

Letters of "Approval!" These are a few of the letters written after the race. They were written from the 'heart'-- they were not asked to write them or offered any incentive to write them.

"Thank you for facilitating the best organized trail race that we have ever been part of. It left us in awe. It was difficult but not too difficult, but the bottom line was it was spectacular and left us wanting more! My finishing time is nothing to write home about, but when it came to taking photos of the course it was my PR...90 total. We hope to be back, but at the very least will tell our NorCal running mates all about your fantastic race. Thank you again."

*"I ran your Moab Trail Marathon two and a half weeks ago and **it has forever changed me...***

I was supposed to run it last year and had to transfer it to this year when my mother found out she had a brain tumor. I spent last year caring for her and my Dad, who are in their 70's. I did not run at all, not one step last year. In Feb. of this year my Mom was clear and good and so I began...running again. I knew I wanted to do Moab.

I visited and hiked in the West and in Moab many times, but never run...I am a late bloomer in running. I live in Atlanta, GA.....not exactly a trail running mecca...and no trails/terrain that compare to yours.

On the day of your race I was in such a good place of excited and confident..... There is no way I could have wrapped my brain around what I was to do that day....I have never done anything like your race before and it "flipped a switch" in me..... I will NEVER be afraid/intimidated by anything ever again.....it was a quantum leap for sure!!!

I felt soooo great the entire race, so much energy and the excitement of wondering what's coming next?!? I was in the zone the whole way!!!

When I crossed the finish line at 7:07 (!) I thought the clock was wrong, because it did not feel like I had been out there that long!!!!!!

It was frickin' amazing and my life and the person I was before this race have been forever changed.

Danelle, you had the dream of this race before you created it and you followed through and made it real.

Your dream has in turn deeply changed my life (and others!) and in turn spurred new dreams.

I am in great appreciation and gratitude to you for what you have contributed to my life!!! Thank you!!!!"

"I just wanted to say a huge thank you for another awesome race! This was my 3rd year participating, and it just gets better and better!

I can't even imagine all the work that must go into organizing, preparing, setting up, and running this event, so I just want to tell you how much I appreciate it! The course is fantastic and so well-marked. The aid stations are great, and the volunteers are awesome (I tried to make it a point to thank as many as I could

because they are amazing!) I also loved the t-shirt and the mug so much this year! (That's not the reason that I run, but I really do love both, so wanted to tell you how much I appreciate the time, effort, & money that went into those.) I am a definite mid-to-back packer, and I really appreciate how you make us all feel like racers, no matter our finish time. :) My sister from MN has raced the last 2 years but wasn't able to make it this year, so it was a different experience for me this year. Being by myself really gave me the chance to notice other parts of the course I hadn't seen before (I saw 2 arches I had missed the last 2 years!), & talk to other people, too. I hadn't trained enough, so I had to dig a little deeper, which was great. I really run for the joy of it, and there is something almost spiritual about being out there. There is such a unique and positive energy out on that course, and I love it! *This event has also turned into a great family weekend for my family and me, and we keep falling more in love with the Moab area!* We're going to bring the dogs with us next year to do more exploring. :) I hope that you're recovering from what must be a super busy time for your family! I just want to thank you again for all that you do to make it such an amazing experience!!!"

"Just a quick note of appreciation for all you and your staff/volunteers do to make the Moab Marathon a continuing highlight of our year. My beloved partner and I just completed our fourth marathon in a row in Moab. *Each year since the 1st (my 50th birthday), when we came alone, we bring a dozen or more friends and family for a long weekend of hiking, running and exploration of the magical land in and around Moab.* This year, like each before it were wonderful. It must be a huge amount of work and dedication for all of you and I wanted to let you know how much so many of us appreciate it. All the Best, and Looking Forward Already to 2017!"

"Just wanted to send a followup note to you and everyone involved with this year's event. Thank you very much for putting on a well-organized event that's a real pleasure for a recreational trail runner like myself to participate in. From check in, to the sea of porta-potties at race start, to friendly volunteers at the aid stations it was a treat to run. Living in Denver, I get to Moab often, but the scenery on the run... holy moly is it beautiful!"

"Thanks again and kudos for such a great event, I competed in the Saturday Half, 2nd year running. Just wanted to say that you do a phenomenal job. Somehow, you seem to pull off a race that feels super professionally managed while still being

small, intimate and non-glitzy. It's my favorite race by far. Thank you for all you do!"

"Hello! I wanted to say thank you for organizing an amazing race. My brother and I finished the marathon on Saturday and although it was a LOT tougher than I was expecting I am already thinking about coming back next year. I feel crazy typing that, but now I am determined to actually train and see what type of time I could get. :)"

It was the most beautiful race I have ever done and everyone was so friendly, from the volunteers to the other racers. Also, these were the best rest stops I have encountered in a race. Lots of food options and very helpful crew at each one. Well done! When does registration for next year open?"

"I just wanted to reach out and say thank you so much for having me at your race. I LOVED the course, the trails (and the lack thereof), and the entire atmosphere of the event. It was such a positive event. I really appreciate all the work put into the race (and the soul that was apparent!) and letting me in as an elite."

"Well, our third Moab marathon was fantastic. This annual trip continues to delight and surprise us each time. We came out from Michigan, this time with a group of 16 friends from around the country. They all fell in love with the marathon course and with Moab in general. I would venture a guess that most of them will be back again. Last year, I wrote you an email with a thank you and a few small suggestions. This year, I have no suggestions at all! The T-shirts were fantastic this year, we love receiving medals, and as always, the volunteers are out of this world. From the depths of our Michigan hearts, we thank you for this fantastic adventure! See you next year!"

"Congratulations and thank you for an epic race last Saturday. My son and I ran the marathon. My wife did the 1/2. My children (ages 21, 16, 14, 12) did the 5K. We all loved it. It was very well run and the location and scenery defy my descriptive abilities. I loved the orange tape marking the trail and used it many times to keep me from wandering out into the unknown. Thank you for a wonderful race."

"What an EPIC RACE! I've run a number of trail marathons (and a couple of Ultras) and I have to say, this is the most amazing, most scenic course I've ever seen! On top of that, you guys did an incredible job of organizing. The course was so well marked, the aid stations were great (i loved the signs with info about the

next 'leg'), and the race staff (aid stations as well as ropes & cliffy sections) were so friendly and helpful. I will hopefully be back next year (and for many years to come), and I will be sure to register early. :)Again, thanks so much!"

"I just wanted to say thanks a million for the race.....man what a course, scenery, gotta be the best in the world.

**so well marked*

**aid stations like a buffet*

**tee shirt/ mug awesome...great to have a style / quality shirt that u will wear after event*

**location speaks for itself*

**awards great trophies and timed right after event.*

**love your foundation*

**your friend on the PA*

**But most importantly hearing about your story....wow see why this place is special."*

"I want to thank you so much for such a great race. New to Utah last year and have been discovering all the great races and adventures to be had, this being my fifth marathon this year. It was by far the hardest and most beautiful yet. Actually I cannot image one exceeding it by any measure.

Thank you again and I hope to see you again next year..."

The Moab Trail Marathon is pleased to have hosted some of the very best Trail Runners in the World over the years. Here is a brief list of some of the athletes that have participated in the race (most raced multiple times!) over the last few years:

Joseph Gray

Megan Kimmel

Sage Canaday

Sandi Nypaver

Dakota Jones

Christine Lundy

Justin Ricks

Clare Gallagher

Anthony Costales

Stevie Kremer

Josh Eberly

Anita Ortiz

JP Donovan

Kerrie Bruxvoort