Kobe Marathon 2026 Participation Guide

Event Schedule

Runner Check-In

*You will need your passport (not a copy) and web participation voucher.

Friday, November 13	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm (latest time for admission)	Runner Check-In	Kobe International Exhibition Hall No. 1 Building, 1st Floor (Expo Venue)
Saturday, November 14	10:00 am – 7:00 pm (latest time for admission)	Kobe Marathon EXPO 2026	Kobe International Exhibition Hall No. 1, 2 and 3 Buildings, 1st Floor

Kobe Marathon 2026

Sunday, November 15	7:00 am – 8:30 am	Baggage Check	West Block: Kobe East Park *See pages 5–7 for details. East Block: Minato no Mori Park (Kobe Earthquake Recovery Memorial Park)
	7:45 am – 8:45 am	Wave 1 Runner Lineup	In front of Kobe City Hall, Flower Road (Starting Point)
	7:45 am – 9:05 am	Wave 2 Runner Lineup	
	8:45 am	Opening Ceremony	
	9:00 am	Wave 1 Start	
	9:15 am	Wave 2 Start	
	4:00 pm	Finish	Kobe Harborland (Gaslight Street)

● Precautions

Changing clothes anywhere other than the venue's changing rooms is prohibited.
Please do not get changed inside retail stores, toilets, etc.

Runner Check-In (1 Day/2 Days before Race)

Check-In Times

Friday, November 13, 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm (latest time for admission)
Saturday, November 14, 10:00 am – 7:00 pm (latest time for admission)

Be sure to use public transportation to come to the venue.
There is no parking for cars, motorcycles, or bicycles.

Venue **1st Floor, No. 1 Building, Kobe International Exhibition Hall (Expo Venue)**
Address: 6-11-1 Minatojima Nakamachi, Chuo-ku, Kobe

Access **Port Liner "Shimin Hiroba" Station**

*No check-ins will be conducted on race day.
*No check-ins can be conducted after the above times, and even delays due to public transportation will not be exempted, so please allow plenty of time to arrive.

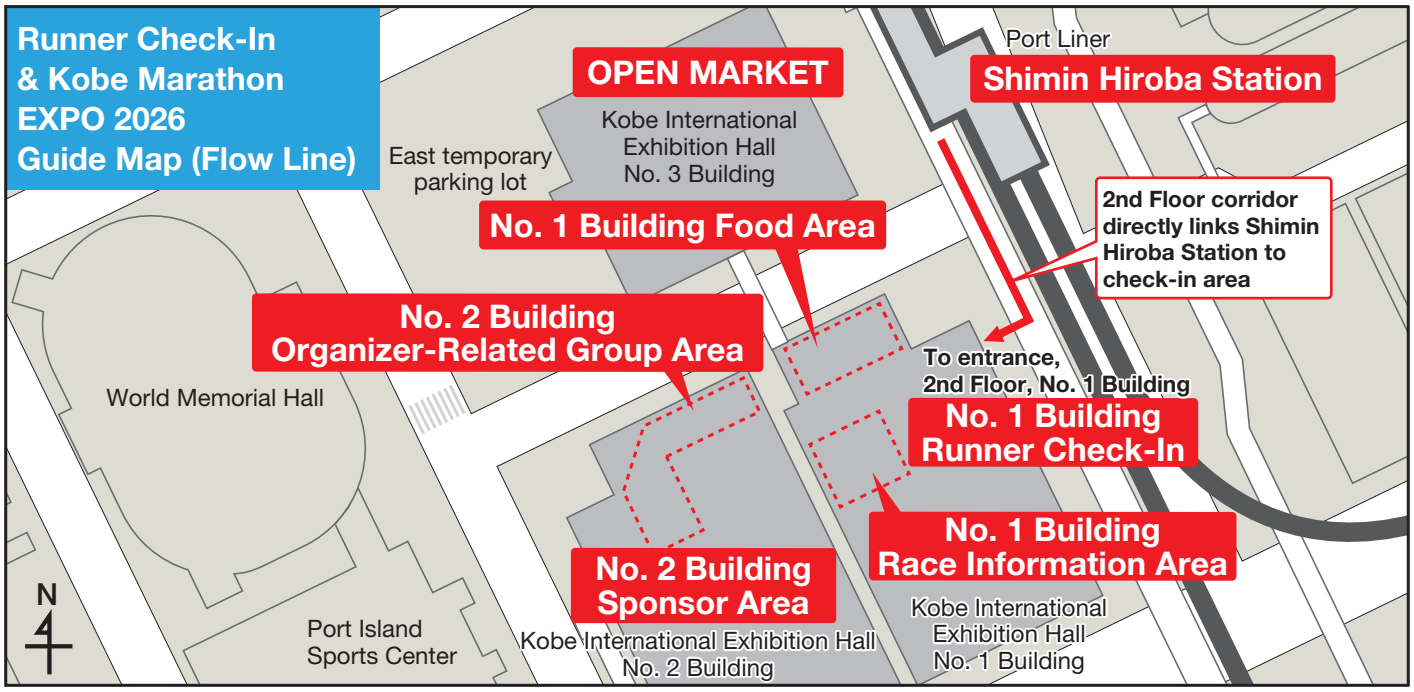
What to Bring to Runners Check-In

- Identification Documents (Originals)
  Passport
- Web Participation Voucher
  *You will be required to fill in your emergency contact details and agree to the pledge beforehand.

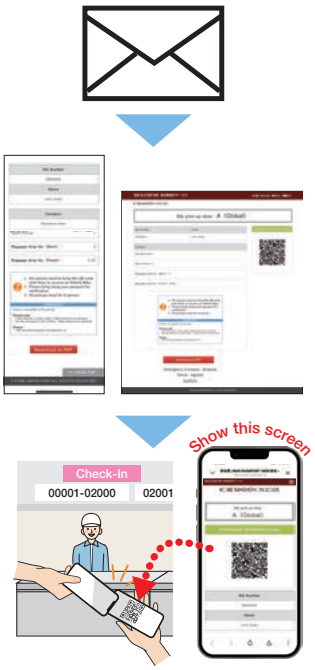
Check-In Procedure

1 Confirm Identification Documents Show Web Participation Voucher → 2 Exchange for Athlete Bib → 3 Receive sunflower gloves

- You will be asked to confirm your identity when you check-in, so please be sure to bring your passport.
- Check-in cannot be performed by a representative with a letter of authorization, etc.



Procedure for Web Participation Voucher



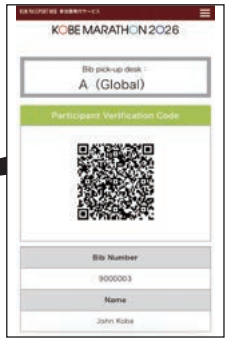
Receive Email Regarding Check-In

This email will explain the check-in procedure, so please ensure you read it beforehand to confirm your check-in procedure on the day.

Issue Web Participation Voucher

Issue your web participation voucher by clicking the link in the email. You will be required to fill in your emergency contact details and agree to the pledge.

