



X-Scotia - a new concept in Scottish Adventure Racing

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What

Cross-mountain adventure racing with the added ingredient of paragliding comes to Scotland for the first time in April (or maybe May) 2008.

Inspired by the legendary Red Bull X-Alps (an 850km, 14 day epic), the X-Scotia will see 50 of the UK's most determined paragliders assemble in the Scottish Highlands, ready for a 70km race around 3 Bens in a 36 hour window.

Where

Starting at Lochearnhead, at the western end of Loch Earn, just south of Loch Tay, competitors will have to pass around three turnpoints on the surrounding summits of Ben Vorlich (985m), Ben More (1174m) and Meall nan Tarmachan (1043m) before crossing the finish line back at Lochearnhead.

Competitors have to travel the route unassisted and self-contained, hiking and/or flying around the turnpoints to the finish line before the event closes 36 hours after the start.

The race is a continuous challenge involving a great deal of route selection, weather evaluation and timing decisions, especially with regard to the optimisation of flying time. Everyone will be trying to maximise time and distance in the air.

When not actually flying, competitors must carry all their paragliding equipment at all times. Which means large packs of up to 20kg as everyone must carry paraglider, harness, reserve and helmet.



Meall nan Tarmachan from 7,800ft in May 2007 Photo: Bob Mathews

When

Because the Scottish weather can be fickle and because we want the paragliding element to be significant, the X-Scotia will be held on the first good flying weekend between April 19/20 and May 17/18. This is the only way that we can guarantee a proper flying/hiking challenge.

Who

The entry will be limited to the first 50 registrations. The minimum standard will be BHPA Pilot qualification. More details, registration contacts and full regulations will be available soon. Start training and trimming gear weight now.

April 2008						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2008						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	