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The 39th VeniceMarathon: an Ethiopian and Sporting Triumph

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On Sunday, October 26, 2025, Venice hosted the 39th edition of the Venice Marathon, one of the most iconic and captivating races on the international running scene. Starting from Villa Pisani in Stra and finishing at Riva Sette Martiri. The marathon offered over 7,000 runners an unforgettable journe

This year's edition paid tribute to the 300th anniversary of Giacomo Casanova's birth, a legendary figure of Venetian culture. The homage was reflected in the event's visual setup, custom-designed medals, and a series of cultural and sporting side events that turned the entire week into a vibrant celebration.
The men's race was dominated by Ethiopian runner Deribe Robi, who crossed the finish line in 2:08:58, marking the seventh-fastest time in Venice Marathon history. Robi surged ahead on the Ponte della Libertà, distancing his rivals and finishing solo under light rain and rising acqua alta.

Official Men's Top 10: 1° Deribe Robi – Ethiopia – 2:08:58. 2° Isaac Cheluko – Kenya – +1:56. 3° Hammington Kiamaiyo – Kenya – +2:06. 4° Kipsambu Kimakal – Kenya – +3:24. 5° Koech Moses – Kenya – +6:02. 6° Adugna Takele – Ethiopia – +8:11. 7° Mohamed El Ghazouany – Morocco – +10:09. 8° Asmerom Shumay – Eritrea – +13:44. 9° Roberto Graziotto – Italy – +16:19. 10° Deresa Reta – Ethiopia – +17:02.

In the women's race, Ethiopia's Ashumar Zebenay claimed victory with a time of 2:27:31, creating a significant gap over her competitors. Despite a fall near the end, she maintained her lead and crossed the finish line with determination, confirming Ethiopia's dominance in both categories.
Official Women's Top 5: 1ª Zebenay Ashumar – Ethiopia – 2:27:3. 2ª Masresha Azalech – Ethiopia – 2:30:42. 3ª Jemutai Daizy – Kenya – 2:30:50. 4ª Birhanu Abera – Ethiopia – 2:31:26. 5ª Addisalem Belay – Ethiopia – 2:35:00.
Best Italian finishers: Men: Roberto Graziotto – 2:25:13. Women: Claudia Andrighettoni (8th overall) – 2:49:01.

With over 20,000 registrants and 60 nationalities represented, the Venice Marathon reaffirmed its status as a global event, attracting elite and amateur runners alike for its stunning route, high-quality organization, and the unique charm of Venice. Behind the scenes, the event was flawlessly managed: from safety and logistics to refreshment stations and medical support. Over 1,000 volunteers contributed to its success, showcasing passion and professionalism. Live coverage on Rai Sport allowed millions to follow the race in

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real time.

The Venice Marathon strengthened its commitment to environmental sustainability, using recyclable materials, reducing plastic waste, and promoting green mobility. The event also included para-athletic races and charity initiatives, raising funds for local associations through its Charity Program. The marathon capped off a weekend full of activities: the VM10K and Venice Half Marathon engaged thousands more, with staggered starts from Mestre and Piazza Ferretto. The Expo Village featured booths, music, tastings, and family-friendly entertainment, turning Venice into a true sports capital.

Athletes crossing bridges, alleys, and squares created postcard-worthy scenes. Piazza San Marco, the Grand Canal, and Ponte della Libertà served as breathtaking backdrops. Photographers and drones captured epic moments, widely shared across social media.
GidiferroTeam, with Mario Bonesi and the stunning Beatrice Tomada, filmed the full start in Stra and met the radiant contestants of Miss Riviera del Brenta, led by the beautiful Elisa Enache and patron Renato Trincanato. The girls highlighted the contest's core mission: creating meaningful opportunities for charitable causes. The video (in Italian) we offer you is the departure from Stra (Venice). Link: https://youtu.be/_revwEds7Bg?si=2MgWH-y_YrhCW6i8

With the 39th edition now in the books, anticipation is already building for 2026, when the Venice Marathon will celebrate its 40th anniversary. Organizers promise a special edition filled with surprises, international guests, and an even richer program. The event will honor four decades of sport, culture, and community, with tributes to past champions, themed entertainment along the course, and initiatives to engage runners of all ages and abilities.

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