



Dirty Reiver - Final Rider Brief 2024

Please take the time to read this short Rider Briefing. It contains important pre-event information which will help you to have a great day. When you sign on you will be agreeing to having read this briefing and agreeing to the contents

Introduction:

- The Dirty Reiver is a non-competitive challenge and should not be treated as a race. Trails are shared and riders should ride responsibly
- In true Gravel Grinder fashion you must ride prepared. Kielder is a remote area and though on course first aid and support is provided you should consider this as supplementary to your own self sufficiency
- The Event Village will be open from 1000hrs on Friday 19th April. Our event sponsors will be on hand to chat gravel and many have sponsor goodies and samples to distribute - please visit and thank them for their support
- Kielder has very limited facilities and little/no mobile reception. This is great for a real getaway gravel adventure so please do your emails before you arrive
- The Event Centre has full catering and bar facilities - a full range of food from Friday throughout the weekend

Arrival/Parking/Accommodation:

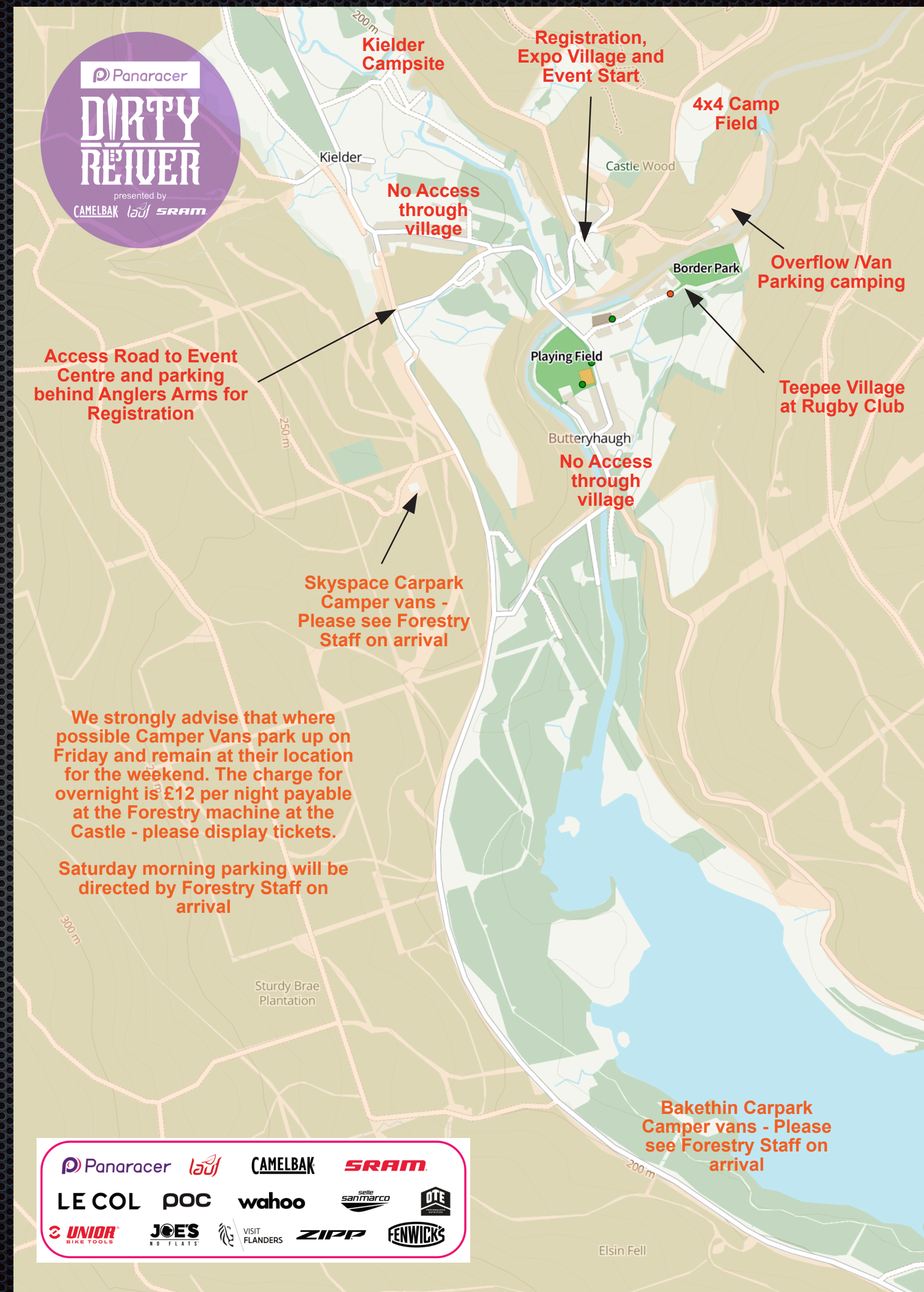
- Please avoid driving through the main village residential areas. Use the main access road signed to 'The Castle'
- For those wishing to register on Friday please park behind The Anglers Arms on the way up to the Castle - first left before the hill
- There is some spaces for camper vans in the top Castle carpark as well provision at Skyspace, Bakethin along the Forest Drive (+ 4x4 park) a few km away (Forestry England charge £12 per van overnight) - see map. Please see Forestry England staff on arrival who will show you to a location
- We recommend camper vans be in situ on Friday evening as parking them first thing Saturday morning can be very busy
- The Teepee Village is situated on the village Rugby Field. Northernstar Tepees team will be there to meet you - see map
- Overflow Camping is marked on the map adjacent to the Castle - Forestry Staff will be on hand to direct you/take payment
- If you are camping at Kielder Campsite this is located and signed to the north of the village. Park up there and you can walk/pedal to the sign on
- Saturday morning arrivals - allow **plenty** of time to park, sign on and get ready. You will be directed by Forestry England staff as you arrive
- Parking for the event is included in the entry fee - please do not park on the road side or obstruct the community highway

