they ran out before my friend came in).
Let more people in! Go crazy! As above.
Let people do drop offs at the start! Or be better prepared to get buses out more quickly. Other than that everything was good.
Let people drive themselves and/or drop off at the race.
Let people know ahead of time if shirts tend to run on the small side. Everything else was great!
Let the aid station volunteers know that it makes sense to offer gels first, and then always have some water farther down. I got one gel at the end of an aid station and had to make my way back to get water to wash it down.
Let the half-marathon walkers start early so the full marathon runners don't have to run around them at the end.
Let the locals get dropped off at the start and out of towners take the buses. Or have separate bus areas knowing that the locals have options for other transportation.
Letting ppl be dropped off instead of waiting for the busses. Have energy gels available where they are supposed to be so ppl can plan accordingly.
Limiting runners to the far right side of the road during the first 2/3 of the marathon means that we are running on an uneven surface because the roads are sloped down on the edges...this caused some hamstring problems for me later in the race.
Little irritated that the website said you couldn't drop off at either race. Took the bus to Peak and there is a BEAUTIFULLY marked lane for Passenger drop off. Would have been nice to have another hour of sleep instead of standing downtown for 25 minutes waiting to load a bus.
Load more than one bus at a time. I was early, but heard from some that they almost didn't make the race due to the long line for single bus loading.
Load more then 1 bus at a time to get racers out faster. Stood inline for more the 1/2 hr and when we got up to the front 1 bus at a time was being loaded. We arrived at start line 20 mins before race not alot of time if using the restrooms and that line. (This is for 1/2 Marathon.) Last 2 races it went faster and no lines.
Loading busses should be a bit faster
Local singer, maybe design competition for shirt?
Loved it!
Make a greater effort to make sure that everyone gets in the proper bus line for the full or half marathon. You need to have a drop-off area at the start -- my driver went right past the start line in order to deposit me in the confusion at Ryman Street.

Make adjustments to packet pickup timing (need more time).
Make it a charity race- all proceeds beyond covering expenses benefit a local or national charity Don't grow too quickly or the organization (bus timing, number of portable bathrooms, etc) becomes a hassle
Make parking directions more clear rather than just put stars.
Make sure half marathoners don't take all the fruit and food on course before the marathoners come through.
Make sure shirts are going to appropriately fit if possible. Something refreshing like citrus toward the end of the race for all participants!
Make sure timing chip reads accurately at start so don't have to fix later with computer guy from Whitefish I believe.
Make the bus line more efficient.
Make the medal classy looking
Make the medals a bit smaller.
Make the race shirts a better color; get rid of the "cowboy" stigma on the race shirts. Make the shirts more fun. Also the cost was a bit high.
Make the route an out and back or loop. Maintain the current race size. Overselling the capacity of the location is common at many marathons.
Many different bussing locations if you don't want people driving to the start line. Bitterrooters could catch it in Lolo. Linda Vista, South hills at Walmart, etc.
mark the distances in miles and kilometers
May need to improve speed of bus loading for the half marathon. Saw that loading changed part way through with 4-5 buses loading instead of just one at a time that really seemed to speed things up.
Maybe a cotton shirt instead?!
Maybe a little more clarity about shuttles or being dropped off at the race
maybe a little more food (not just gu)
Maybe a shuttle from a designated spot on Brooks Rd. to the busses to the starts. Our hotel offered one but it was too late for my nerves. We had friends drive us to the bottom of the bridge to make sure we got there in plenty of time. If we didn't have that option, we would have been standing in those long lines waiting for the busses. That would have made me too nervous.
Maybe allow drop offs at the start line. Might decrease bus load, half had a long line.
Maybe allow spectators to take the bus as well and then bus back to town or something? Or have some buses that spectators can take to see a part of the race? The point-to-point makes this challenging, but having people out on the route certainly helps any race.
Maybe an 8:00 am start time?
Maybe an hour later start time?
Maybe have 2 locations to board the bus - one downtown and some other location. People could choose their pick up site when registering.
Maybe have better organization of the bus pick times or more buses.
Maybe have more specific size info for shirts - men's, women's and youth.
Maybe have multiple pick-up points?
Maybe have the age group trophies go 35 placed deep so i could get one.
Maybe have the garbage bins for the water further away from the tables. There wasn't enough time to drink before the trash cans so many cups were strewn far down the course
Maybe in advance information on the age/gender group awards. But other than that, it was a near perfect marathon race for the size, course, start area management, aid station/volunteers, etc. It was great and thank you for organizing such as a great race! Hope you will keep the race date in July for a long time!
Maybe include sunscreen, body butter at aid stations, more gummy bears! I crossed a bit on the slow side due to several reasons but mainly a foot injury, (still finished), were there burgers at the end? I would have liked to have had an actual meal, cold mist, stuff like that.