Example screen display



Confirm at Check-In Counter

Near the top of your web participation voucher, where it says “Athlete Bib Exchange Counter,” is the number of the counter you should use. Please check this in advance.

Show Web Participation Voucher at Check-In

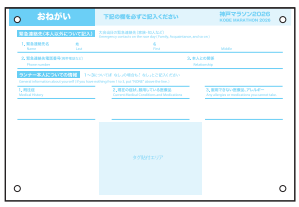
At check-in, please either show the web participation voucher displayed on your smartphone or tablet, or bring a printout of the voucher. (screenshots also accepted) If you are using a screenshot of your web participation voucher, please ensure the check-in counter number and 2D code are visible.

List of Items to Pick Up at Check-In

Athlete Bibs

- Upon receipt, check that there are no mistakes in the way your name is printed.
- Using the included safety pins, attach the athlete bib to your clothing where it will be visible, by the day before the race. Runners without their bibs attached may be **disqualified**. Please be aware that **athlete bibs cannot be reissued**.
- **Please fill in the emergency contact details on the back of your athlete bib. This information is required to contact family members or others in an emergency.**
- Participants who applied for charity athlete bibs should attach them at 2 locations—chest and back. Please ensure the athlete bib with the timing tag is attached to the front.
- Printed information such as your nickname cannot be changed.





Timing Tag

- Do not remove the timing tag from your athlete bib.
- You do not need to return your timing tag.

Plastic Bag and Sticker for Personal Items

- Please affix to the center of your plastic bag for personal items by the day before the race.
- Baggage checked at the starting area will be returned at the finish area. Baggage checked at the starting area will be returned at the finish area. **You will need to show your athlete bib when checking and collecting baggage.**
- Fasten the drawstring securely so items inside do not spill out.
- Items that do not fit in the plastic bag **cannot be checked**. **Please don’t place long umbrellas in the bag**. If the weather is rainy, please bring a folding umbrella or raincoat, etc.
- Things such as **valuables** and hazardous items **cannot be checked**. Please be aware that we will not bear any responsibility if valuables are lost during the race.



Sunflower Gloves

- Please do not discard your sunflower gloves on the course, as they will become **litter** and a nuisance for other runners and supporters.



CHECK Important!! Measures for Rain Improving Manners

Kobe Marathon EXPO 2026 / KOBE MARATHON OPEN MARKET 2026

Venue Kobe International Exhibition Hall No. 1 and 2 Buildings, 1st Floor

Date/time November 13 (Fri) 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm November 14 (Sat) 10:00 am – 7:00 pm



An enjoyable 2 days in Kobe for all to enjoy, runners, friends, and families alike, including various stage events and booths set up by companies supporting the Kobe Marathon.
As well as the chance to buy limited-edition products only available here, there will be wide range of delicacies to sample Hyogo's rich food culture at Hyogo Gokoku World. Fully savor the delights of Kobe Marathon with all the sights to see, great items to buy, and tastes to discovers!

Check out the website for details.
EXPO2026 https://kobe-marathon.net/2026/global/race/expo/
OPEN MARKET https://kobe-marathon.net/2026/global/race/market/

WELCOME KOBE MARATHON CAMPAIGN

Dates November 1 (Sun) to 30 (Mon)



Enjoy More Than Just the Run. Experience Kobe Marathon to the Fullest! The WELCOME KOBE MARATHON CAMPAIGN is here, offering special discounts and exclusive benefits at participating stores and facilities across Kobe and Akashi.
Simply present the designated campaign image (flyer) at participating locations to receive special offers and services. While you're here, take the opportunity to explore the area's attractions, savor local cuisine, and enjoy shopping as you discover the unique charm of Kobe and Akashi. Make your Kobe Marathon experience even more memorable, both on and off the course!

Finish Park

Venue Meriken Park

Date/time November 15 (Sun) 10:00 pm – 4:30 pm



Head to Meriken Park After You Finish! The excitement of the Kobe Marathon doesn't end at the finish line.
Join our special prize draw using your athlete bib number for a chance to win wonderful prizes showcasing the best of Kobe and Hyogo. There's even more to enjoy, including a relaxing Arima Onsen footbath, live stage performances, food trucks, and exclusive photo spots. A variety of attractions will keep the celebration going throughout the day.
Be sure to join your family and friends and make the most of your Kobe Marathon experience!





Finish Park
https://kobe-marathon.net/2026/support/supportevent/fes2/
(Japanese only)

Starting Area Guide Map

Before starting the race

1 Arrival, Change

Changing rooms are provided inside the venue, so please refrain from changing in the underground shopping malls, arcades, or areas such as stores or toilets located on the route to the venue.

2 Baggage Check

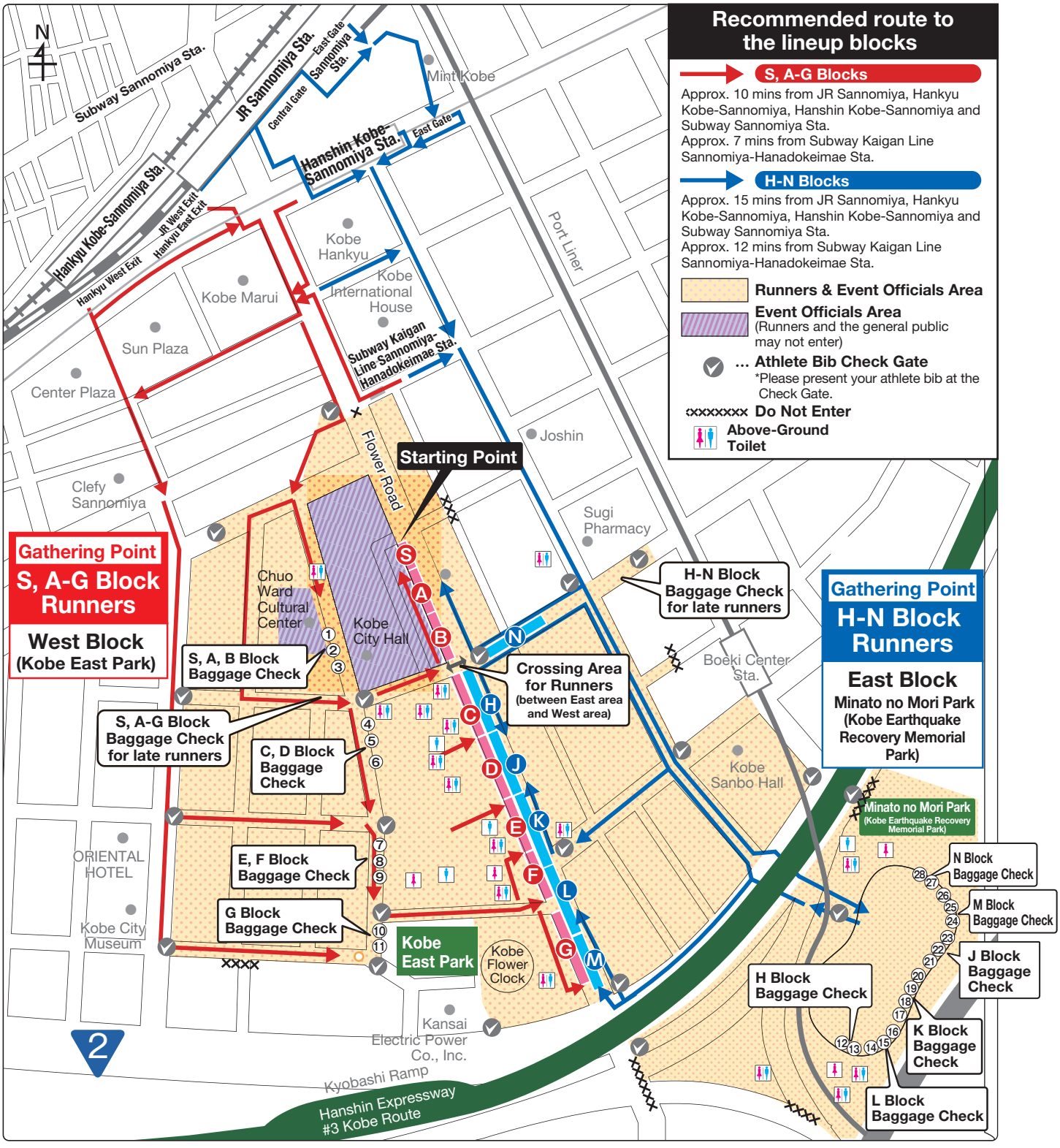
Please check your baggage in the truck with the number printed on your athlete bib or the sticker on your plastic bag for personal items.