Please note:

If you are arriving on Saturday morning allow plenty of time to get parked, sign on, get your bike ready and get to the start - you may be a few 100m away!

The start line closes at 8:15am prompt.

DRONES - we have been requested NOT to fly drones over the event village and Kielder village. Thank you for your support.



Registration:

- Registration will be in the left marquee in the event village at Kielder Castle
- The main registration will be from 1000hrs - 2200hrs on Friday (19th April)
- We have a very short sign on on Saturday morning 0600 - 0715hrs - please allow plenty of time to get ready
- Most sponsor brands will have some goodies/samples, just present your number at their stand
- Riders on the 130/200km distance will be able to leave a drop bag at sign on - this will be transported to Feed 2 (103km) and should be used to supplement your ride provisions - see notes on Feed Stations. We cannot take liquids and do not include valuables. A clear plastic bag will be available at sign on
- Please ensure that you have secured your bike around the event village

Catering:

- On site catering will be available from The Street Diner and Podium Catering throughout the weekend
- Stohk will also be on hand throughout the weekend with their special Dirty Reiver IPA as well as other drinks
- A selection of pasta dishes and fresh pizza will be available until 2200hrs Friday
- Breakfast will be available on site from 0600hrs Saturday
- A post event meal is included for all riders - collect a ticket as you finish - this is from Podium Catering
- A range of dietary requirements will be catered for, please make sure that you make this clear when you order

Compulsory Kit:

Due to the remote nature of the event **all** riders must carry the following items for your safety:

- Whistle
- Mini Survival Blanket
- Waterproof Jacket even if it is not forecast rain (waterproof seams)
- Warm Hat or Buff
- Front Light with a minimum 200 lumens and burn time of 2hrs - late finishers will be in the dark!
- Rear light with flashing mode
- Mobile phone
- Food for the duration of the event
- Ability to carry 1.5l water
- Spare tubes (even if running tubeless)
- Tools, pump, tyre levers, chain splitter and split link, lube
- Spare baselayer (as a dry top if you have to stop)

Please be advised that the weather can change throughout the day and pack appropriately!

Course Summary:

- The 200km course has approx 3590m of climbing
- The 130km course has approx 2120m climbing
- The 65km course has approx 1310m climbing
- Riders should ride to their abilities and to the trail conditions - you will encounter all grades of loose gravel. All trails are shared so please ride responsibly and obey the Highway Code on any sections of public road
- Marshals will be on course - please be courteous and follow their instructions
- In the event of poor weather alternative plans or a reduced course may be used
- Course gpx files are available through the links on the website, files downloaded to other platforms may be adjusted by the mapping software - please check this against the original route.