Maybe it would be helpful to have two sites to board the buses. One downtown and one on the south side.
Maybe larger portions of water The stops and something on the left side for us left handers
Maybe load more than three busses at a time when there are 3000 people to get transported. I waited in line over 20 minutes and was there by 5 am.
Maybe make it a bit more clear where spectators can stand to cheer the runners on... some friends were a bit confused by the map (maybe put it online ahead of time?)
Maybe make it more apparent that race pictures were available to print for free after the race. I wasn't aware, I just thought downloads were free. That's very minor though,
Maybe more direct instructions at the starting line about where to line up and perhaps run on the right pass on the right verbiage.
Maybe more port-a-potties on the course in the first 5 miles of the race....I went pee on the side of the road. Thank gosh I am a guy
Maybe more porta pottys at each aid area. Could the police perhaps have places to park along the route instead of driving the route?
Maybe more portapotties in the first few miles. At mile 4, there was 8 people waiting in line, which added 10-15 minutes to our times.
Maybe more potties at the designated spots along the route.
Maybe set up 2 or 3 pickup spots to eliminate downtown parking issues and HUGE waiting lines!
Maybe some more Post race activities in Caras Park. Also more running/fitness vendors at Expo.
Maybe some sunscreen available along the way.
Maybe two different locations for the full and half busses? That might alleviate some of the confusion for loading.
Maybe you could break up some of the groups of volunteers at some of the aid stations, like Hellgate and Sentinal teams and spread them out... more than enough people at those stations. Every two miles was awesome... if you spread them out and threw another one here and there it would be nice...
Maybe you could start the race in heats to help with the shuttle lines. I think most people are like us and don't want to arrive at the starting line and have to stand around for an hour in the cold waiting to run. The Event Guide was really nice! Any chance of sending that in the mail to participants prior to the race? It would be great to have ahead of time for planning.
More bathrooms
More bathrooms at break stations so there are no wait times.
More bathrooms in early part of marathon.
More bathrooms in the first half of the race -- noticed a lot more the second half. keep beer at the finish area until all runners are done!
More bathrooms are always good!
More bleachers
More bus location pick ups
More bus locations for pick up
More buses
More buses and more port-a-potties, especially within the first six or seven miles.
More buses being loaded at a time for the half participants
More buses out to the start for the half. I did the full and the buses were great but the half had a very long line.
more buses, louder sound system at start
More buses!
More buses. I spoke with an official and he stated there were enough buses but not enough drivers.
More busses or a drop off area at the start. More restrooms while waiting in line for the busses.

More busses or fewer people.
More busses or two boarding areas in town. Disclaimer about shirt sizing or a different brand. Lighter-weight medals - the cloth part was nice, but the metal part was just too much. More communication from race organizers before race day.
More consistent pacers, but I totally understand how hard of a job that is. Otherwise it was a great event. So much fun to overhear all the folks from out of town fall in love with our home.
More cowbells.
More crowd control with shuttles in the morning to the start
More dialogue about etiquette for walkers and runners when the faster runners start coming through. I know you can't fix stupid, but some people 4 wide need to know that it's not acceptable when you've got a full marathoner with time goals that has to dodge people who aren't paying attention to get out of the way. There is a tactful way to promote courtesy. Pam with Galloway did a wonderful job with educating her group on etiquette.
More directions on the downtown parking, pre-race. Close the parking garage when full so we don't go into hoping to find a parking spot. Just have someone put up a sign that it is full. Getting to the parking garage with the busses in front isn't a good plan for parking. Maybe encourage people to park in the new parking garage.
More efficient bus system
More efficient transportation to start of race!
More emphasis on lack of availability of rooms, discounts for marathon participants at local hotels
More food vendors at Caras Park (can I get an egg breakfast sandwich or a smoothie??). I would have lingered longer if I was able to get something substantial. And better food for runners at the end. I saw plenty of orange slices/bananas during the actual race so I'd love to see heartier options at the finish.
More free stuff at expo, bigger women's shirts, liked set up last few years in runners area better, not impressed with virtual gear bag stuff... That is the fun part in looking through gear bag!
more fuel more often better goodie bag take sponsors off my bib and metal update metal
More garbage cans around the water stations - suggest some being placed a ways from the station in hopes that they would be used.. Disturbing to see the amount of garbage on the ground.
More Gel's on the route
More gels offered. See my above complaint. The shuttles are good for not congesting the drop off area and I think most people understood that this was the first year so it wasn't going to be perfect. No real suggestions about that. Maybe next year will be smoother.
More gummy bears, orange slices for marathoners at refueling station. It was all gone by the time I came through and I was disappointed that there was no support when I needed it
More hills
More hills if possible.
More lines in the morning for loading buses.
more live bands perhaps
More live music on the course
More music along the course.
More music along the route...maybe a "battle of the bands competition" along the route
More music along the way. More vendors at the end. Better busing system. The rest was perfect !
More music maybe, it is hard to answer this, because it was a really outstanding experience for me.
More music throughout the course.
MORE MUSIC?!
More music.
More options for parking or drop-off at the start.
More oranges

More oranges and sooner. Other than that it was and always has been a fabulous race. This was my 4th consecutive race and can't wait until next year!
More oranges, bananas etc. along route
More organized bus pick up. Lines more organized and a way for buses to pick up people faster so there is less time idling empty. Guarantee that if you get to the bus pick up by a certain time you will make it to the start with a certain amount of time to spare. Encourage more music groups/individuals along the route. There were more funny and clever signs along the route last year. Maybe it was done by individuals but if this could be done again it was great.
More pacers
More parking near buses
More people to cheer us on!
More pick up locations if you're going to require participants to ride the bus to the start. Kmart and North Reserve could be added at a minimum as pick up locations.
more places to get on the bus maybe one over on reserve
More port-a-potties at the starting line for half marathon. Not enough to handle the needs prior to start.
More porta potties at beginning of race (line ups too long)
More porta potties at the beginning if the race, there were long lines at the few available.
More porta potties at the beginning of the half marathon would be helpful. Also, it would be so nice to have more vendors after the race. I didn't really feel that there was much to do after the race.
More porta potties in first half of 1/2 marathon
More porta potties!
More Porta Pottys at first 3 stops.
More porta-potties on the course and longer race shirts.
More porta-potties would be nice.
More race merchandise.
More restrooms
More running along the rivers. You've got the scenery, why not use it.
more shuttle buses
more shuttle pick-up locations to ensure that wait isn't as long
More shuttles and more parking designated for runners that day would be great. I missed the free pic in my post race state--will have to look for it next year.
More slots available for the full marathon!
More toilets at the Milage stops on the race. Had to wait too long in line & it increased my time by quite a bit. Would have been nice to have GU available for half marathon runners before mile 10. There was none at the 2 mile mark to grab and save, like I had planned.
More toilets, more frequently in the first section of the Half.
More trash cans at the water/gatorade stations.
More turns in the beginning. It gets boring a bit.
More variety of food at finish.
More vendors after the race -- you're feeling mellow, have your free beer -- it would be nice to do a little shopping.
More water stations is the only thing that you could do to improve it, well run, expo rocked and people are great.
Move the start further away or add a dog leg. Add more porta potties.
Moving the live music and concessions on the bridge a little farther north, closer to the stairs, would make it even better, and spectators would be more inclined to take advantage of it (since more of them cluster to the north, closer to the finish). Having a vendor selling water, sports drink, etc. at a reasonable price to spectators would probably go over really well. After we had our free finisher's beer from Big Sky Brewing, they directed us to the bridge for a chance to buy another. We walked right by the one vendor selling beer and drinks... they didn't have much of a sign! I think the "party on the