3 Block Lineup, Start

Line up in the block according to the number on your athlete bib.

CHECK

1. Congestion is expected, so please check your baggage early and line up in your start block at the designated time.
2. S, A-G Block runners are in Wave 1, H-N Block runners are in Wave 2.



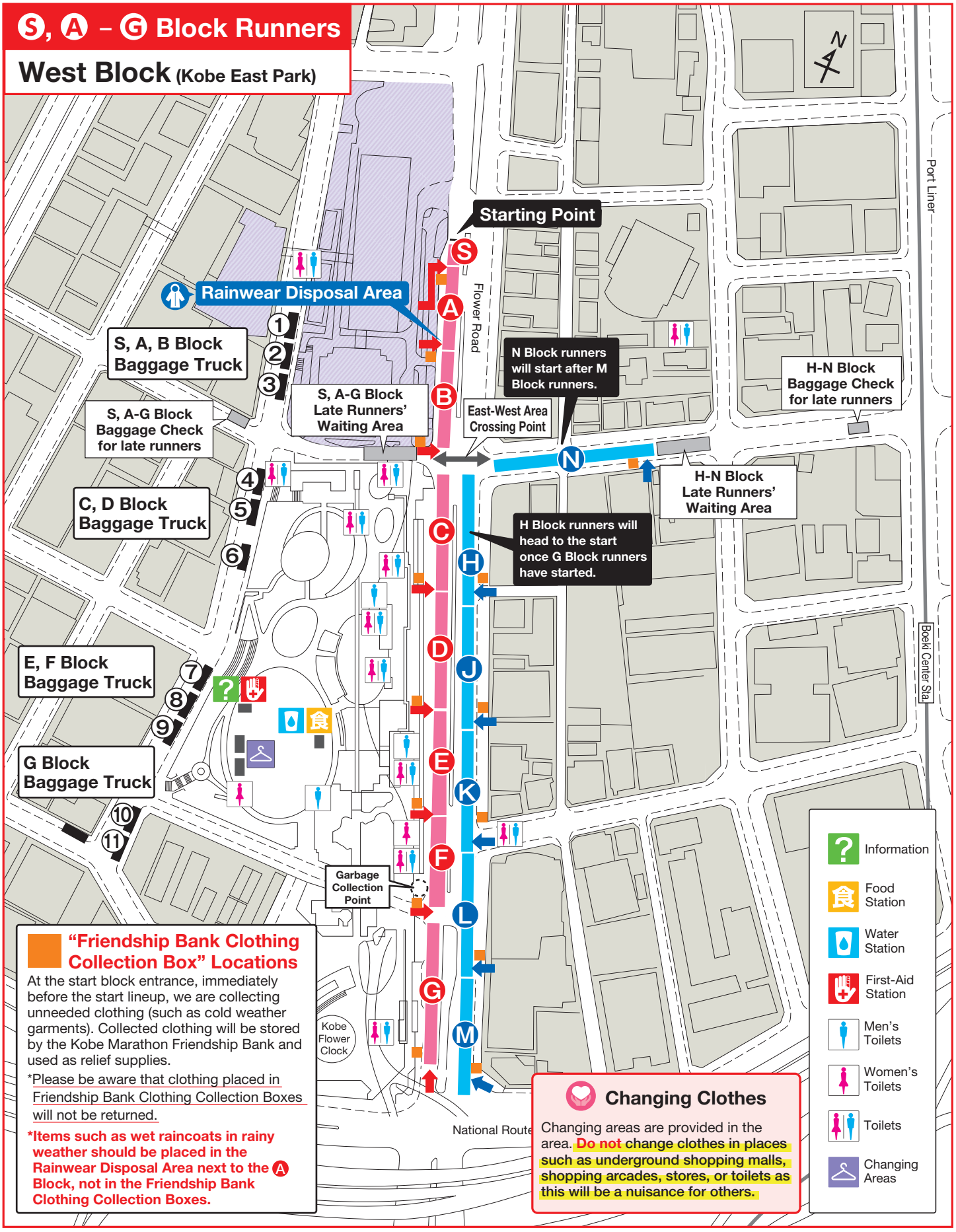
Starting Area Runner Service Area ①

Event Officials Area (Runners and the general public may not enter)

Ⓢ, Ⓐ - Ⓖ Wave 1 Ⓗ - Ⓝ Wave 2

Ⓢ, Ⓐ – Ⓖ Block Runners

West Block (Kobe East Park)



"Friendship Bank Clothing Collection Box" Locations

At the start block entrance, immediately before the start lineup, we are collecting unneeded clothing (such as cold weather garments). Collected clothing will be stored by the Kobe Marathon Friendship Bank and used as relief supplies.

