

NON-STOP RUNNING 20 WEEK TRAINING PLAN



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**THRESHOLD/
MORE IS IN YOU™**



INTRODUCTION

MEET OUR COACH

Sometimes there can come a point in life when we are looking for something else; something to shake things up, something which gives us the opportunity to stretch ourselves, test ourselves, something that takes us out of the ordinary flow of life....That or you made a drunken bet which you are now being held to! Either way ultra events are perfect to have a new challenge, and test yourself in a very different way.

I fell in to the former category eight years ago. It began with an endurance walk of 50 miles across Scotland. I trained hard, it wasn't always easy to fit sessions in, but I made it to the start line ready to give it my best shot - and absolutely loved it! Fast forward 8 years, and I now compete as a runner at ultra marathons of all distances and have raced all around the world. So first warning: beware, endurance events are hugely addictive, because, believe it or not, they are a lot of fun!

My experience from ultra walker to ultra runner and competitor means that I can understand first hand what it is like take on these challenges. I have written the plan below to get you to the start line of Race to the Tower, fit and ready for the challenge ahead of you. It is easy to follow and will lead you by the hand, gradually building your endurance base and fitness over the course of 20 weeks.

Coupled with these plans I am also able to offer bespoke coaching. Being personally coached by me will allow you to have a plan which is tailor made to you and your particular life challenges, sporting ability and goals. The plan I write for

you will be backed up with phone, email and text contact providing guidance, support and motivation. If you would like further advice on this visit www.kerrysutton.co.uk and contact me from there.

'Believe and you can achieve'

Kerry Sutton

Threshold Trail Series Training Coach



INTRODUCTION

THE 5 RULES

THE KEY TO A HAPPY FINISHER

1	Consistency is key. Improvement happens when we do the activity repeatedly, but not in a stop/start fashion. Decide how much time is manageable for you on a weekly basis and stick to it.
2	Rest is when the transformation happens. We train to break our muscles down, it's when we rest that they rebuild stronger.
3	Don't neglect your mental game . Be aware of the sessions that made you stronger. When you went out and trained when you didn't want to, when you carried on and did another 3 km even though you had blisters. The day you finished your 9.5 km in the driving rain. All of these scenarios make you mentally more able to deal with them next time they arise.
4	Have the right kit . If you don't, it'll either be the reason you don't train or training will be uncomfortable and less enjoyable. Don't 'make do'.
5	Train in all weathers . You'll be fully prepared for what ever is thrown at you on the day itself.
Don't forget:	No one ever regrets having completed a training session but one often regrets missing one.

INTRODUCTION

YOUR TRAINING BLOCKS

DIVIDE YOUR TRAINING INTO MANAGEABLE BLOCKS

BLOCK	AIM
BLOCK 1	This block is all about setting on your journey.
	Enjoy the fresh air and the feeling of stretching your legs.
BLOCK 2	Mileage will ramp up this block. Race to the Tower, along The Cotswold Way, is the hilliest of our Threshold Trail Series with 2,000m climbing over the 53 miles.
	During your runs, get used to walking uphill and then running again.
	I've also included an optional session - cross training - each week. Either swim or cycle: both are great at developing strength and aerobic endurance. Do try and get this cross session in each week.
BLOCK 3	Now is the time to really get specific with your chosen routes. Include undulating routes which have plenty of rolling hills.
	Back-to-back runs become standard in this phase. Even though you're completing RTTT in one day, back-to-back runs are used to develop strength, endurance and mental toughness.
	On Tuesday's short run, include short hills reps: 2 - 5 minutes running up a 7-10% gradient before walking back down. Include a short warm up and cool down to make this session ~2-3 miles.
	Include hilly routes which have a mix of steep and undulating gradients. To replicate The Cotswold Way, you should be aiming to accumulate between 230m - 250m per 6 mile run.
BLOCK 4	Like Block 3, focus on The Cotswold Way specific terrain and still aim for a minimum of 250m of climbing per 6 mile run.
	Start to think about your kit choices – what feels comfortable on your feet and also what settles well in your stomach as you walk.
	Focus on hitting the longer distances on Saturday and using Sunday as a recovery day
WEEK BEFORE	The best thing you can do this week is chill, get your kit ready by Thursday and enjoy the rest!