bridge" was a great idea in general and I hope it continues. I don't know if people really realized it was up there this year (at least when I was there, around 9:30 a.m.), but they will get used to it.
Multiple meeting locations for bus ride to the start, not just the downtown location? not sure how to fix that ... but not bad, just ended up having to pass a bunch of walkers, strollers, etc. because of the long lines waiting for a bus.
Multiple park and shuttle sites for the event. One downtown one near reserve????
My bib number got messed up. maybe a different process to handle changes
My daughter ran the 5 k. She was disappointed that her age group was 1-14. She doesn't want to run it next year. She said there is no point until she older
My husband and talk about this and in truth I don't really think you could do any better
My one and only complaint was the shirts that were given in our gear bags.. I'm a just little taller than average (5'8"), and my tee shirt is more like a belly shirt. Next year you should order the tee shirts longer!
My only issues was with the BOPs an how they took over the finish area an did not have their volunteers shirts on (security)and that they crowded out the runners so those of us clipping chips had to wade thru them
My only suggestion would be to place the trash bags a little farther down from the water stations so that we have more time to drink it before we pass the trash bags.
My suggestion is to have different drop off sites in and around Msla for runners to catch a bus, if you really can't come up with a different drop off idea at the start (for the halves....don't know what the full was like)....I heard MANY complaints regarding the bus situation.
N sure the timing company software is of king like there slogan stats....accuracy every time....
n/a
n/a
n/a
N/A
N/A
N/A
na
NA
NA
NA
NA.
nada
Nada :) Keep up the GREAT WORK! Thank you MISSOULA!
Need More at the expo!
Need more busses and/or have multiple bussing locations.
Need to have more buses running. If I am there at 5, I should be able to board a bus at 5ish, not wait in line.
Need to have more local people on the race course
Need to offer REAL Medical Support along the route - Freeze On (available in gel - spray - roll on) to relieve muscle cramps is a must - even small marathons offer this - should be a standard! Really surprised didn't think to offer this with over 1,000 participants - even small races (under 500) offer it at every aid station along the route (every 5 miles). More important than pictures - just saying because you asked. Thanks for all you do!
Never want to see that policeman directing traffic again and my name on my bib.
New medal design. Better shirts sizing. Not everyone likes them skin tight. Don't change a thing about the course. This is my favorite half marathon.
New shirts.
Next year put a bus at each corner of the block and load the busses like that. That would create a faster loading situation in the morning....LOVED the fireworks!

None
NONE
None - great race!!
None - it was great. I would come back if I was not trying to do the 50 states.
None :)
None at this time
none at this time, it was an amazing event, i felt truly blessed
None except make it more affordable. IT's a great race!
none great event
None it is a fantastic event!
None it was great!
None really (except note above about busses). I LOVE this race. Thank you!!
None really, it was a good time!
None really. Thanks for putting on another great race.
None that come to mind
None Whatsoever. Anders and his crew do an awesome job!
None- although it will be interesting to see how the growth of the race is managed because I have a feeling that this will continue to grow in popularity!
None- don't change the course, it is beautiful!!! :)
None- personally, I'll try to fly into Missoula next time to avoid the extra driving as our flights were from Spokane.
None, except have enough photo paper.
None, it was a fantastic race!!!
None, it was great!
None, really. It's a great experience.
None!
None!
None! Great job to everyone involved!!!!!! Thank you for a wonderful weekend!
None! It's so much fun! Volunteers and event coordinators do such a great job!
None! it's the best race I've ever attended
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None.
None. Had a blast!
None. It went well.
None. They did a good job.

None. Don't change a thing!
None. Excellent race. Will do it again soon if I can make it back to Montana next July. Thanks for the fun!
None. I know there was talk about allowing more runners beyond the 1500 but I really liked the size. Adding more would put a strain on the expo and might even take away from the "feel" of the marathon. Those that get too large lose that personal feel and I believe the "personal feel" of Missoula marathon is one of its greatest strengths.
None. It was great!
None. Well done by organizers!!!!!!
Nope it was great
Nope, it's awesome.
Nope. Keep up the great work. What a course! I felt like I was in runners heaven
Not a thing!!!!!! It was a GREAT race. Please don't change the course - it really was awesome and I would run it again!
Not a thing.
Not capping registration and better signage in the morning for bus lines
Not into a "virtual" goody bag. There was nothing useful in it. Getting little things like biofreeze, socks, peanut butter or food bar is better, but not necessary either.
not much
Not much right now.
Not much.... Better than Vegas ;)
Not really any, other than maybe faster turn-around with bus shuttle. It was an extremely impressive set-up!
Not really much to say- it's an excellent race!
nothing
nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing at the moment
Nothing comes to mind I would change.
Nothing comes to mind. It was a great experience. See you next year.
Nothing enjoyed everything!
Nothing I can think of.
Nothing, everything was great!
Nothing, great event.
Nothing, great race!
nothing, it was a great marathon
Nothing, it was beautiful
Nothing, organization was super! One of the best ever.
Nothing, this race was so incredible. So many awesome free things, such great support. It was amazing! Don't change anything!!
Nothing!
Nothing. It was great.
Nothing. Great job, everyone.
Nothing. Sorry for not being more judgmental!