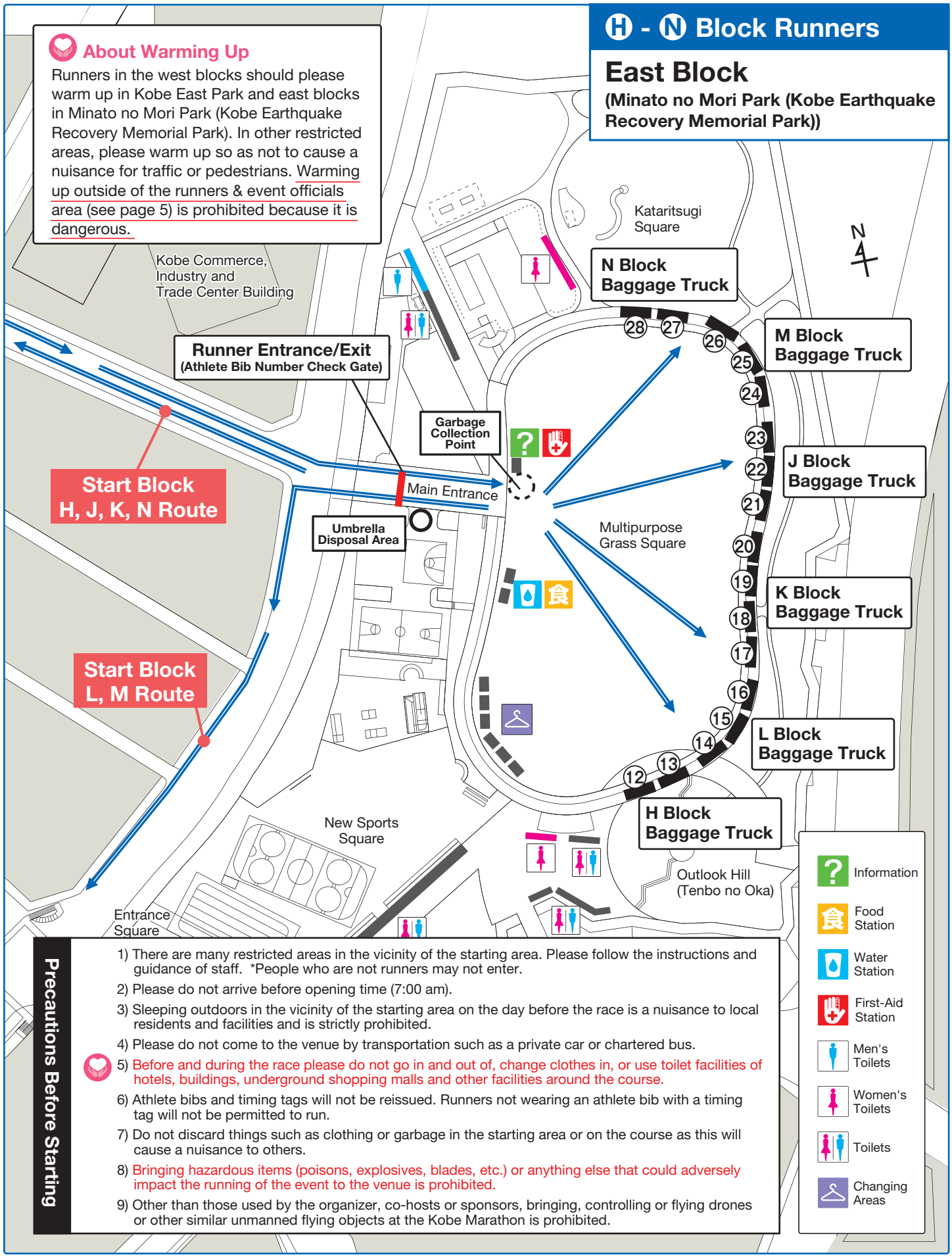
*Please be aware that clothing placed in Friendship Bank Clothing Collection Boxes will not be returned.

***Items such as wet raincoats in rainy weather should be placed in the Rainwear Disposal Area next to the Ⓐ Block, not in the Friendship Bank Clothing Collection Boxes.**

Changing Clothes

Changing areas are provided in the area. **Do not change clothes in places such as underground shopping malls, shopping arcades, stores, or toilets as this will be a nuisance for others.**

Starting Area Runner Service Area ②



Precautions Before Starting

1) There are many restricted areas in the vicinity of the starting area. Please follow the instructions and guidance of staff. *People who are not runners may not enter.
2) Please do not arrive before opening time (7:00 am).
3) Sleeping outdoors in the vicinity of the starting area on the day before the race is a nuisance to local residents and facilities and is strictly prohibited.
4) Please do not come to the venue by transportation such as a private car or chartered bus.
5) Before and during the race please do not go in and out of, change clothes in, or use toilet facilities of hotels, buildings, underground shopping malls and other facilities around the course.
6) Athlete bibs and timing tags will not be reissued. Runners not wearing an athlete bib with a timing tag will not be permitted to run.
7) Do not discard things such as clothing or garbage in the starting area or on the course as this will cause a nuisance to others.
8) Bringing hazardous items (poisons, explosives, blades, etc.) or anything else that could adversely impact the running of the event to the venue is prohibited.
9) Other than those used by the organizer, co-hosts or sponsors, bringing, controlling or flying drones or other similar unmanned flying objects at the Kobe Marathon is prohibited.

On Race Day (Sunday, Nobember 15)

Check-In Times

7:00 am Baggage Check opens (until 8:30 am)
7:45 am Runner lineup behind allocated start blocks begins
8:45 am Opening Ceremony

During the ceremony, there will be a silent prayer, then after everyone will sing Kobe City Song, Shiawase Hakoberu Youni (“To Bring Happiness”), a song that supported the road to recovery from the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake. All 20,000 runners will raise their hands in time while wearing yellow gloves, to create a sunflower of “Thanks and Friendship,” brimming with smiling faces!



8:45 am Wave 1 Runner Lineup complete
9:00 am Wave 1 Start
9:05 am Wave 2 Runner Lineup complete
9:15 am Wave 2 Start

Runners in Wave 2 (H, J, K, L, M, N) will start after Wave 1 (S, A, B, C, D, E, F, G) runners.

Items to Bring on Race Day (Please see the checklist on page 12)

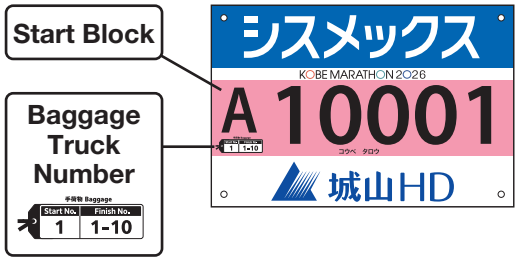
Changing Areas

- Changing areas are provided in both the east block (Kobe East Park) and west block (Minato no Mori Park (Kobe Earthquake Recovery Memorial Park)).
- **Please do not change clothes in places such as underground shopping malls, shopping arcades, stores, or toilets.** Please change in advance at your lodging, or in one of the designated changing areas, and observe all rules and etiquette.

Baggage Check

7:00 am – 8:30 am

- Please check your baggage in the truck with the number printed on your athlete bib or the sticker on your plastic bag for personal items. Baggage cannot be checked after the above time has passed.
- After checking your baggage, it cannot be retrieved. Your baggage truck number and start block are displayed on your athlete bib.
- Fasten the drawstring securely so items inside do not spill out.
- Items that do not fit in the plastic bag cannot be checked. Please don’t place long umbrellas in the bag. If the weather is rainy, please bring a folding umbrella or raincoat, etc.
- Things such as valuables and hazardous items cannot be checked. Please be aware that we will not bear any responsibility if valuables are lost during the race.



