

Hit your runner's high atop the Astoria Bridge

2019 Great Columbia Crossing registration now open

ASTORIA — Now is the time to reserve your spot in the Great Columbia Crossing 10K run/walk — this year's only opportunity to cross the longest continuous truss bridge in North America on foot.

After a successful first-year full closure during the 2018 race, the bridge will be fully closed to vehicles the morning of Oct. 13. Runners and walkers trekking from Washington to Oregon across



Photo by Evan Pilchik

Runners round the home curves in the Great Columbia Crossing 10K run/walk in 2018.

the Astoria Bridge can focus on their performance without being confined to one lane and without the distraction of passing cars.

The 200-foot incline offers runners and walkers scenic views of the mouth of the river and marine activity below. After crossing the finish line, participants can head into the historic town of Astoria to fuel up with coastal fare and local craft brews as the morning fog starts to lift.

Registration is open for the Official USA Track &

Field Certified Event. All participants will be timed via electronic chip, and competitive racers will be allowed to start ahead of the walkers and those wishing to take in the scenery. Register online at greatcolumbiacrossing.com during May to save \$10: Registration is discounted to \$35 and the optional T-shirt is discounted by \$5, too.

If You Go

WHEN: 8:30 to 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 13

WHERE: Participants start at Dismal Nitch Rest Area in Washington and complete the race at the finish line at the foot of Basin Street in Astoria.

COST: Early bird registration in May only: \$35 (includes electronic chip timing) and \$5 off commemorative T-shirt (online signups only)

Registration after May 31: \$40 (includes electronic chip timing)

DETAILS:

- Free parking with shuttle bus service to start of race from the Port of Astoria or the Port of Chinook, Washington
- Bib number (required to board shuttle and access bridge)
- Finish line bites and water
- Five "Clam Bucks" worth \$1 each can be redeemed at participating Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce businesses from Oct. 10-16
- Once a year opportunity to run or walk across the Astoria Bridge which will be completely closed to vehicles

SPONSOR: The Great Columbia Crossing is hosted by the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce. The presenting sponsor is the Columbia Memorial Hospital Cardiology Clinic, a CMH/OHSU Collaboration.

VOLUNTEER: For this event to take place, the chamber relies on volunteers filling roughly 80 shifts over four days. Volunteers help with several duties from packet pickup and race-course set up to shuttle bus loading and distributing water at the finish line. If you are interested in being a part of our "Great team," sign up later this summer to volunteer at greatcolumbiacrossing.com.

For more information, go online or call 503-325-6311 or 800-875-6807, email events@oldoregon.com or come by 111 W. Marine Drive.



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Reserve your spot now for flutist, vocalist concert

ASTORIA — Irish/Japanese-American flutist and vocalist Hanz Araki performs his new solo material recently featured on Thisle and Shamrock radio at a house concert on Friday, June 14.

John Gaasland and Joan Herman host the concert at their home in central Astoria. Tickets are \$15 at the door and CDs will be for sale by cash or check. Come at 7 p.m. with finger food to share and BYOB, if you like. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. Email jlbowler@charter.net or call 503-298-9258 to reserve your place. Only 40 tickets are available.



Irish/Japanese-American flutist and vocalist Hanz Araki