Offer a sports drink that is available locally, I could not find Gatorade Endurance in any grocery stores and on line it showed the nearest place to purchase it was in Washington. Ended up training with the Gel instead - not my first choice, but it was ok. :)
Oh I am merely a lowly runner, not a race coordinator! I like the staggered start at Bloomsday but the chip timing helped with the fact that I was in port-a-potty line when the gun went off!
One thing that would be awesome if possible is to open up some of the town to a little more live music - it's possible that there are a few really good local bands here that would exchange some free jamming for the prestige of playing the marathon.
Only the buses.
Only the shirt situation described above. THANK EVERYONE who worked on this wonderful event.
Open the full marathon to wheelers. Anything less is discrimination.
Option to drop off at start.
Orange slices --especially for the slower runners
Order women's shirts that have more accurate sizing.
Other than fixing the shirts, nothing at all, it was great!
Other than getting to the starting line, it was great!
Other than starting restrooms (and it seems like no matter what you do there, that might be an issue) I have no ideas for improvement. It was great.
Overall, a fantastic event. The bussing seemed problematic this year...maybe have bus runs from different locations in town instead of all coming from downtown (although I understand that the finish line makes sense).
Overall, great event. One possible thing would be to give the marathon runners different color bibs to more easily identify them.
Pace groups at starting line.
Parking and catching the bus to the start is very congested. Also, a consistent race shirt supplier should be found or shirt dimensions should be provided when ordering - I ordered a women's medium shirt - I always wear a women's medium shirt - the shirt was very small - we were told we could exchange them at 1:00 on sunday - which was not convenient because we needed to get on the road home - we also received an email that they could be exchanged on Monday, which is not convenient when you live out of town. I plan on running the race again next year, but will email the race director to check on the brand of shirt prior to signing up.
Parking/Bus issue to accommodate the bigger numbers
Perhaps a sizing chart for the t-shirts? I noticed a lot of people needed to exchange theirs, but if that's the worst part that aren't so bad!
Perhaps an option to get gear bag if you can't get it on say
Perhaps fewer turns Perhaps "not" calling it quite "flat" since some participants like me are from Florida where even a slight incline is considered a hill:) This is really being picky since I thought all was absolutely fantastic...really
Perhaps go back to unisex sizing on the tee shirts?
Perhaps have more than one location to catch bus to the start location. There are several thousand people to transport in one hour. It was well organized but not enough time allowed.
Perhaps have the marathoners run on the right side of the street and the half-marathoners run on the left side of the street.
Perhaps have two different lanes for the finish for marathoners and half marathoners.
Perhaps it could have more of a street fair feeling at the end. There were not many stands on the bridge and it felt strange to walk back onto the bridge after the race.
Perhaps mention the age group winners in the Missoulian? Give more statistics pre-race on who's attending (states, ages, notable athletes, etc.). More personal stories leading up to race. Competitive Timing can print out stickers with age group award winners to stick on awards, takes a few minutes, but awards go faster and are more personalized. Would like to know how well Missoula Marathon lived up to the hopes and fears of the downtown merchants -- hope they all did well!

Perhaps more bathrooms towards end of race? I don't recall any but then again I was kind of in a glorious daze at that point. But I heard some comments from other people about needing one.
Perhaps some signs/cones dividing the road between the half and full (at least on the small stretches where the roads were closed for runners use only).
Perhaps two pick up stations need to be run for the 1/2 marathon to ensure that everyone gets to the start in enough time. I would also suggest using a different brand for your t-shirts in the future, or advising people of the ill fit so they can plan ahead!
Perhaps you could offer an hour or so of fly fishing the day before - again, grasping. As a Canadian from E. ON I may not get back to your marathon but it would not be because of the experience I had. It was wonderful as is the state. (Arrived home to heat and HUMIDITY - what a difference to Montana.) Thank you for everything!
Personalized bibs would be great. Please remind on the website that there is an hour time difference. Drove for six hours and almost missed the packet pickup.
Please also consider the shuttle situation. We got in line around 4:45 AM and didn't get to the starting area until 5:55 AM. Also, we got on a bus with little direction from the volunteers - so our bus was only half-full when we left downtown. There will still hundreds of people waiting to get on the buses. We told the bus driver but he didn't seem to care that the bus wasn't full. The shuttle situation was a mess.
Please get different shirts Having different start times for each pace would be nice
Please have more outhouses available in the first 5 miles of the half marathon!
Please include more vendors. There is a diverse amount if companies and organizations looking to get there name out. AN event expo.
Please keep the piano player!
Please let participants know what the design of the race shirt is going to be so they can use this info in selecting the correct size. The men's shirts were fine. This just applies to the women's shirts. I would be willing to pay for another one, but being from out of state this is not very likely to happen.
Please provide some prior notification about the pre-race fireworks. (this would not have been a biggie prior to the 2013 Boston, but I was there on Boylston street. so the first "test" launches that the fireworks lighters did startled me as I was resting around the bank building pre-race.)
Please refer to above answer
Please see the "Please tell us what you did not like about the 2013 Missoula Marathon."
PORTAPOTTIES!!!!
Possibly a few more porta johns?
Possibly moving the start time back an hour. Being from Washington the time change was a bit harsh, even though it's only an hour.
Pretty good event! I enjoyed myself.
Probably having a time clock at the halfway mark (13.1 miles for the full) so participants can know how they are doing time-wise.
Probably should increase the size to let everyone in that wants to do it. Sold out very early.
Probably will need to work on buses as event grows. However I have no complaints about this year!
Proportionate number of potties for amount of runners
Publish where pictures can be found and when.
Queue the starts
Race on Saturday! Probably not very realistic though.
Rain during portions of race! It's a great race.
Really the only thing would be to bring the entry fee down a bit. That is only to make it more affordable for people who do not have a lot of money. Other than that it is one of the better events I've participated in. Nice work.
Really, my one true complaint and one of the only reasons that I would consider not doing this race again (did it this year and last year) is all the runners with beeping devices... would there be any way to ask them to set the beeping as minimally as possible? With Run Wild Missoula encouraging the run/walk method, it gets VERY annoying with all of the Garmins