The Start:

- At Kielder Castle
- There will be no final rider brief so that we can allow riders space to set off in smaller groups - any final information will be communicated on the Rider Notice Boards - please read before signing on
- The start will commence at 0745 to 0815hrs - please note that the start will close after this time and please bear in mind the cut-offs will not change
- No riders will be allowed onto the course after 0815hrs when the sweep vehicle/safety team will leave
- A short neutralised section of approx 3km will allow riders to settle into their rhythm - please note the event is not a race!

Cut-Offs:

- We have two main cut-offs for rider safety on the course. Marshals will be on hand at these times to ensure riders take the correct route
- Please note these times and plan your start time as well as how long you spend at feed stations
- Wahoo have a top tube sticker available with all of the course information - available at their stand
- Cut-Off 1: 34km at 1030hrs for 130/200km riders
- Cut-Off 2: 136km at 1630hrs for the 200km route
- Optional Cut-off at 178km at 2015hrs for 200km route riders if they are unlikely to make the course closure
- The course will close at 2130hrs Saturday
- Times will be strictly adhered to - Riders will be advised if they do not make the cut-off. Please be respectful of this as we want to ensure rider safety

Course Marking:

- Full gpx files are available for each route via the website (3 weeks to go)- please download and check them in advance of the event - some gpx device/software settings can alter them to fit 'known' trails. It is the riders responsibility to check this!
- The course will be clearly marked throughout with black on yellow arrows and course markings flags - examples on Rider Notice Boards
- Please follow course marking and marshal directions even if using a gpx
- Riders should remain on course, this is where we expect to find you if there is a problem - if answering a call of nature please leave your bike visible
- We cannot support riders who leave the official course

Feed Stations:

- Feed Stations are at 53km, 103km for 130/200km riders plus 154km for 200km riders
- Feed Station at 47km for the 65km riders
- Whilst we will endeavour to cater for all requirements please check with staff if you have specific dietary needs
- Feed Stations will be managed as sensitively as possible with consideration to hygiene
- We are avoiding using disposable plastic cups for drinks - please use your rider bottle
- We will aim to provide:
 - Feed 1 (Water, Hydration Drinks, OTE, Bananas, sweet snacks) - RedBull will also be present
 - Feed 2 (Rider Drop Bags, OTE Nutrition, Tea/Coffee, Water, Bananas, Fig Rolls, Flapjack, Savoury Nibbles etc)
 - Feed 3 (Water, Bananas, Fig Rolls, Flapjack, OTE Nutrition, Savoury Nibbles)
 - Limited Neutral Service courtesy of Unior Tools

Mechanical/Medical Support:

- SRAM neutral service will be on hand at the Event Centre to support riders - please do not assume that this is a free service and check with the mechanics beforehand
- Unior neutral support plus some basic tools, track pump, tubes etc at Feed Stations
- We will have some additional mobile support courtesy also of Unior Tools
- First Aid support will be available at each feed station
- Many of our marshals are first aid trained and will carry first aid kits
- Our Medic Teams will be stationed at intervals on the course and will be mobile
- We will have a dedicated Medical Centre at Kielder Castle
- Any changes to Medical Information please let us know at sign on - your medical info is linked to your rider number

Timing/The Finish:

- Timing chips are built into Rider Number Boards - please do not trim your board or you may not get a time!
- Please display the number board fully and do not wrap it around the head tube or bars!
- There are compulsory timing stations on parts of the route. Riders must pass through all of the splits to get a final time for their course
- The Finish is at Kielder Castle
- All riders MUST report to the finish even if they retire
- Please take care around the event centre as these roads are shared with the public
- Times will be available to riders once they have crossed the line - please ask for your print out

Sweep Riders/Retirees:

- Each section of the route will be 'cleared' by our event team
- The sweep team will carry first aid and some limited spares
- All participants should remain on the marked route unless agreed with a marshal
- Anyone wishing to retire should report to the next marshal point for guidance - please note that Kielder is a remote location and some parts of the route are a long way from the finish

And Finally:

- Please take the time to check out any last minute notices on the Rider Notice Board
- Keep your bike secure at all times
- Remember to enjoy the day
- Look out for each other and chat to new friends
- Pace yourself - it is a long way
- Remember: 'Food In = Miles Out'
- Please visit the event sponsors who have contributed enormously to the success of the event - many will have sponsor goody bags to hand to riders - please take your number with you