Runner Lineup

Wave 1 **7:45 am – 8:45 am (S, A, B, C, D, E, F, G Blocks)**

Wave 2 **7:45 am – 9:05 am (H, J, K, L, M, N Blocks)**

Place: Designated block (S–N Block) indicated on the athlete bib (see page 5-7)

- Cut-off time for admission to S, A, B, C, D, E, F, G Blocks is 8:45 am, H, J, K, L, M, N Blocks is 9:05 am. Please allow yourself plenty of time to go to your block.
- **If Wave 2 runners start with Wave 1, they will be disqualified.**
- Guide routes vary depending on the block. Please follow the directions on guidance signs and instructions from staff.
- Runners who do not arrive in time for lineup must start from the very back of Wave 2.
- Runners cannot run once their individual starting points have closed.
- Congestion is expected, particularly if the weather is rainy, so please give yourself plenty of time and set out early.
- You will not be able to bring your umbrella to the start blocks.

Please refer to the event website for precautions on rainy weather. https://kobe-marathon.net/2026/runner/safety/rain (Japanese only)

- Please do not queue jump at the Start Blocks.

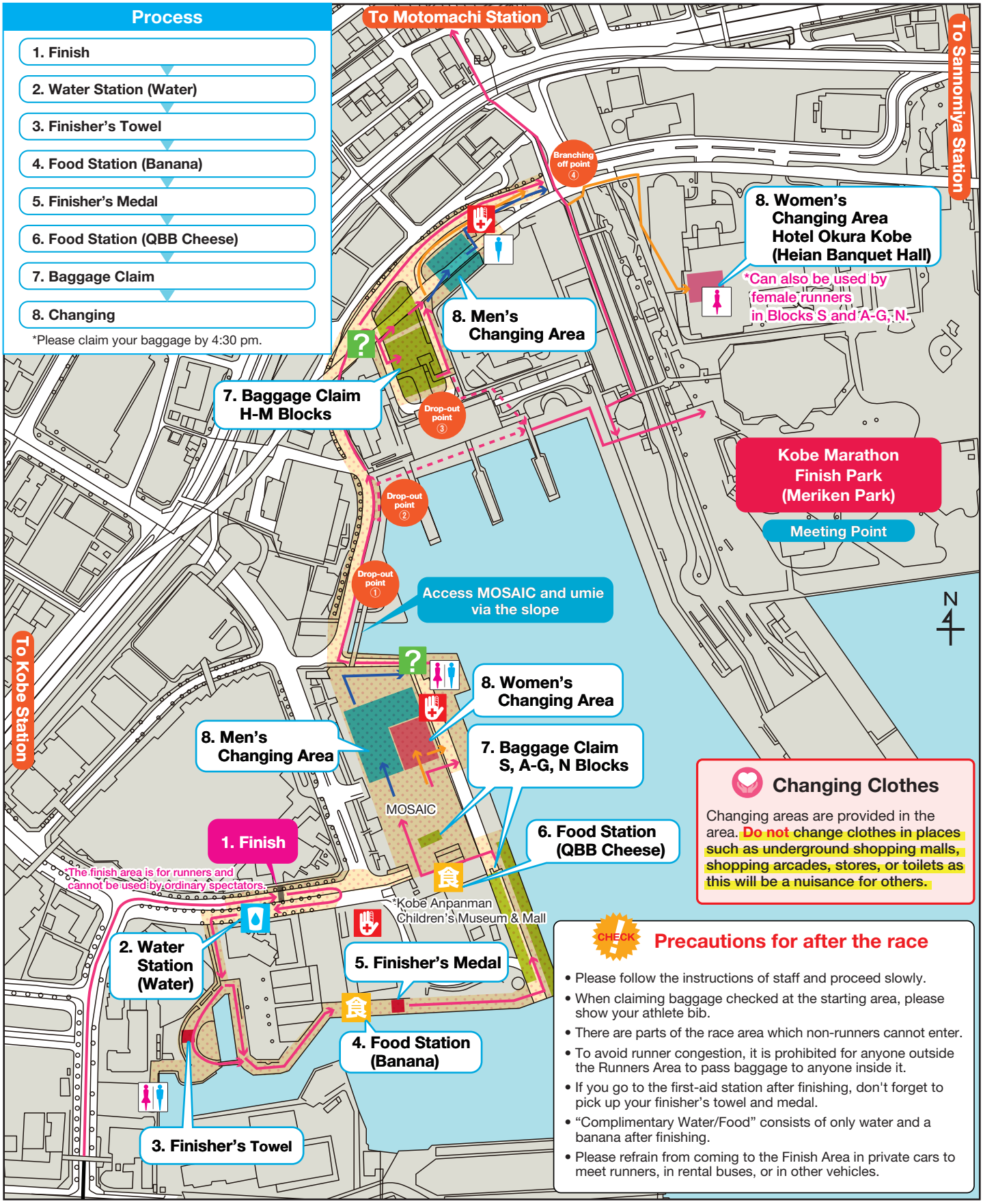
Health Check

- A Health Checklist is posted on the Kobe Marathon website. All participants should check it before check-in time.
- At check-in, a Pre-Start Checklist will be distributed. Please check the contents. If you are not feeling well, please withdraw from the race and do not make an unreasonable attempt to run.
- If your physical condition seems abnormal during the race, do not force yourself. Please have the courage to drop out of the race.

*If you need to be treated at a medical institution, it will be at your own expense.

*For the sake of themselves and other participants, people infected with, or who have just recovered from, influenza or other contagious diseases should not participate in the race.

Finish Area Map



Runner Flow Line
Male Runner Flow Line
Female Runner Flow Line

*It is not possible to move in the opposite direction from the route, so please remember to collect your baggage.