beeping every ten feet for the whole race, and it's very distracting. I've not run any other halves with nearly the amount of beeping devices as this one, probably times ten.
Really, none. I would not want to have to plan an event like this. So good job people.
Regarding buses I have two suggestions. 1. Move the full bus loading to the empty Safeway parking lot (with St. Pat's permission) 2. Consider using group starts for the half-marathon participants based on projected finish or per mile times. Groups could start 1-3 minutes apart which could possibly allow staggering the bus load times based on the group. Example: Group 1 - under 7min/mile - load by 4:50am; Group 2 - 7 to 9 minutes per mile load by 5:10am, etc. Reviewing this year's results could provide the information needed to establish group sizes with staggered start and load times. This would also allow an increase in the half marathon numbers as this is probably the more popular event.
Rent out space for parking from Lorens the Peak and the vet and start the race by the Blue mountain parking area.
Reorganization of the morning buses.
Repeat everything from this year to next year!!
Restroom location. The wait during the first 8 miles for a port-a-potty was long and miles 8-13 (half marathon) had no wait. They could have been distributed better.
Run more thru the neighborhoods, the first 4 miles are boring
Runners bags had nothing like last year
Said last bus to half was at 5:15a so I adjusted my schedule and was freezing at the start because I was early. Should have just done what I did the last six years.
Save some spots for those that need to transfer from the full to half marathon due to injury or illness. Chocolate milk and/or other protein for finishers. More cold water at the finish.
see above
see above
See above
See above
See above
See above -- great marathon!!!!
See above regarding parking. Everything else was great!
See above response
See above suggestion.
See above: I incorporate UM's campus/eliminate the section down by South Avenue /Bonner Park.
See above! This remains one of the most fun well organized running events in the country!
See above.
See above.
See above.
See above.
See above.
See above. Also, I think it would be nice if the "Peak" were open the morning of the race. Not because they have indoor toilets but because it is chilly standing outside for up to an hour before the race. Not a big deal but just a suggestion.
See above. You had a question repeated twice on this survey. At the beginning.
See above. Other than that, I am very satisfied with the race and it is a trip I look forward to for months. This was my 4th year for the half marathon.
See answer above.
See Bathroom note above. Also, better bus service so no one misses the start.
See note above about shirts (if you continue with those shirts, add a note in reg. that they run small.)
Seems like everything is covered. Everyone does a great job.
Serve breakfast! Not sure, otherwise.

Shirt selection (color), Bathrooms
Shirts ran small. Luckily there was an exchange. Also either provide gel that you said you would or just don't tell us there will be one. Otherwise loved it!!
Shirts were way small....I was with group of 5 gals....no one was happy with their size I stopped to get my results ...realized I got 3rd in my age group 45-46 female half and NO trophy . Not sure if it was misgiven to someone...but lady handing out could only say sorry?? Way too long to get on a bus...and we got to buses at a decent time. Oh course had to go to bathroom when we arrived...drop our bags ...listen to American anthem and blast off...no warm up . Just seemed very rushed compared to previous years.
Shuttle experience. Maybe different areas to access the shuttle. Too congested
Shuttle people from south Bitterroot valley from somewhere like KMart and ease the congestion downtown.
Shuttle pickups at more than one location!!!! Perhaps one on the airport side of town!
Shuttle system - start full marathon race an hour earlier.
Shuttle. Think about multiple shuttle locations throughout town.
Shuttles from various locations in Missoula might be nice.
Signage and management of the buses. great idea, but some confusion and long waits, likely due to so many participants
Sizing chart for shirts.
Sizing charts for shirts on website at registration (mine was really small!). It was great to have a spectator map, it would be nice if this showed road closures so spectators knew where to drive. Great Job!!!!
Small medal and better shirt. Nobody wears the medal past that day.
Smaller medals
Smaller metal.
Some of the later stops didn't have enough porta potties and I have to wait a long time (at least 10 minutes)
Somehow tie the 5K into either the half or full. I thought having the medals inter-lock together to make competing both something special. After seeing the 5K & half/full, I want to find a similar race over in western Washington to do a 5K or 10K and then a half or full the next day. Raise the bar!
Spaghetti dinner Saturday night Fund raiser at high school or something along those line I am from Seattle but grew up in Montana
Spaghetti dinner night before race. Timing chip in bib.
Split times at 1,13.1, 20 miles.
Staggered start corrals
Start 1 hour later
Start at 5:30am.
Start busing earlier. We arrived in the lineup at 4:45 and didn't arrive at the start until 5:50.
Start location should be downtown.
start the 1/2 marathon later
Start the race @ 7:00 a.m. if heat is the concern. Or stagger the start times for the half and the whole to start the half at a later time.
Start the races with sections for estimated pace/finish times.
start the walkers early
Start-Finish in town Same place
Stated above. Other than that, nothing! Well run race!!!!
Stop offering medals. Otherwise, THANK YOU!
Tech shirts that is true to size! My large shirt fit my small 10 yr old daughter...
Technical shirts fit were too small and therefore we had to exchange after race when it is nice to be able to wear race day.

