



# Sokoke Forest MTB Challenge 2025

## Information Page

17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Watamu, Kenya

The Sokoke Forest MTB Challenge was started to both provide a chance for cyclists to enjoy some of our diverse and challenging coastal riding conditions as well as to raise funds for the conservation of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest through which the race takes place.



Funds are used to issue Eco-bursaries for secondary school for children of forest adjacent families through A Rocha Kenya's programme the [Arabuko-Sokoke Schools & Eco-Tourism Scheme \(ASSETS\)](#). 'Eco-bursaries' are not just support for school fees but involve direct conservation action for the forest and adjacent Mida Creek.

Over 800 children have now been supported through four years of secondary school with ASSETS eco-bursaries and many have gone on to university and have jobs to support their families. The perceptions and behaviour of these families towards the forest has significantly improved as a result.

We are of course delighted to be partnering with the Kenya Forest Service for this event and also have the support of Kenya Wildlife Service at Arabuko-Sokoke Forest. We are grateful for their enthusiastic support for both this event and ASSETS itself.

Turtle Bay Beach Club, 88 Nairobi Limited and Nyumba Mombasa Cement have played an instrumental role in making the event happen. We thank blue marmalade, Costas Minimarket, Automobile Warehouse Limited and Ocean sports for sponsoring and in-kind donations – Asante.



## Race Information

**Location:** Watamu, Kenya - 3°21'45.7"S 40°00'10.7"E

### Race Weekend Key Programme Waypoints

#### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**2:00pm:** rider registration opens at Turtle Bay

**5:00pm:** Rider briefing for day 1 in the Turtle Bay conference room

#### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Garmin race:

**6:00am:** Riders meet at Turtle Bay gate to head to the forest start line. For riders who can get their bikes there with their own vehicles to meet at the forest start line at 6:30am.

**7:00am:** Garmin Ride begins (50KM)

Family fun ride:

**8:00am:** to meet at turtle bay race village.

**8:30am:** Family fun ride begins from Arabuko Sokoke Forest Gate.

**10:00am:** Prize giving for the family fun ride.

#### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**6:00-6:30am:** Riders to start checking in.

**7:00am:** Sokoke Forest MTB Challenge begins from Turtle Bay Gate.

**12:00pm:** Award Ceremony & Lucky Draw at Turtle Bay Race Village.

**8:00am-5pm:** Race Village and bazaar stalls.

### Race Weekend in detail.

#### DATE: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Registration for riders arriving on Friday.**

**Time: 2:00pm**

Registration opens at 4pm and will be at turtle bay. This registration is for all cycling on Day 1 garmin ride. Kindly come to turtle bay to pick your racing number and sign the indemnity form. No rider will be allowed to cycle if the form is not signed.

#### Riders briefing for Day 1

**Time: 5:00pm**

Riders briefing will happen at turtle bay in the conference room after riders have registered. Riders will be briefed on rules and regulations for the 17<sup>th</sup> ride.

#### DATE: 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025

##### Day 1 Garmin Ride

Distance: **57 KM**

Garmin Riders will meet at **6am** at the turtle bay Gate and depart at **6:10am** to the start line in the forest. This is for riders who do not have vehicles to go to the forest gate directly.

The race send off will be at 7:00am.

## **Riders briefing for Day 2**

**Time: 5:00pm**

This is the riders briefing for the 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be the overview of Sunday's route, safety talk and final reminders. Gentle note for those that attend the rider briefing on the 16<sup>th</sup> are still expected to join the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**DATE: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

## **Day 2 - The Main Challenge**

Distance: **75KM**

**Time: 7:00am**

Race will start at 7:00am promptly from the turtle bay gate. Riders are expected to show up no later than 30 minutes before the race to check in and confirm their rider numbers.

## **Award Ceremony and lucky prize draw**

**Time: 3:30pm**

### **Turtle bay Race Village**

All riders are expected to assemble at the award ceremony to celebrate themselves and the winners of the race. During the ceremony, there will also be a lucky draw for a series of prizes (tubeless tyres, a night stay at ocean sports, a night stay at temple point, gift hampers and more). This is to celebrate the riders who many not necessarily always win a prize!

## **Prizes**

There are over **Ksh 200,000** of cash prizes and in-kind prizes to be won as well as a number of other prizes:

### **Cash prizes for Day 2**

#### **Men:**

King of the forest = Watamu  
Cottages long weekend stay for 2  
2<sup>nd</sup> = Medina Palms dinner for 2  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Gift bag

#### **Women:**

Queen of the forest = Temple point stay  
for 2  
2<sup>nd</sup> = Barracuda Inn dinner for 2  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Gift bag

### **Cash prizes for Day 2**

#### **Men:**

1<sup>st</sup> = Ksh 50,000  
2<sup>nd</sup> = Ksh 30,000  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Ksh 10,000  
4<sup>th</sup> = Ksh 5,000  
5<sup>th</sup> = Ksh 3,000

#### **Women:**

1<sup>st</sup> = Ksh 50,000  
2<sup>nd</sup> = Ksh 30,000  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Ksh 10,000  
4<sup>th</sup> = Ksh 5,000  
5<sup>th</sup> = Ksh 3,000

**Non-cash prizes** will be awarded for the following additional categories:

- Most funds raised for forest conservation
- Youngest Finisher
- Best time over 50 year

