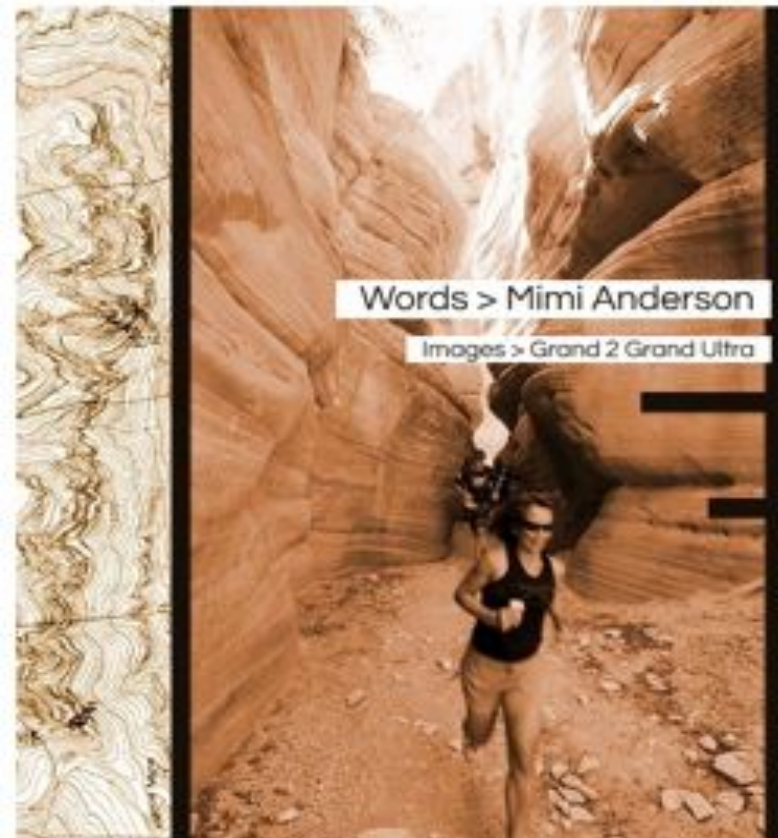


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GO TRAIL




Words > Mimi Anderson

Images > Grand 2 Grand Ultra

G2G ULTRA

ascending the grand staircase



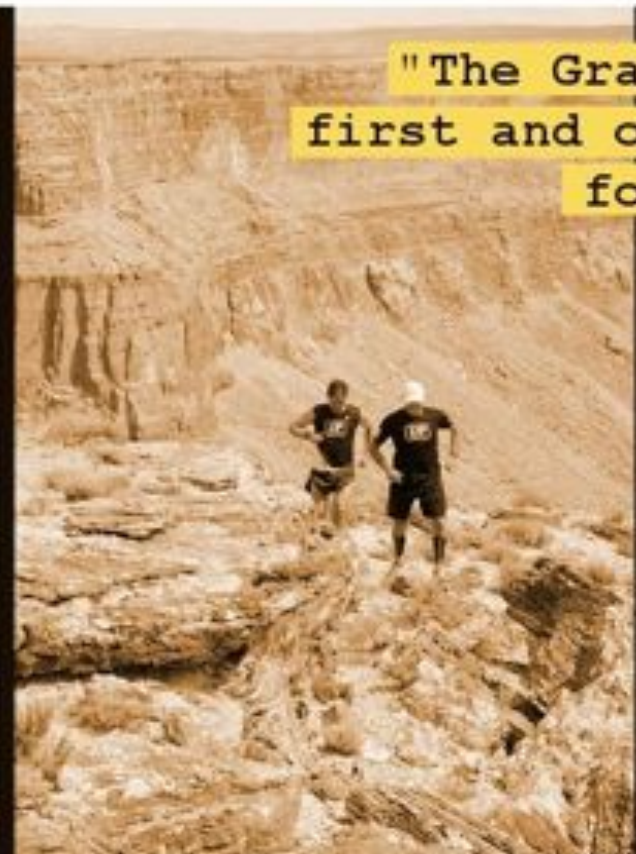

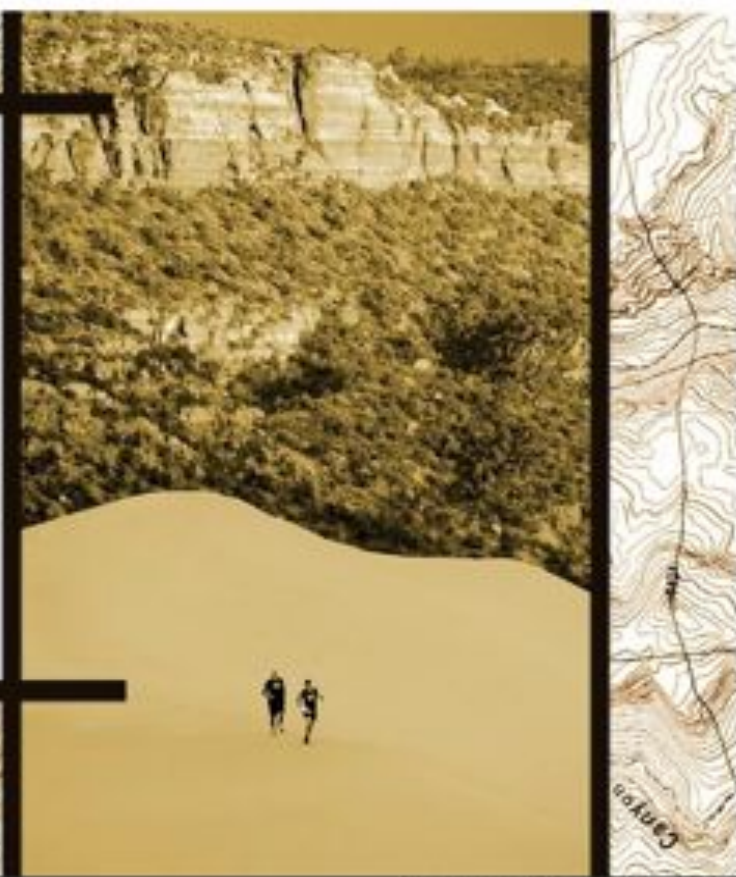


In September 2012, an international field of competitors will stand on the start line of the inaugural Grand to Grand Ultra (G2G) a unique race, the first of its kind in North America.

For two years Colin Geddes, Tess Geddes and Terry Mod the three Co-Founders and Event Directors searched for the most iconic course possible on the American continent that offered an abundance of unsurpassed beauty. They decided on a course that will take runners from the Grand Canyon, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, to the relatively unknown but equally amazing Grand Staircase.

The G2G Ultra is a 7 day staged race with 6 stages, covering a distance of approximately 160miles (257km) starting on the 23rd September 2012. The longest day is 50 miles (80km), which must be completed in less than 34 hours.

Competitors are required to carry all their own kit they require for the 7 days including a minimum of 14,000 calories of food, sleeping bag and a wind-proof jacket; water and overnight camps will be provided by the organizers, each in stunning locations. Individuals and teams leave the starting line and navigate their way through numerous checkpoints to the finish line of the daily stage as quickly as they can. The Grand to Grand Ultra is the first and only self supported stage footrace in North America and the first stage race to start from the awe inspiring North rim of the Grand Canyon, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, finishing on the summit of the Grand Staircase.



"The Grand to Grand Ultra is the first and only self supported stage footrace in North America"

The course will follow a route of trails and cross-country tracks amidst the most spectacular landscape in Southern Utah and Northern Arizona. It is probably the most beautiful landscape of any footrace in the world, taking you through a desert landscape of sand dunes, red rock canyons, buttes, mesas and hoodoos.