Tell people with beepers to wear iPods. More bathrooms at the beginning (like 8-10) and less at the end (like 2-4). There were long lines for the bathrooms (I did the half) at the first 3 stops, but then after that, there were really no lines. Perhaps partner with a group (Boy Scouts, for example) to do the night before spaghetti dinner and/or pancake breakfast the day of the race. They (Scouts) can do it as a fund-raiser and charge runners who want to participate.
Tell the half marathon walkers to NOT take up the road by walking side by side through Bonner Parks traffic circles. They got in my way big time!!!
Tell us to get to town earlier but we may stay in town next year.
Test samples of the shirt before ordering and get a guarantee on the sizing.
That the food stalls, especially the free food stalls, be available in the afternoon. I walked for 7 hrs. 27 mins and everything was packed up. If this marathon is for runners and walkers, the walkers should also have access to the food afterwards.
The aid stations were really close together for the last 10k... maybe spread them out just a little bit more for the first half. Also, porta potties are needed more in the first five miles than was available. It cost me serious time and a PR because of the long lines!!!
The bus lines for the Half were standing waiting around the entire block. It did move sorta fast but we still only got to the start with 15 minutes to spare and I was dropped off by a cab to the buses at 4:52. So possibly more buses? Possibly even a few more bathrooms at the start, however the lines were not too bad at all. I think it was about a 10min wait.
The bus lines were crazy! I think the loading strategy was flawed.
The bus pickup area was kind of crazy...ended up going around the block twice--once to find the end of the line, and then around the other direction in the line. I'm not sure how that could be fixed. Please check the shirt sizes...many of my group had ordered their regular sizes and they were too small so we had to make that switch. I think that could be rectified by getting sample shirts before all were printed and checking sizes to let people know before they order.
The buses should be on a STRICT schedule, and leave when they say they will. I get that your time doesn't start until you cross the start line pad BUT the experience should be the same for everyone. But having to start the race at the back instead of the front because the buses ran late isn't fair.
The buses. I thought there were only 2 departure times 4:30 and 5:30. If you could be a little clearer that they start running at 4:30 and the last one departs at 5:30.
The busing of the runners needs improvement and monitored properly.
The busing out to the start seemed to be the biggest problem. I know that it is almost something you cannot control because people will do what they want. I didn't have a problem with arriving at the start with only 15 minutes to start but it seemed like we could not get people on the buses fast enough. Again it is not something that can really be controlled but maybe a longer time for people to get out there, but was not a problem for me!
The Caras tent was quite crowded for shopping at the Saturday Expo. It turned me away from looking around more closely. More efficient busing out.
The course is a bit boring at the end. Also, the shirts were not true to size.
The expo gets so crowded and crazy that it's hard to shop; it'd be nice to be able to shop with the vendors on Sunday after the race too.
The flow was great. Loved it all!!
The food afterwards. Some of us follow strict diets for medical reasons. Offer gluten free or grain free dishes!
The hotel I picked to stay at was on the run wild website. It was a DUMP. I don't think that they should list hotels they have not checked out. It would be nice if the hotels that they list have transportation to the start line. Also I had no idea that public transportation was not available on Sunday and walked 3.5 miles back to my hotel.
The last 4miles of the route were awful. I hated the billion turns! I couldn't get in a stride without having to break it every 1/2mile.
THE LINE TO GET ON THE SHUTTLE BUS TO THE START WAS EXTREMELY LONG AND A LITTLE UNORGANIZED. IT TOOK A REALLY LONG TIME TO GET THROUGH IT. POSSIBLY START A LITTLE EARLIER OR GET MORE BUSSES/ORGANIZATION.

