



# CHIBCHI FISHA

Extreme Triathlon Colombia

**THIS IS NOT AN EVENT.**

**IT IS A QUEST TO BECOME A MUISCA WARRIOR.**

**IT IS A CROSSING — FROM FEAR TO AWE, FROM EGO TO TRIBE.**

**IF YOU WANT COMFORT, THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF OPTIONS.**

**IF YOU SEEK TRANSFORMATION, WELCOME.**





# CHIBCHI FISHA 2027

## MANUAL

Chibchi Fisha—meaning “Strong Person of the Cold” in Muisca—is an extreme journey from ego to tribe, experienced through a long-distance triathlon in the heart of the Sugamuxi region of the Colombian Andes.

The Muisca people, a pre-Columbian Indigenous culture, believed that a snake-like creature guarded the depths of Lake Tota—and that is where our journey begins. The very cold water and the thin air at 3,000 meters will test anyone’s resilience.

From the white-sand beach, we will launch into a 180+ km cycling adventure. If you’re lucky, you may be overtaken by Colombia’s finest *escarabajos* on their way to work. Don’t be fooled by their 20 kg steel bikes or wool clothing—you’ll quickly understand why some of Colombia’s best cyclists are born in Boyacá.

The route finishes with a 43+ km run through small colonial towns and across the páramos—Colombia’s magical water factories.

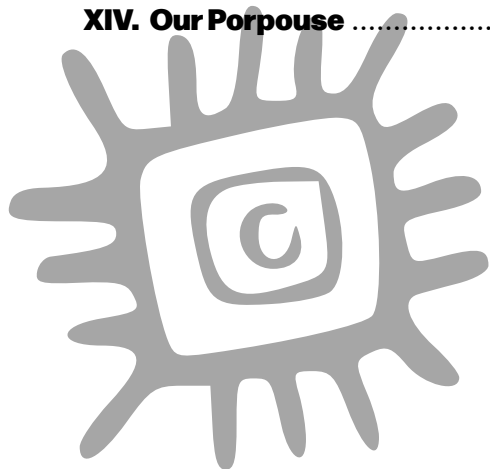
Chibchi Fisha is a lifetime experience. Forget about personal bests—enjoy the crossing with your support crew, be ready for whatever Chibchi Fisha throws at you, and let’s bring mysticism back to triathlon.

Before signing up, we strongly suggest you study this manual, even though it is a long-distance triathlon it has plenty special and xtreme details that must be considered.



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## I. Essentials

- **Date:** January 30, 2027
- **Location:** Lake Tota and Sugamuxi Region (Colombia)
- **Distance:** Extreme long-distance format (approx. **226-236 km**)
- **Elevation gain (est.):** +5,200 m (to be validated)
- **Languages:** Spanish / English (athlete and supporter must speak at least one)
- **Categories:** Open, all athletes must be 18 years old or older, men and women.

## II. Travel and Accommodation

Chibchi Fisha takes place around Sogamoso, Boyacá, approximately 220 km from Bogotá's international airport. There are good accommodation options around Lake Tota and Monguí (the finish-line town) for the nights prior to the race.

However, we strongly recommend a period of altitude acclimatization. For a longer and more comfortable stay, we recommend Paipa.





### III. Course (preliminary)

*Official maps and GPX tracks will be published after validation with local authorities and communities.*

- **SWIM** · 3. km (Lake Tota). Night Swim expected temperature 12-16 °C. Wetsuit mandatory. Recommended use of Neoprene vest, cap, globes and shoes. Due to the night, temperature and thin air the swim will be shortened to 3.000m.
- **BIKE** · 186 km. Open roads; town and páramo passes, potential crosswinds. Front/rear lights **mandatory** for the entire leg. Reflective vest required in early sections and any low-visibility conditions. Most pavement is in very good condition, except the section between km 8 and km 43.
- **RUN** · 42.2 km. Dirt roads and single track. The Black and White finish lines will be in the same location, but the route may vary depending on time cutoffs. The highest point of the race is above 3,700 m.a.s.l. From T2 to km 14, every athlete must run with a support runner.

**Total distance:** 230 km

**Average Elevation:** 2.700 m.a.s.l

**Total elevation gain (est.):** +5,200 m





#### **IV. Race Week Schedule**

- Wednesday: Arrivals, early check-in window.
- **Thursday:** Check-in window, Frailejon reforestation in paramo.
- **Friday:** Check-in window, Race briefing for **athletes + support** (both must attend).
- **Saturday (Race Day):** 3:00 T1 opens, 4:00 Race Start
- **Sunday:** T-shirt ceremony.

#### **V. Cancellation and refunds**

- **Cancellation and refunds policy.** We operate under a **no-refund policy**. We strongly recommend purchasing **race insurance** at registration.
- **Entry transfer:** Your Chibchi Fisha race entry is **personal and non-transferable**. It cannot be sold, transferred, or given to another person.





## VI. Cut-Offs

Designed to protect athletes, crews, and the mountain.