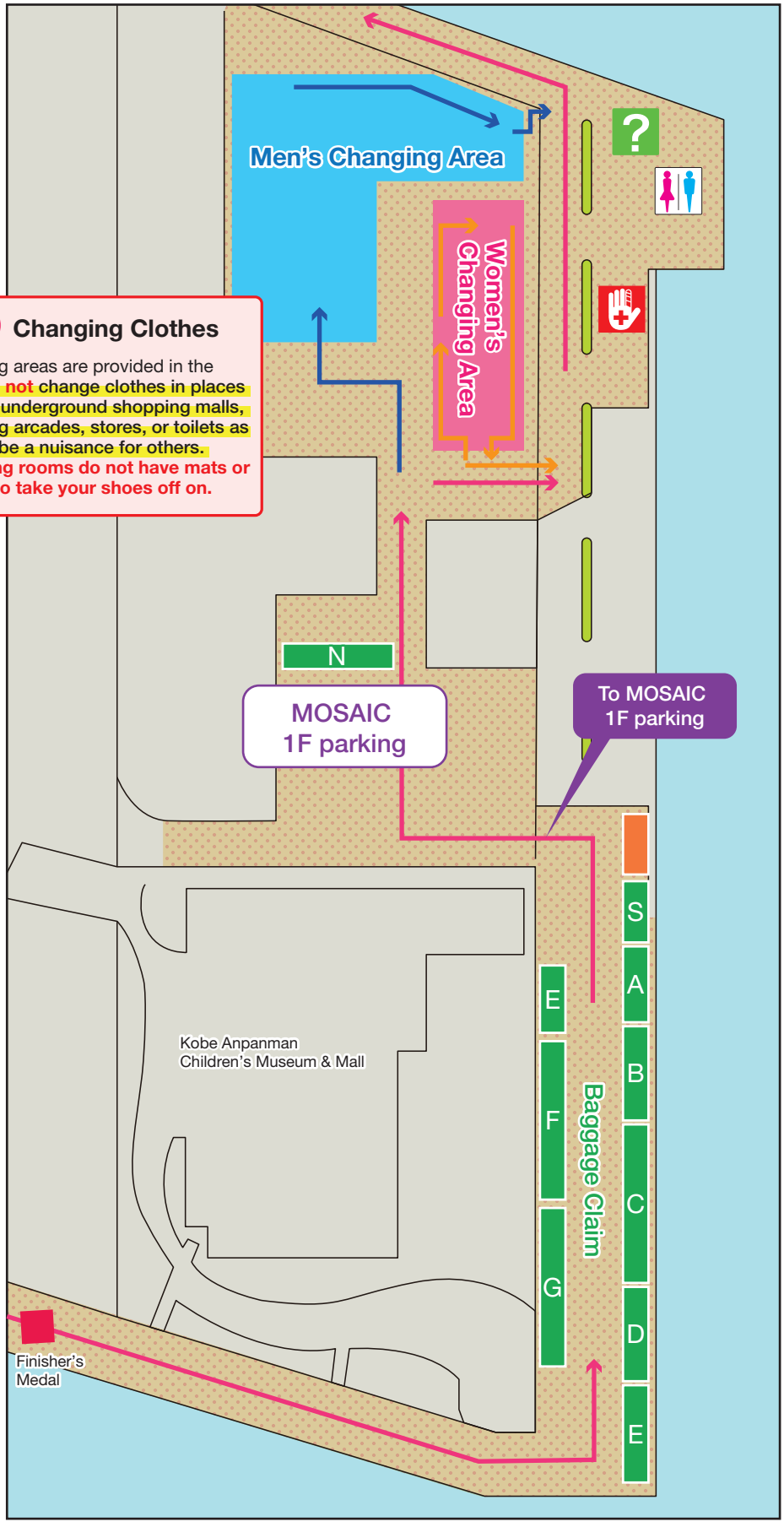
Runners & Event Officials Area

*Only runners are allowed to enter the Runners Area.
*It is not possible to return after leaving the runners area.

First-Aid Station
Toilets
Information

Drop-out point ①~③ Branching off point ④ See page 11 for information about branching off points.

Finish Area Map/Blocks S and A-G, N (Takahamaganpeki Area)



Changing Clothes

Changing areas are provided in the area. **Do not change clothes in places such as underground shopping malls, shopping arcades, stores, or toilets as this will be a nuisance for others.**
Changing rooms do not have mats or similar to take your shoes off on.

Runner Flow Line

Male Runner Flow Line

Female Runner Flow Line

Runners & Event Officials Area

*Only runners are allowed to enter the Runners Area.