The map was a bit difficult for out of town spectators to figure out where to go to spectate, especially with road closures, if one was not familiar with the area. Higgins bridge at the finish was obvious, but my family wanted to find me at other points along the course. I would provide more explicit instructions on race website about spectator viewing spots and how to get there bypassing road closures.
The medal should look different and the shirts run small
The medals are quite nice but unnecessary and useless - how about something useful instead like a finishers coffee mug / cup? The concept of the virtual goody bag is great but the contents were lacking. I chose not to redeem any of them. How about making the goody bag available before the race to all paying entrants so the local community good benefit from pre-race spending???
The music out on the course was really fun. I heard that there is a race somewhere that offers a \$500 prize for the best music out on the course as voted by the runners. More music would have been really fun.
The only suggestion I have is to improve the race packet. Free samples and small gifts from local businesses would be nice.
The only suggestion I have is to make the cliff shots available earlier in the race. I didn't like that the last gel was at mile 23, which is very close to the end of the race. Making it available earlier would allow the nutrients and energy to actually be absorbed into the body to be used before the race is finished.
The only suggestion I have, is that it was startling to me to have a moment of silence for Boston and then have fireworks right afterward ... I'm not sure if the announcer said something about how they were going to have fireworks or not, but it was pretty startling.
The packet pick-up was a bit crowded with the farmer's market going on at the same time. A little more room would have been nice.
The parking at Caras park near the finish area needs to be better marked. Tow companies made a pile of money off unsuspecting spectators who probably thought they could park there, because they could park virtually anywhere else downtown for free. I suggest blocking it off completely for race day. Unless of course the tow companies are a sponsor of yours, then shame on you :)
The porta-potties were set up well. I got caught in line for 3-4 minutes at the second water station, but was glad I stopped. I can't say there weren't enough potties, just everyone was on the same clock as me I guess.
the race itself was awesome. i really don't have any suggestions. Well done.
The run was awesome. Only suggestion would be not to use the Doubletree as host hotel.
The shirt sizing was small. I typically wear a small women's shirt, but ended up needing a large.
The shirts are going to be an issue I would imagine. I wear ladies medium or large. I am not an overweight person. I ordered a medium shirt and there was no way I could have ever worn that shirt. We traded it for and XL which I was grateful we could do, but it is still kind of snug. I feel bad for women who are overweight, did the race and will not be able to wear their shirts because even the XL in ladies is too small.
The shirts this year (for women) did not fit well. I normally wear a small, but it fit me very strange. The taper on the sides for the women's shirt made the small almost into a belly shirt (and i am not large chested, which is normally the cause for incorrect fit/sizes.) I prefer the cut of the women's shirts from last year. Chocolate milk for a post-race beverage!
The shirts were kind of funny this year....the horses a\$\$ are pretty prominent as is the fact that blue and yellow are very similar to Bobcat colors. I love the color but found it to be an interesting choice. The expo this year seemed a lot smaller and more boring - why was that???. Thanks for another great year. You really do a fantastic job. I felt bad for my sister-in-law who was a 6+ hour marathoner because so many things were being taken down around her after she finished that it seemed very lame and like she didn't matter anymore. I understand why - the volunteers eventually want to go home too, but it just left her with less of an experience than I had. Only 1 beer choice, only 1 photo background choice. On the flip side, she got individual attention from the amazing people at the aid stations that made her feel like a million bucks with their support and cheering.
The shirts.

<p>The shuttle buses might need to start earlier. It seemed like the last load of people to the half probably did not make it for the start? Is there anyway the Marathon could utilize the trail by the river next year?? It is such a beautiful trail by the river it would be fun to take advantage of it! The day overall was fabulous thank you!</p>
<p>The shuttle line for the half-marathon moved too slowly. It seemed likely that not everyone even made it to the start before the race began. Also, it was frustrating that there were strict instructions that everyone had to take a shuttle, but then it turned out that there was a drop-off area for runners who didn't take the shuttle. Given the proximity of our hotel to the starting line, we would've been better off getting dropped off at the start by a friend than driving into downtown, waiting in line, and taking the shuttle.</p>
<p>The technical shorts run way too small and are too short at the waist. It would also be nice to have some more music along the way.</p>
<p>The wait time to get on a bus the morning of was long. I wonder if it would help to have more than one pick up area. University, downtown, Hilton on reserve???</p>
<p>The water stations at or by the mile markers. They were well spaced, but I divided the race by miles. Water breaks would have been better by the markers. Still one of the best races that I have attended.</p>
<p>The western theme was ok but I think since Missoula is considered the garden city we should go for something along those lines next year.</p>
<p>There could be a few more busses. Waiting in line wasn't terrible since we got there early, but that line was pretty darn long (like a snake swallowing its tail) when we boarded our bus.</p>
<p>There needs to be a gel station around the mid-point of the half marathon, 2.6 miles is too early and 10 miles is too late.</p>
<p>There was free beer at the end, but I don't drink beer. It would be nice to have free soft drinks, also.</p>
<p>There were not enough toilets at the first few half marathon stops- had to wait too long.</p>
<p>They do an awesome job! Keep up the great work</p>
<p>Things went well really enjoyed it....being my first time I could have been encouraged more to go back down to the park after the race...I didn't & missed out!!! Wished I would have</p>
<p>This doesn't pertain to the marathon itself, but the number of panhandlers and sketchy people downtown is a huge turnoff. I rode out to the start with a woman who lives outside of Chicago and she noted the aggressiveness and amount of transients in the downtown area who were annoying people. Her husband left a public restroom because he wasn't comfortable with what was going on (she didn't say what). This was ironic as my son, wife, and I were talking about this very subject the night before at dinner. Maybe more police patrols to keep people moving....</p>
<p>This is my 3rd year running it and I thought it was the best run/most organized yet.</p>
<p>This is only my second marathon, but I cannot think of any suggestions. You won me as a fan. I have already and will continue to tell others of the wonderful experience.</p>
<p>This is pretty minor, but the past two years, there were encouraging signs centered around a certain theme as you went along the course and I thought they were really great. I was looking forward to that this year and was disappointed to not see any. Overall, I really appreciated the time and energy that the organizers put in on such a great event.</p>
<p>This isn't a suggestion for improvement; I just would have loved to have had a cup of coffee when I was finished. I think maybe a CityBrew stand would get lots of business.</p>
<p>This was a good experience. I think you guys have this down really well. I'm sure I'll be signing up again.</p>
<p>This was my 22nd marathon and the only one that I have run twice. I have run the Missoula Marathon twice because I love the course and what the city of Missoula has to offer. I was harassed multiple times (at least 7 times) by homeless people though - which makes me extremely uncomfortable as a woman. If there weren't so many homeless people in Missoula, I would seriously consider moving there.</p>
<p>This was my 29th marathon overall and is now my favorite. Just don't let it get too big. The course was fantastic. Loved it and will recommend!</p>
<p>Thought it was a fantastic race event.</p>

