

GRO RACES

RACER GUIDE 2026

MARCH 19 to 21 -STAGE RACE

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET READY FOR RACE DAY



You guys are all crazy !

The True Grit Extreme Stage race is no joke. It's a beautifully tough 3 days in the saddle.

Mountain and Gravel Stage guides will be sent in separate emails

Stage 1 is mandatory to ride in person to qualify for the stage. While it is not a timed ride, you will need to check in and check out with our official at the True Grit HQ in Santa Clara. The start window is 7:30 to 9 am . You need to also Check in when you finish! When you return be sure to have your Strava or Garmin to show the official that you finished the official course.

You can pick up your Packet for the rest of the weekend either before or after Stage 1. When you finish there will be food at the venue for you. You will get 3 food coupons (1 for each day) and 2 beer coupons as part of your packet.

You will get a special number plate color that designates you as a Stage racer. There will be a different plate for Stage 2 and Stage 3. You can use the same plate and bike for all 3 stages if you desire. DO NOT BEND OR TRIM THESE !!!!

STAGE 1

Stage one will be on the Turkey Farm Loop. This is a beautifully scenic ride that is equally as good on a gravel bike or a mountain bike. A gravel bike will make you climb and road return smoother, a mountain bike will allow you to boom the descent. Everyone should take pictures of the red rock canyon at the top. Because its fun on either bike we created two slightly different courses to maximize the fun.

[MOUNTAIN BIKE ROUTE STAGE 1](#)

[GRAVEL BIKE ROUTE STAGE 1](#)

Remember, these rides are self -support and self paced. It is your responsibility to download the route, carry all the food and water needed for the ride. We suggest you meet up with other riders and make friends on the ride. The buddy system is always best.

There will not be any markings or marshals out during stage 1.

Because you are riding on a Thursday and traffic can be busy, we are starting your ride at [Pioneer Rim Trail Head](#). You can ride back streets and trails from Santa Clara, but better to save your legs for Stage 2 and 3.

SCORING

For information on scoring see the [Stage Page](#) on the website. The final stage results will show on the same link as the [Mountain Epic Results](#). They will show up after you have finished Stage #2.

Best of luck and enjoy a weekend in the desert!