First-Aid Station

Information

Toilets

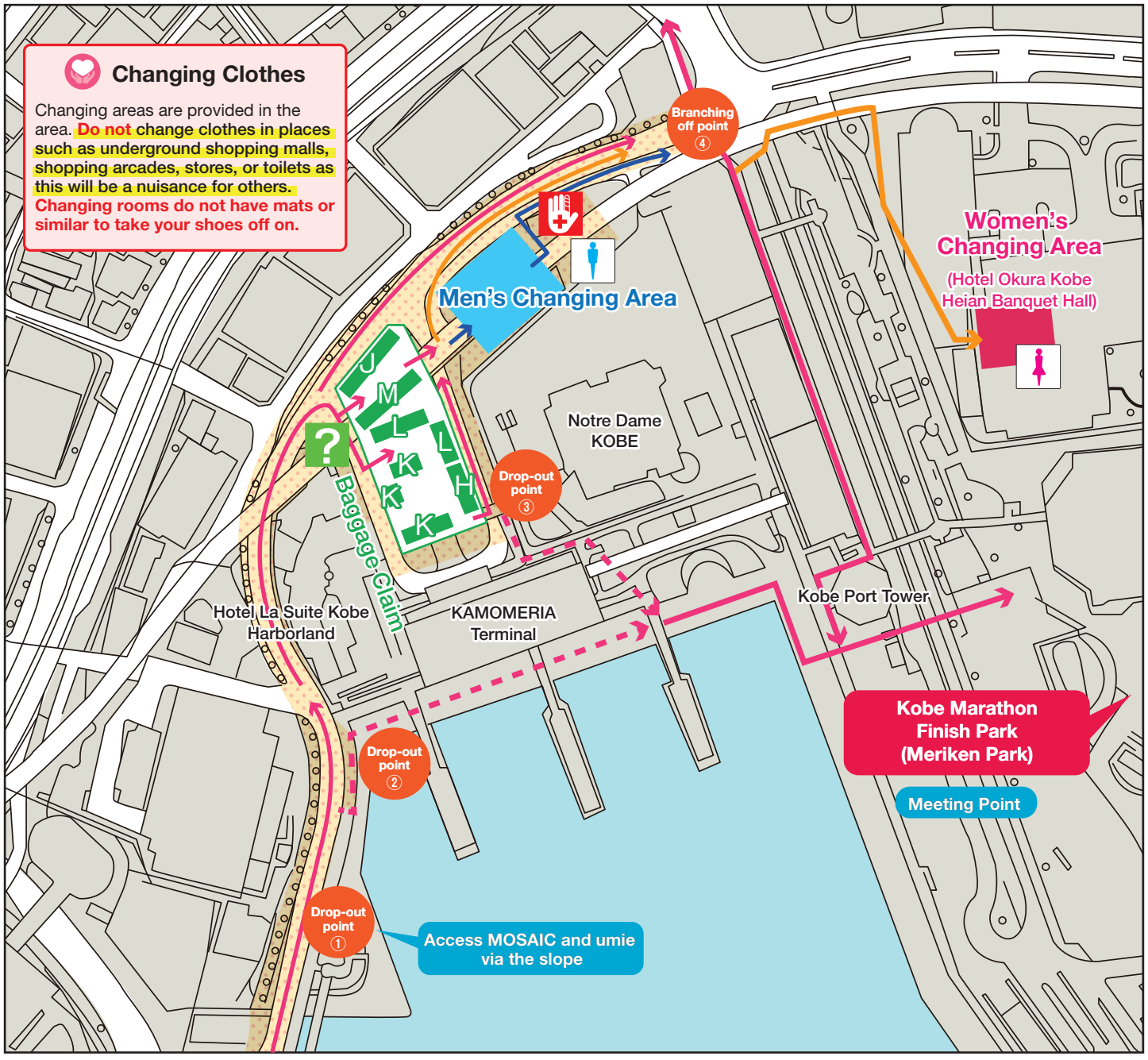
Precautions for after the race

- **The route leading to the area around KAMOMERIA Terminal (see Drop-out point① on page 9) is compulsory for all runners. Please be aware that it is not possible to become separated from the other participants partway along the route until the Drop-out point ① (see page 9).**
- It is very dangerous to travel in the opposite direction from the route. For runners in Blocks S and A-G, N, please remember to collect your baggage.
- There is an indoor women's changing room at the Hotel Okura Kobe. This can also be used by female runners from Blocks S and A-G, N.
- It is not possible to return after leaving the runners area.
- Please arrange to meet friends and relatives at the Finish Park (Meriken Park).

Passing baggage to runners

To avoid runner congestion, it is prohibited for anyone outside the Runners Area to pass baggage to anyone inside it.

Finish Area Map/Blocks H-M (KAMOMERIA Terminal Area)



Runner Flow Line

Male Runner Flow Line

Female Runner Flow Line

Runners & Event Officials Area

*Only runners are allowed to enter the Runners Area.

First-Aid Station

Toilets

Information

CHECK Precautions for after the race

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- Please arrange to meet friends and relatives at the Finish Park (Meriken Park).

CHECK Passing baggage to runners

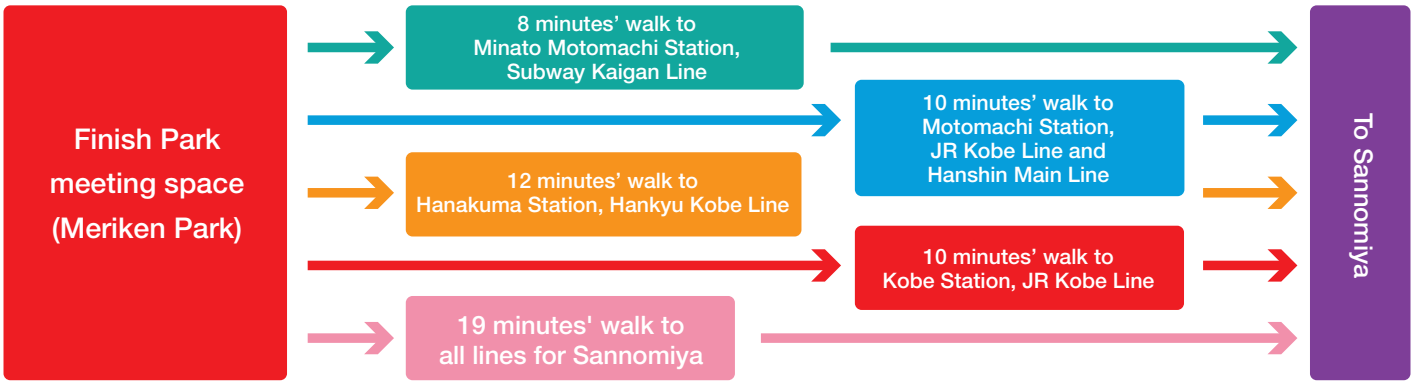
To avoid runner congestion, it is prohibited for anyone outside the Runners Area to pass baggage to anyone inside it.

Drop-out point ①②
S, A-G, N Block
Runners without baggage can separate from other participants

Drop-out point ③
H-M Block
Male runners can separate from other participants

Branching off point ④
To Motomachi
Women's Changing Area (Hotel Okura Kobe)
Finish Park (Meriken Park)

Recommended Return Route from Finish Park



There is no parking lot

Other Precautions

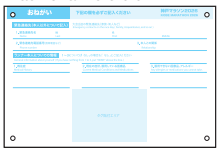
- Please be aware that on race day, runners may be instructed not to run on the basis of a judge's decision.
- Please be aware that things such as names, voices, photographs, and moving pictures of participating athletes may be used in media or on the Internet and that all reporting relating to the race will be conducted without remuneration. Where photographs, etc., are used, they may be subject to editing using generative AI or other digital technologies.
- Please exercise good manners when taking photos.
- Please observe etiquette and be considerate to all participants taking part in the event.
  *Do not discard items such as paper cups on the road. They can be dangerous to other runners—visually-impaired runners in particular.
- If the race is canceled for reasons that are not the organizers' responsibility, there will be no refunds of participation fees, etc.
- **Other than those used by the organizer, co-hosts or sponsors, bringing, controlling or flying drones or other similar unmanned flying objects at the Kobe Marathon is prohibited.**

*If you find a suspicious item, never touch, smell, or move it.
*We recommend carrying about ¥1,000 to cover transportation costs if taking a train is required due to an emergency.
*In the unlikely event that you are taken to hospital, you may need to pay a fee at the out-of-hours desk.

Front of athlete bib



Back of athlete bib



Checklist of Items to Bring on Race Day

Be sure to fill out the required items on the back.

● Necessary Items

- ☐ Athlete bib
  (please fill in the required information on the back)
- ☐ Plastic bag for personal items
  (Do not forget to affix the sticker)
- ☐ Sunflower gloves
- ☐ Emergency transportation money
  (about ¥1,000 is recommended)

● Recommended Items

- ☐ My Number card
- ☐ Light food
  (energy jellies, replenishment for salt, sugar, minerals, etc.)
- ☐ Physical care measures: Items such as petroleum jelly, adhesive bandages, etc.
- ☐ Measures for protection against rain/cold:
  Rainwear, cold weather garments, gloves, arm warmers, etc.

● Marathon weather data from previous two years

Year			Weather condition	Temperature (°C)	Humidity	Wind direction	Wind (m/s)
Nov. 17, 2024	9:00 am	Start	Cloudy	20.5	70%	Easterly	0.1
	3:00 am	Finish	Sunny	21.5	58%	North-westerly	0.6
Nov. 16, 2025	9:00 am	Start	Sunny	16.0	84%	Southerly	1.3
	3:00 am	Finish	Sunny	18.5	66%	Easterly	0.2

*Factors such as temperature will vary depending on the weather on race day, so please take measures on your own against rain, heat and cold.

● Kobe Marathon Latest Information ●

● Contact:

jtbss@jtb.com

Weekdays (except for Sat, Sun, and holidays)
10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Office hours during the event:
November 13 (Fri) ..... 10:00 am – 8:30 pm
November 14 (Sat) .... 10:00 am – 7:30 pm
November 15 (Sun) ..... 5:00 am – 5:00 pm

● Final Decision Regarding Holding Event

An announcement regarding whether or not the event will be held in cases such as a disaster or bad weather will be made at the following date and by the following method.

