

# WORLD MARATHON MAJORS COURSE RECORDS

Following are progressions for the fastest men's and women's times at each of the five City Marathons.

The courses have changed to some degree at all of the events. In particular New York City was held on a multi-loop course in Central Park until 1976 and Berlin was staged entirely in West Berlin until 1990.

Also the course at the 1981 New York City marathon was determined to be 148 meters short and the winning times of Alberto Salazar (2:08:13) and Allison Roe (2:25:29), although better than the contemporary world records, were invalidated.

Due to construction along the Boston Marathon route, the distance was inadvertently short of the standard distance for several years. The most significant shortage of 1183 yards in 1956 when Antti Viskari (FIN) ran 2:14:14, would have been equivalent to about 2:17:51 for 26 miles 385 yards.

Times in bold face below indicate world records or world best performances at the time.

## Berlin – Men

2:44:53	Guenter Hallas (FRG)	13Oct74
2:23:08	Ingo Sensburg (FRG)	26Sep76
2:15:19	Guenter Mielke (FRG)	10Sep77
2:14:47	Domingo Tibaduiza (COL)	26Sep82
2:13:37	Karel Lismont (BEL)	25Sep83
2:13:35	Johan Skovbjerg (DEN)	30Sep84
2:11:43	Jimmy Ashworth (GBR)	29Sep85
2:11:03	Boguslaw Psujek (POL)	28Sep86
2:10:11	Alfredo Shahanga (TAN)	01Oct89
2:08:16	Steve Moneghetti (AUS)	30Sep90
2:08:07	David Tsebe (RSA)	27Sep92
2:07:02	Sammy Lelei (KEN)	24Sep95
<b>2:06:05</b>	<b>Ronaldo da Costa (BRA)</b>	<b>20Sep98</b>
<b>2:04:55</b>	<b>Paul Tergat (KEN)</b>	<b>28Sep03</b>
<b>2:04:26</b>	<b>Haile Gebrselassie (ETH)</b>	<b>30Sep07</b>
<b>2:03:59</b>	<b>Haile Gebrselassie (ETH)</b>	<b>28Sep08</b>
<b>2:03:38</b>	<b>Patrick Makau Musyoki (KEN)</b>	<b>25Sep11</b>

## Berlin – Women

3:22:01	Jutta von Haase (FRG)	13Oct74
3:04:12	Ursula Blaschke (FRG)	26Sep76
<b>2:34:48</b>	<b>Christa Vahlensieck (FRG)</b>	<b>10Sep77</b>
2:34:10	Magda Ilands (BEL)	29Sep85
2:32:10	Charlotte Teske (FRG)	28Sep86
2:31:22	Kerstin Pressler (FRG)	04Oct87
2:29:16	Renata Kokowska (POL)	09Oct88
2:28:45	Paivi Tikkanen (FIN)	01Oct89
2:28:37	Uta Pippig (FRG)	30Sep90
2:27:36	Renata Kokowska (POL)	29Sep91
2:26:20	Renata Kokowska (POL)	26Sep93
2:25:15	Katrin Dörre (GER)	25Sep94
2:23:44	Catherina McKiernan (IRL)	28Sep97
<b>2:20:43</b>	<b>Tegla Loroupe (KEN)</b>	<b>26Sep99</b>
<b>2:19:46</b>	<b>Naoko Takahashi (JPN)</b>	<b>30Sep01</b>

2:19:41	Yoko Shibui (JPN)	26Sep04
2:19:12	Mizuki Noguchi (JPN)	25Sep05

### Boston – Men

2:31:02	Les Pawson (USA)	19Apr33
2:28:52	Ellison "Tarzan" Brown (USA)	19Apr39
2:28:29	Gerard Cote (CAN)	19Apr40
2:26:52	Joseph Smith (USA)	19Apr42
<b>2:25:39</b>	<b>Suh Yun-bok (KOR)</b>	<b>19Apr47</b>
2:20:05	John J. Kelley (USA)	20Apr57
2:18:58	Aurele Van den Driessche (BEL)	19Apr63
2:16:33	Morio Shigematsu (JPN)	19Apr65
2:15:45	David McKenzie (NZL)	19Apr67
2:13:49	Yoshiaki Unetani (JPN)	21Apr69
2:10:31	Ron Hill (GBR)	20Apr70
2:09:56	Bill Rodgers (USA)	21Apr75
2:09:28	Bill Rodgers (USA)	16Apr79
2:09:27	Toshihiko Seko (JPN)	20Apr81
2:08:52	Alberto Salazar (USA)	19Apr82
2:07:51	Rob de Castella (AUS)	21Apr86
2:07:15	Cosmas Ndeti (KEN)	18Apr94
2:07:14	Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot (KEN)	17Apr06
2:05:52	Robert Kiprono Cheruiyot (KEN)	19Apr10
2:03:02	Geoffrey Mutai (KEN)	18Apr11

