

The Formentera Departments of Tourism and Sport report that the twelfth editions of the island's half-marathon (la Mitja Marató) and 8K fun run will be held 9 October. Consell de Formentera chief and tourism office chair Alejandra Ferrer said the FDS, the local business sector and political groups had all played a part in the decision.

Ferrer held that public health previsions were "better in October than May because we'll be further along in the vaccination process" and highlighted early-season plans for "small-scale programming to pack extra punch into 'Discover Formentera in May'". She added that the 2021 campaign to promote pre- and post-season tourism would spill into June and that high-turnout events were being tentatively planned for season's end.

President Ferrer applauded the loyalty of would-be Mitja Marató participants registered to run since May 2020. The rescheduled event will occur during a national bank holiday and long weekend, an opportunity to plug cultural and gastronomic programming as part of 'Discover Formentera in October', said the premiere, pointing up "additional perks for travellers who help us stretch out the season".

Mitja Marató organisers have praised the schedule change as well as participants' understanding, and are offering options like hassle-free automatic registration for the new 9 October date. Till 25 April, individuals who signed up to run on the original dates can also opt to postpone participation until May 2022, let someone else take their place, or, if cancellation insurance was contracted, get their money back. Registered athletes should watch their inboxes for a detailed explanation of options from www.unisportconsulting.com .

October, a full month of sport

Ana Juan, deputy premiere of local government and temporary chair of the sport department while Paula Ferrer is on maternity leave, underscored the implication of everyone involved in organising what she called the two "marquee national events". Juan also underscored the FDS's work to coordinate and organise sporting fixtures like the triathlon, "Marnató", "Volta Cicloturista" and mountain-bike challenge in La Mola.

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