- **Swim Exit:** 2 hr 30 min
- **Leave T2 (start run):** 13 hr 00 min
- **Access to Black Section (km 1.5):** 11 hr 30 min

*Cut-offs may be adjusted for weather. If athlete does not make the 11hr-30min black section cutoff, he/she will be directed towards the White run. Any change will be announced in the pre-race meeting and via SMS.*

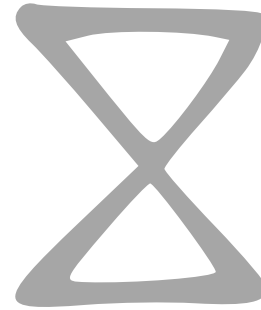
## VII. Safety & Route Changes

- **Weather:** Altitude, fog, hail, high UV exposure, and strong winds are real risks. However, historical data suggests that the Colombian Andes in **January and February** typically experience **drier conditions and mostly clear skies**.
- **Emergencies:** Chibchi Fisha has a higher degree of risk, consider that our experienced team cannot be present at every moment everywhere. Please in case of any emergency, always contact race direction. **Race Office** phone number will be in bib. If a life is at risk, call 123 first, then inform the race.
- **Pavement:** The route is mostly well paved. However, the sections between **Tota (km 8)** and **Monumento a Los Lanceros (km 43)**, and **Paz del Rio (km 140)** and **Monguí (km 185)** includes several stretches in poor condition, including a long dirt-road segment. We strongly recommend that all athletes **recon this section prior to race day**.



## VIII. Mandatory Gear

- **Swim:**
  - Full wetsuit
  - Official cap
  - Neoprene hood/gloves/socks/vest **allowed** (non-webbed).
- **Bike:**
  - Certified bike and helmet
  - Front & rear lights on at all times
  - Reflective vest in first sector.
  - Support car must be reachable by phone.
- **Run** (Checked at T2 for every runner and supporter):
  - Bib visible front.
  - Waterproof jacket with hood.
  - Long-sleeve thermal layer (wool/fleece).
  - Beanie and gloves.
  - Minimum food (2 bars) + 750 ml drink.
  - Headlamp with full battery.
  - Mobile phone.
  - GPS tracker.





## IX. Athlete Rules

- General World Triathlon rules apply on Chibchi Fisha, here we only indicate those specific to the event.
- **NO-drafting** event.
- Obey traffic laws and authorities, this includes stop lights and signs.
- Change of bike and wheels due to complete mechanical failure is permitted, provided the Race Office is informed.
- Assistance only from registered support crew, however the support must be given foot on land, not directly from the car.
- Support car must never drive behind or in front of the cyclist. Support car must pass the athlete and wait for him/her down the road.
- On the run every athlete must be accompanied by a support athlete from T2 to km 14.
- Athletes and support must carry mandatory backpack with mandatory gear at all times during the run.
- Littering = **DSQ**.

## X. Your Support Crew (key rules)

Support is **mandatory** (min 1, 2 recommended).

- Only **one** vehicle per athlete (no campers >5.4 m).
- Sober, prudent driving; vehicle **never** follows/leads the cyclist.
- All support is done **off the roadway** (beyond the white line).
- On the run: From T2 to km 14 all athletes must run with a support runner. From km 14 onwards the support could run with the support runner. In any case, the support car cannot stay with the runner.
- Crew violations result in **athlete penalties**.
- The bike leg will pass thru many towns, we recommend for the crew to stop, get out of the car, stretch their legs and enjoy the local cuisine, it will be a long day.
- Support must have a working cell phone to be contacted by the race staff.



## **XI. Transitions**

- **T1:** access for 1 crew member; no race number during swim or bike; chip & tracker visible on exit.
- **T2:** access for 1 crew member; Mandatory equipment will be checked before departing T2; clear area before athlete departs.

## **XII. Environment & Territory**

- **Zero litter.** Pack out everything.
- Respect wildlife, crops, and community signage.
- Buy local: prioritize stores and operators within the basin.

## **XIII. Health, Anti-Doping & Medical Control**

- Due to High Altitude racing, there will be medical examinations in the route, medical staff may pull you at any time for safety.
- **WADA** code and lists apply. Random testing may occur.





## **XIV. Our Purpose**

There are countless reasons to stay active and race triathlons around the world. But after a lifetime of high-level competition, we've come to truly understand the power sport has transforming communities.

That's why, for the past several years, we've been working hand in hand with **Rodando por una Sonrisa**—a collective of volunteer cyclists dedicated to raising funds and awareness, and to supporting **Fundación Operación Sonrisa Colombia** (a partner of **Operation Smile**) in identifying children across Colombia who live with cleft lip and/or cleft palate and need access to care.

Fundación Operación Sonrisa Colombia began its work more than 35 years ago in the Sugamuxi region. Because of that, you may notice that some of our staffers/volunteers carry a small scar on their upper lip—a quiet reminder of lives changed through surgery and support.

So, during race week, we're not interested in where you've raced—whether it's Norway, Hawaii, or New England. We want to know why you do it. What drives you. What moves you from the inside.

If you'd like to join our campaign, you can donate through our website. And during race week, we'll have a dedicated tent where Operación Sonrisa will share their story—plus we'll be giving away shirts to donors as a thank-you for supporting this mission, we hope you proudly wear it thru race week.





**CHIBCHI FISHA IS AN EXPEDITION WITH A HEARTBEAT.**

**SEE YOU IN THE WATER — AND, IF THE MOUNTAIN ALLOWS, ON THE FINISH LINE.**