



Antarctica Marathon Runners Survive Inhospitable Climate

March 16 & 17, 2018

A snow squall enveloped runners minutes before the start of the 19th Antarctica Marathon & Half-Marathon held on King George Island in the South Shetland Islands of Antarctica. The events were again run in two waves on consecutive days with a total of 197 runners from 18 countries including three half-marathon participants from the Russian base at Bellingshausen and one Chilean staff from Frei Base.

The first wave of runners hosted on board the Akademik Ioffe started at 8:30AM on March 16 with temperatures at 28F under mostly cloudy skies. Winds gusted to 30mph during the day. The second wave on March 17 had to start at 7:20AM to avoid a storm forecasted for mid-afternoon with extremely high winds that would have prevented the use of Zodiacs, which are used to shuttle runners from the ship to the shore.

Todd Lubas from the USA led from the start on day one to garner the victory in a time of 3:07:17. The women's title was claimed by Wendi Campbell from British Columbia, Canada with a time of 3:58:46 finishing in sixth place overall.

Organized by Marathon Tours & Travel of Boston, the annual event fills its maximum field of 200 runners two years in advance.

Race results timed and produced by Sportstats of Toronto, Canada.

MARATHON

Male

Todd Lubas	USA	3:07:17
Bruno Bonicalzi	Italy	3:22:18
John Botti	USA	3:35:29

Female

Wendi Campbell	Canada	3:58:46
Sharon Venturi	USA	4:07:40
Nancy Fawley	USA	4:11:12

HALF-MARATHON

Male

John Hullender	USA	1:40:42
Ivan Kolesnikov	Bellingshausen	2:00:06
Artem Vinogradov	Bellingshausen	2:05:04

Female

Ashley Hullender	USA	2:01:29
Kristin Cooke	USA	2:12:32
Valerie Maugle	USA	2:17:54

Complete results can be found here: <http://www.marathontours.com/races/antarctica-marathon-and-half-marathon-386/event-information>.

About Marathon Tours & Travel

Founded in 1979, Marathon Tours & Travel (MTT) was the first global company to specialize in travel services specifically for runners. Located in Boston, the home of the world's oldest marathon, MTT is the official North American travel agency for many of the world's most popular running events including the BAA Boston Marathon, Virgin London Marathon and many others.

In 1995 MTT created the Antarctica Marathon & Half-Marathon, which generated a new genre of adventure runs. The Antarctica events enabled runners to set and reach the once unthinkable goal of finishing a marathon or half-marathon on all seven continents. Pursuantly, the Seven Continents Club was formed to recognize these runners and to offer special VIP services to international globetrotting distance runners. More information can be found on www.marathontours.com.

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