*(note: 2011 race, a world best performance, had a significant tailwind)*

### Boston – Women

3:10:27	Nina Kuscsik (USA)	17Apr72
3:05:59	Jackie Hansen (USA)	16Apr73
2:47:11	Miki Gorman (USA)	15Apr74
<b>2:42:24</b>	<b>Liane Winter (FRG)</b>	<b>21Apr75</b>
2:35:15	Joan Benoit Samuelson (USA)	16Apr79
2:34:28	Jacqueline Gareau (CAN)	21Apr80
2:26:46	Allison Roe (NZL)	20Apr81
<b>2:22:43</b>	<b>Joan Benoit Samuelson (USA)</b>	<b>18Apr83</b>
2:21:45	Uta Pippig (GER)	18Apr94
2:20:43	Margaret Okayo (KEN)	15Apr02

### Chicago – Men

2:17:52	Dan Cloeter (USA)	25Sep77
2:14:04	Frank Richardson (USA)	28Sep80
2:10:59	Greg Meyer (USA)	26Sep82
2:09:45	Joseph Nzau (KEN)	16Oct83
<b>2:08:05</b>	<b>Steve Jones (GBR)</b>	<b>21Oct84</b>
2:07:13	Steve Jones (GBR)	20Oct85
2:07:10	Khalid Khannouchi (MAR)	19Oct97
2:06:54	Ondoro Osoro (KEN)	11Oct98
<b>2:05:42</b>	<b>Khalid Khannouchi (MAR)</b>	<b>24Oct99</b>
2:05:41	Sammy Wanjiru (KEN)	11Oct09
2:05:37	Moses Mosop (KEN)	09Oct11

## Chicago – Women

2:50:47	Dorothy Dolittle (USA)	25Sep77
2:45:04	Sue Petersen (USA)	28Sep80
2:33:23	Nancy Conz (USA)	26Sep82
2:31:12	Rosa Mota (POR)	16Oct83
2:26:01	Rosa Mota (POR)	21Oct84
2:21:21	Joan Benoit Samuelson (USA)	20Oct85
<b>2:18:47</b>	<b>Catherine Ndereba (KEN)</b>	<b>07Oct01</b>
<b>2:17:18</b>	<b>Paula Radcliffe (GBR)</b>	<b>13Oct02</b>

## London – Men

2:11:48	Dick Beardsley (USA) & Inge Simonsen (NOR)	29Mar81
2:08:16	Steve Jones (GBR)	21Apr85
2:07:55	Antonio Pinto (POR)	13Apr97
2:06:36	Antonio Pinto (POR)	16Apr00
<b>2:05:38</b>	<b>Khalid Khannouchi (USA)</b>	<b>14Apr02</b>
2:05:15	Martin Lel (KEN)	13Apr08
2:05:10	Samuel Wanjiru (KEN)	26Apr09
2:04:40	Emmanuel Mutai (KEN)	17Apr11

## London – Women

2:29:57	Joyce Smith (GBR)	29Mar81
2:29:43	Joyce Smith (GBR)	09May82
<b>2:25:29</b>	<b>Grete Waitz (NOR)</b>	<b>17Apr83</b>
2:24:46	Ingrid Kristiansen (NOR)	13May84
<b>2:21:06</b>	<b>Ingrid Kristiansen (NOR)</b>	<b>21Apr85</b>
2:18:56	Paula Radcliffe (GBR)	14Apr02
<b>2:15:25</b>	<b>Paula Radcliffe (GBR)</b>	<b>13Apr03</b>

## New York City – Men

2:31:38	Gary Muhrcke (USA)	13Sep70
2:22:54	Norm Higgins (USA)	19Sep71
2:21:55	Tom Fleming (USA)	30Sep73
2:19:27	Tom Fleming (USA)	28Sep75
2:10:10	Bill Rodgers (USA)	24Oct76
2:09:41	Alberto Salazar (USA)	26Oct80
2:09:29	Alberto Salazar (USA)	24Oct82
2:08:59	Rod Dixon (NZL)	23Oct83
2:08:20	Steve Jones (GBR)	06Nov88
2:08:01	Juma Ikangaa (TAN)	05Nov89
2:07:43	Tesfaye Jifar (ETH)	04Nov01

## New York City – Women

2:55:22	Beth Bonner (USA)	19Sep71
2:46:14	Kim Merritt (USA)	28Sep75
2:39:11	Miki Gorman (USA)	24Oct76
<b>2:32:30</b>	<b>Grete Waitz (NOR)</b>	<b>22Oct78</b>
<b>2:27:33</b>	<b>Grete Waitz (NOR)</b>	<b>21Oct79</b>
<b>2:25:42</b>	<b>Grete Waitz (NOR)</b>	<b>26Oct80</b>

2:25:30	Ingrid Kristiansen (NOR)	05Nov89
2:24:40	Lisa Ondieki (AUS)	01Nov92
2:24:21	Margaret Okayo (KEN)	04Nov01
2:22:31	Margaret Okayo (KEN)	02Nov03