Announcement date and time: November 15, 2026 (Sun) 5:00 am
Announcement method: Kobe Marathon website

● Marathon Website

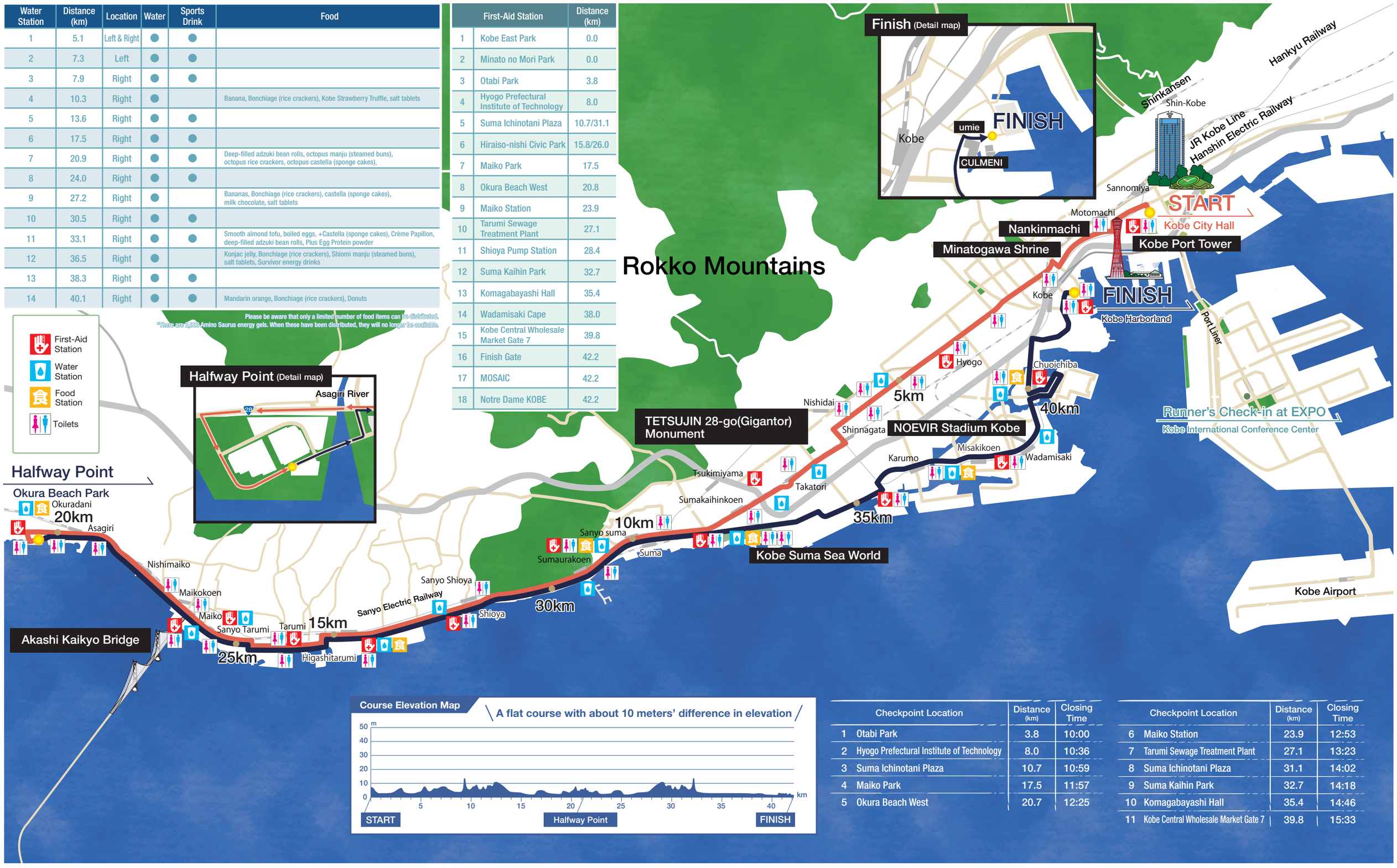
https://kobe-marathon.net/2026/global/

Course MAP

Water Station	Distance (km)	Location	Water	Sports Drink	Food
1	5.1	Left & Right	●	●	
2	7.3	Left	●	●	
3	7.9	Right	●	●	
4	10.3	Right	●		Banana, Bonchiage (rice crackers), Kobe Strawberry Truffle, salt tablets
5	13.6	Right	●	●	
6	17.5	Right	●	●	
7	20.9	Right	●	●	Deep-filled adzuki bean rolls, octopus manju (steamed buns), octopus rice crackers, octopus castella (sponge cakes),
8	24.0	Right	●	●	
9	27.2	Right	●		Bananas, Bonchiage (rice crackers), castella (sponge cakes), milk chocolate, salt tablets
10	30.5	Right	●	●	
11	33.1	Right	●	●	Smooth almond tofu, boiled eggs, +Castella (sponge cakes), Crème Papillon, deep-filled adzuki bean rolls, Plus Egg Protein powder
12	36.5	Right	●		Konjac jelly, Bonchiage (rice crackers), Shiomi manju (steamed buns), salt tablets, Survivor energy drinks
13	38.3	Right	●	●	
14	40.1	Right	●	●	Mandarin orange, Bonchiage (rice crackers), Donuts

Please be aware that only a limited number of food items can be distributed.
*There are 2,000 Amino Saurus energy gels. When these have been distributed, they will no longer be available.

First-Aid Station		Distance (km)
1	Kobe East Park	0.0
2	Minato no Mori Park	0.0
3	Otabi Park	3.8
4	Hyogo Prefectural Institute of Technology	8.0
5	Suma Ichinotani Plaza	10.7/31.1
6	Hiraiso-nishi Civic Park	15.8/26.0
7	Maiko Park	17.5
8	Okura Beach West	20.8
9	Maiko Station	23.9
10	Tarumi Sewage Treatment Plant	27.1
11	Shioya Pump Station	28.4
12	Suma Kaihin Park	32.7
13	Komagabayashi Hall	35.4
14	Wadamisaki Cape	38.0
15	Kobe Central Wholesale Market Gate 7	39.8
16	Finish Gate	42.2
17	MOSAIC	42.2
18	Notre Dame KOBE	42.2



Course Elevation Map

A flat course with about 10 meters' difference in elevation

	Checkpoint Location	Distance (km)	Closing Time
1	Otabi Park	3.8	10:00
2	Hyogo Prefectural Institute of Technology	8.0	10:36
3	Suma Ichinotani Plaza	10.7	10:59
4	Maiko Park	17.5	11:57
5	Okura Beach West	20.7	12:25

	Checkpoint Location	Distance (km)	Closing Time
6	Maiko Station	23.9	12:53
7	Tarumi Sewage Treatment Plant	27.1	13:23
8	Suma Ichinotani Plaza	31.1	14:02
9	Suma Kaihin Park	32.7	14:18
10	Komagabayashi Hall	35.4	14:46
11	Kobe Central Wholesale Market Gate 7	39.8	15:33