

## Fact Sheet

### **2021 IRONMAN World Championship** **Saturday, May 7, 2022 (postponed from 2021)**

The IRONMAN World Championship is the longest running and most distinguished endurance event in the world. St. George is honored to host the first IRONMAN World Championship outside of Hawaii.



#### **Anticipated Attendance and Impact**

100+ Countries  
3,500 Athletes  
15,000 family and friends  
\$25-30 Million in Direct Economic Impact

#### **Community Events:** (dates and times forthcoming)

IRONKIDS Run  
Fun Run/5K  
Parade of Nations  
Race Day (from Start Line to Finish Line – all kinds of places to watch the race)

**Volunteers Needed:** 4,000

#### **Almanac**

Average temp: 85°F/29° C  
Average water temp: 62°F/17° C

#### **Reach**

IRONMAN anticipates over 50,000 spectators. And 30 million + reaching via digital means.  
Millions of dollars in media value.

## Course Description: 140.6-mile triathlon

### 2.4-Mile Swim

The race begins around sunrise in Hurricane, Utah with a 2.4-mile swim in the crystal blue waters at Sand Hollow State Park. Sunrises here can be indescribable, and the desert scenery surrounding the reservoir provides views unlike anywhere else in the world. With just a few turns on the course, it's relatively easy for the triathlete to navigate, and pretty easy to see from shore.

### 112-Mile Bike

The bike course will require all the courage, grit, and perseverance of these athletes, as they navigate along the roads and terrain of Greater Zion. The views are nothing short of spectacular – stunning in every direction. With plenty of short and steep climbs throughout the course, bikers will be rewarded with some very fast descents. Athletes will ride the 'outer loop' first, carving their way through the edge of the Mojave Desert and climbing up 'the wall' between Gunlock and Veyo. A swift decent brings them back to the 'inside loop' for the signature climb through epic Snow Canyon State Park. It's a challenging bike course, but with dramatic scenery at every turn, maybe the continuous stream of visual stimulation will inspire some top performances.

### 26.2-Mile Run

The two-loop run course (a standard marathon distance) wanders along pleasant community streets, shady pathways and parks, creating a nice reward for the triathletes' hard work. The course has a number of gradual inclines, totaling 1500 feet of climbing. The run takes them past the M-Dot monument several times. This hot corner, near the finish line, will be filled with energy from spectators. The course offers many other spectating locations along the way for family and friends to cheer on their athlete or everyone. The finish line awaits everyone in the historic Town Square, in the heart of St. George.

## Three World Championships in 13 Months

### 2021 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship

September 18, 2021

### 2021 IRONMAN World Championship

May 7, 2022

(previously slated for Kona, Hawaii)

### 2022 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship

October 28 & 29, 2022

(previously slated for New Zealand)

## History of IRONMAN

The "Iron Man" idea was sparked by Naval Officer John Collins and his wife Judy who issued a challenge to see who the toughest endurance race athletes were: swimmers, cyclists, or runners. Collins sketched out a race combining the Waikiki Rough Water Swim (2.4 miles), Around Oahu Bike Race (112 miles) and the Honolulu Marathon (26.2) miles. The first challenge featured 15 competitors, 12 of which who finished. The victor was Gordon Haller, completing the 140.6-mile triathlon in 11 hours, 46 minutes and 58 seconds.

## IRONMAN Timeline

- 1978 First "Iron Man" Triathlon held on Oahu (February 18).
- 1979 Lyn Lemaire is the first woman to compete.
- 1980 ABC "Wide World of Sports" gets permission to film the event.

**"Swim 2.4 miles, bike 112 miles, run 26.2 miles. Brag for the rest of your life."**

John Collins, IRONMAN Founder

- 1981 Race moves to Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.
- 1982 Julie Moss collapses just yards from the World Championship finish. She is passed for the title, but crawls to the finish line, unknowingly creating one of the most iconic moments in sports history.
- 2019 The most recent IRONMAN World Championship was held on October 12 in Kona. Men's Champion Jan Frodeno of Germany set the course record of 7:51:13. Women's Champion Anne Haug of Germany finished in 8:40:10. Daniela Ryf of Switzerland set the women's course record in 2018 with a winning time of 8:26:18.
- 2020 The IRONMAN World Championship is cancelled due to the global pandemic
- 2021 The IRONMAN World Championship is postponed to 2022 and will be held in St. George, Utah on May 7.

**Website**

IRONMAN: <https://www.ironman.com/im-world-championship-2021>

LOCAL: [ironman.greaterzion.com](http://ironman.greaterzion.com)