You will navigate compelling slot canyons and cross a tributary of the Virgin River. Experience the remotest part of continental America in the way of the earliest settlers, Navajo and Paiute Indian tribes. In fact given its remoteness, it is reputed that Montezuma's gold was buried very near part of the G2G course.

The first campsite is located on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon - a quite spectacular setting. Imagine being able to watch the sun setting over the Canyon the night before the race starts, an awesome treat and one you will never forget, then setting

off on day 1 from the edge of the Grand Canyon, something that has never been done before.

Each day has something remarkable to experience and look at. Whether it be the Vermillion Cliffs as they grow before your eyes, the Grand Staircase consisting of pink, white and vermilion hues, fantastic red slot canyons through which you will run, coral pink sand dunes or even a national forest, the range of nature is unsurpassed.

The finish line is on the summit of the Pink Cliffs of the Grand Staircase and provides participants with a rewarding view back over the course that you will have just completed. From an altitude of 2752 meters, look back over the cliffs and enjoy the most amazing panoramic landscape of your journey framed by hoodoos and two billion year old rock formations, reminding you of the massive achievement!

"If you are looking for a race with the WOW factor and a life changing adventure then this is it."

Once the race has finished competitors are transported to a luxury hotel about 20 minutes from "The Strip" in Las Vegas where you can relax before being treated to a fantastic awards ceremony.

Last year I was lucky enough to be treated to a helicopter flight over the Grand Canyon and I was totally blown away by their sheer size and beauty. If you are looking for a race with the WOW factor and a life changing adventure then this is it. You will return home with memories that will stay with you forever.

course map



[click image]



What is life without the obstacles that challenge our every step?
BE A FREE THINKER.