THE PLAN

BLOCK 1

WEEK	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	✓
1	REST	3 miles	REST	3 miles	REST	5 miles	REST	
2	REST	4 miles	REST	5 miles	REST	6 miles	REST	
3	REST	6 miles	4 miles	REST	REST	7 miles	REST	
4	REST	3 miles	3 miles	REST	REST	6 miles	REST	

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

WEEK		MILES
1	After some down time over Christmas, it's time to set on this journey. Here we are at the beginning of your journey! In 20 short weeks you'll run the equivalent of two+ marathons in one day! To start, just aim on being consistent.	11 miles
2	Hopefully last week wasn't too challenging and you're enjoying the process. Keep it up.	15 miles
3	Another solid week banked. If the distances don't seem too great at the moment, remember that it's all about consistency at this stage. Keep ticking them off. Easy week next week before we enter block two.	17 miles
4	Well done on completing your first block! Each block follows a similar format - three or four weeks of building before an easy week. So, enjoy some down time, both physical and mental.	12 miles

THE PLAN

BLOCK 2

WEEK	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	✓
5	REST	6 miles	6 miles	REST	Cross train	9 miles	REST	
6	REST	6 miles	4 miles	REST	Cross train	11 miles	REST	
7	REST	5 miles	5 miles	REST	Cross train	14 miles	REST	
8	REST	3 miles	6 miles	REST	Cross train	16 miles	REST	
9	REST	REST	6 miles	REST	Cross train	3 miles	6 miles	

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

WEEK		MILES
5	Make sure you get out there and complete the miles. Use the time for planning, thinking and bonding with friends and family.	21 miles
6	Another week banked. Hopefully the cross training is providing further fitness gains. Next week you tick off a half marathon!	21 miles
7	Your first half marathon this weekend. If you can, complete it on an undulating trail and practice your pacing.	24 miles
8	Keep tapping the sessions out. Consistency is key so log those miles and reward yourself for every single session with good recovery.	25 miles
9	This week will feel very easy compared to the last few weeks.	15 miles

THE PLAN

BLOCK 3

WEEK	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	✓
10	REST	6 miles	4 miles	REST	5 miles	9 miles	REST	
11	REST	Hills 2 miles	5 miles	5 miles	REST	9 miles	6 miles	
12	REST	Hills 3 miles	6 miles	REST	REST	12 miles	6 miles	
13	REST	Hills 3 miles	6 miles	3 miles	REST	9 miles	9 miles	
14	REST	Hills 3 miles	REST	REST	REST	6 miles	6 miles	

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

WEEK		MILES
10	Pay close attention to what shoes and clothing you feel comfiest in.	24 miles
11	Although you're doing the event in 1 day, back-to-back sessions are a super way to build strength and mental toughness.	27 miles
12	Your first pop at a 12 mile run today. Make sure you carry plenty of food and drink and relax hard on the Sunday after your 6 miles.	27 miles
13	Long back-to- back 9 miles on the weekend will be testing, but if you've got this far then you definitely have the fitness to nail it.	30 miles
14	This will be the last relax before your taper week before the race! Rest hard because the next 4 weeks will be challenging. You can do this!	15 miles

THE PLAN

BLOCK 4

WEEK	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	✓
15	REST	6 miles	6 miles	REST	REST	22 miles	REST	
16	REST	3 miles	3 miles	6 miles	REST	25 miles	REST	
17	REST	3 miles	REST	6 miles	REST	31 miles	Recover hard	
18	REST	3 miles	3 miles	REST	REST	9 miles	3 miles	
19	REST	3 miles	3 miles	REST	REST	REST	3 miles	

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

WEEK		MILES
15	Practice fuelling techniques, try different foods and test various hydration packs. Relax as much as possible on your off days.	34 miles
16	Another big one in the bag, with an ultra marathon on Saturday. Huge congrats...recover hard.	37 miles
17	Pushing the boundaries again this weekend with 31 miles on Saturday. Your last big effort. Use this as your final race prep session.	40 miles
18	This is a lower volume week but will be tough after your 31 miles. Get it done, we're really on the wind-down now. Two very easy weeks coming up.	18 miles
19	Well done. The training has been done. Take this week easy.	9 miles

TRAINING PLANS

FINAL WEEK

WEEK	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	✓
20	REST	2 miles	REST	REST	2 miles	RACE DAY!!	RELAX & REVEL!	

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

WEEK		MILES
20	It'd be tempting to sit and carb-load all week, but I recommend you get out and walk twice (including the day before the event) just to keep your body from thinking it's finishing training and shut down!	56 miles

ANY MORE QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE
CHECK OUT ONE OF THE
FOLLOWING PLATFORMS.

Edit your registration

You can edit your registration by logging into MyEvents portal [here](#).

Join the Community

Make sure to also join us on the [Threshold Trail Series Participant Facebook Forum](#) to meet other participants and swap advice and training tips.

Follow us on social media

Follow us on our social media channels to see the latest tips from Threshold Trail Series ambassadors, hear inspirational stories and get the latest news ahead of your event.

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)

Still can't find something...

If you can't find the answer you're looking for, please feel free to email us:

info@racetothetower.com

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR TRAINING!

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