Toilet in line waiting for bus
Trail running. Maybe suggest activities in the city or organize some activities that runners can purchase. I had nothing to do for three days and didn't really have anyone to chat with. Might be a great way to make a little more income for you and also attract more people to Missoula.
Transportation needs improvement. That's it....the rest was great!
TWO FREE BEERS!
Two free beers?
Two locations in town to reach shuttle? A bit nerving to wait 45+ minutes to get in shuttle and a rush to get off the bus and start.
Updated timing chips on bibs so there aren't separate chips on shoes that need to be removed and returned after the race.
Use Hammer gel products, a Montana company. More technical gear with marathon logo available for purchase. Food vendors in Caras Park after the race.
Use safe color combinations for the shirts and not colors like pea green, orange, mustard yellow, etc.
Use the riverfront trail more; allow drop-offs for locals, more gel shots at almost all locations.
Volunteers at the finish line got in the way to photo opportunities, do not mix the 1/2 with the full marathon.
Walkers and people with joggers should be at the back of the line.
Walkers start later or not at all! They must stay to the right and yield to runners! There is no need to take up the entire course side by side and gossiping while I'm trying to run a marathon. That's right! It's called right of way and trail etiquette!
Warn women of shirts running on the small side.
We got held up at the second aid station on the half marathon course for 7 minutes to use the bathroom! 7 minutes, I checked my watch! It killed our pace! More porta potties for the half marathoners! There are more than twice as many of us, keep that in mind please. Also, your women's shirts were tiny!!!! I wear an XL in north face t-shirts and a 2XL in yours. What did women who were bigger than me do? I'm sure the tiny shirts are great for tiny runners, but there are a lot of regular size and bigger women who are running too! The shirt exchange was helpful, but seriously, I have never, ever needed such a large size before. If you do stay with that company, you should warn people when they register so they know what size to get. I am so used to getting a shirt that is way too big, I thought I was more than on the same size when I got a large.
We have participated in 30 plus half marathons and this was as nice as any we have participated in, really no suggestions, keep running a high quality event and you will fill it. Thanks for asking.
We love it - thanks for all the work you do to put on the race! Kudos to Run Wild Missoula, the volunteers and the community members for their encouragement and support!
We really like to buy items that have the race specifically mentioned on the merchandise. More choices in that department. I was actually looking for a windbreaker with the Missoula Marathon logo on it. I did see some pullovers and really bright jackets, but not what I was looking for. A windbreaker with lots of pockets and the marathon logo on it, would have been awesome. Also, I will be so thankful when they start having regular short sleeve length for women. I absolutely hate those tiny short sleeves.....not a pretty sight on a 62 year old woman. I end up buying the men's shirt.....bummer! Minor stuff. You really went out of your way to make us feel great the entire time!
Well done
Well done How can we get marathon walkers to start early so they can finish
What is there to improve? From my standpoint it is already fine-tuned. Good a job everyone, and thank you so much!
Wish we could return to a five am start for walkers, but I understand the problems.

<p>With the finish area being set up differently this year, maybe a large poster/map could be hung just past the finish line so that people can remember/remind themselves where everything is. I liked how there was just 1 line for the busses this year (instead of multiple lines), but I still think the drivers should direct the passengers to start seating from the back and work forward. This will prevent people from getting on and finding there are no seats left, and having to get this "overflow" to turn around and get back off. I've seen that multiple times in prior years....not this year, but I did see an empty seat on my bus that could have been used. But in all, the busses went smoother and quicker this year.</p>
<p>With the new rule requiring a shuttle to the start, there weren't enough buses.</p>
<p>Wondering if an additional bus pick up location could be added at the former K-Mart parking lot on Brooks Street. We arrived at 4:45am to load on the bus downtown and waited in line until 5:15am to actually board a bus. We arrived at the half marathon start after 5:30am. It was a bit chaotic and there were still hundreds of people waiting for buses when we left. I think a lot of Missoulians and people who are in hotels near the mall would benefit from a closer pick up, less congestion over all.</p>
<p>Work with hotels on reserve to send a bus to downtown for drop off.</p>
<p>Would it be possible to provide small hand towels (maybe in place of the medals?) for those people who use the outdoor shower? Maybe the Peak would provide? Immediately after the race I would have liked to have had something solid to lean against to stretch, like a bike rack or something, near the medical tent.</p>
<p>Would love a local drop-off and food (gel, oranges, bananas) at mile 5. Thanks again for this wonderful event! My 16 year old volunteered and loved the experience!</p>
<p>Would love to have food served after the race down in the park Maybe there was and I missed it.</p>
<p>Would love to see more varied vendors at the expo.</p>
<p>Wow, cannot think of anything that you could have done better.</p>
<p>You all did a fantastic job. Thank you very much!!</p>
<p>You could make the pace group areas bigger at the start line. There wasn't enough room within each group to get everyone in so it became a bit of a disorganized jumbled start as in the past.</p>
<p>You guys do a really good job at organizing this event.</p>
<p>You guys rock!!!!</p>
<p>You have done a fantastic job. Just keep rolling like you are. I will be back as soon as I can.</p>
<p>You have it just right.</p>
<p>you have it right</p>
<p>You improve it every year!</p>
<p>You need Ice at the medical tents with bags and tape to tape to knees legs etc.</p>
<p>You need to be filling more busses at a time. Maybe have the half load busses from two different street corners.</p>
<p>You need to have different start times..maybe let 200 runners go at a time. And have the walkers on one side of the road.</p>
<p>You need to offer some type of fuel at mile 2.5 and again before mile 10. Period. Update the medal for next year, I was SUPER disappointed when someone walked down the course while I was still at mile 11.5-ish and saw that the medal was essentially the same as last year with different ribbon....and we do not need a business name on the ribbon, it was bad enough it was on our bibs.</p>

