

## 2019 ADNOC ABU DHABI MARATHON ACCLAIMED BY RUNNERS AND FANS

- Participants from across the UAE praise capital for providing a very special running experience
- Thousands visit all-new event village to enjoy family-friendly entertainment and cheer on runners

**Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates – December 6, 2019:** With a brand-new course and all-new event village, the 2019 ADNOC Abu Dhabi Marathon, organised by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, has drawn praise from both elite runners and fans alike. A record 16,797 runners across four race categories registered in this year's event, which was held this morning (6 December) and took in the capital's iconic landmarks including Emirates Heritage Village and the historic Qasr Al Hosn.

Speaking about his time in the UAE capital, men's race winner Reuben Kipyego said: "For me, the conditions were ideal and the course was beautiful and I'm already looking forward to returning to Abu Dhabi to defend my title."

Covering 42.195km, the 2019 edition took place in perfect conditions. Starting in front of title sponsor ADNOC's HQ, runners headed out along the Corniche before passing the Emirates Heritage Village and making their way around Marina Mall. With runners of all abilities also taking on the 10km, 5km and 2.5km courses, the unique atmosphere that surrounds the race was enhanced by the new location of the event village in the heart of the route, making it both more spectator-friendly and exciting for participants who were encouraged on by cheering fans.

Bringing visitors even closer to the action, the new Event Village – or 'ADNOC Energy Zone' – saw runners and spectators enjoy a variety of family-focused activities over five days. Entertainment on race day was provided by DJs and live bands, as well as traditional Ayallah and Tanoura dancers. A bubble lady and magician provided additional fun for the children.

Adel, an Emirati government worker who lives in Ras Al Khaimah and was running his first marathon praised the city, commented: "I work in Abu Dhabi and so I often do training runs in the city. Today, however was very special and an honour to run a full marathon through our capital city."

Marwa, a Palestinian executive assistant from Sharjah travelled to the capital to join friends in the 5k race. She said: "Some friends of mine took part last year and told me how much fun it was so I was determined to participate this time around. I'm now more motivated to get involved in sports activities and improve my fitness. I've taken part in some obstacle course races in the past but this was my first road race and it was such a pleasant experience running next to the sea at the perfect time of year. For sure, I will be doing it again next year."



First place in the male marathon went to Reuben Kipyego of Kenya with a time of 2:04:40, while Vivian Kiplagat, also from Kenya, crossed the finish line first in the female marathon with a personal best time of 2:21:11.

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#### Images:

Image 1: Ayallah dancers on the marathon course

Image 2: Adel, ADNOC Abu Dhabi Marathon participant

Image 3: Marwa, ADNOC Abu Dhabi Marathon participant

For more information visit: [www.adnocabudhabimarathon.com](http://www.adnocabudhabimarathon.com)

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**Hashtags:** #RunInAbuDhabi #EnergyforLife

#### About Abu Dhabi Sports Council

Abu Dhabi Sports Council (ADSC) was established in 2006 by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

ADSC is aligned to the emirate's leadership vision to develop sport and youth activities. The Council promotes an effective, emirate-wide sports calendar that stimulates the desire to participate in quality sports among all Abu Dhabi residents and helps the talented and motivated reach their sporting potential.

The Council also hosts and supports the staging of international world-class sporting events. These include: the annual Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship presented by EGA; the Formula 1TM Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix; the ITU World Triathlon Series; both the Abu Dhabi and Gary Player Invitationals; the Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies Open on the Ladies European Tour, the Red Bull Air Race; the Mubadala World Tennis Championship; the 2017 and 2018 FIFA Club World Cups; the 2019 AFC Asian Cup UAE, the UCI WorldTour event, and the UAE Tour.

We at ADSC firmly believe that sporting events deliver a host of benefits for the emirate and its residents. These span improved health and wellness, the building of community spirit, the discovering of local talent and the delivery of international exposure of the emirate as a world-class sporting events hub.

Whether it is land, sea or air, we have sport covered.





For more media information please contact: Ahmed Wahab Al Juboori at Abu Dhabi Sports Council:  
[awahab@adsc.abudhabi.ae](mailto:awahab@adsc.abudhabi.ae)

### About ADNOC

ADNOC is one of the world's leading diversified energy and petrochemicals groups with a daily output of about 3 million barrels of oil and 10.5 cubic feet of natural gas. With 14 specialist subsidiary and joint venture companies, ADNOC is a primary catalyst for the UAE's growth and diversification. To find out more visit [www.adnoc.ae](http://www.adnoc.ae). For further information: [media@adnoc.ae](mailto:media@adnoc.ae)

