

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2022, Boquete Helped Launch a Stop on the World's Toughest Adventure Racing Circuit

In **February 2022**, Boquete became part of the **Adventure Racing World Series** when **AR Panama** made its debut—a brand-new, non-stop expedition race organized by the series with backing from Panama's tourism authority, PROMTUR. “We wanted to show the natural beauty that Panama has as a sustainable destination,” said race director **Fernando Fondevila**.

The course covered **516 kilometers** with **11,000 meters** of cumulative elevation gain, and competitors had up to **144 hours**—six days—to finish it. Teams started near Volcán with an ascent and descent of **Volcán Barú**, passed through Boquete district, and kept going: a 300-foot abseil down Chorcha Waterfall, two kayaking legs along the Pacific coast, a 70-kilometer trek around Cerro Hoya National Park, and a 118-kilometer bike ride to the finish in Pedasí, with a stretch along the sand of Isla Cañas.

Twenty-two teams—92 athletes from 17 countries, including one Panamanian team, Aventureros 507—took on the course. The youngest racer was 24-year-old Panamanian July Jiménez; the oldest was 66-year-old Colombian Gustavo Arango, competing across the same terrain and time limit as everyone else.

Team Brazil Multisport won the inaugural race, followed by Team Estonia ACE Adventure/La Sportiva in second and Spain's Torpedo Vidaraid in third, splitting a **\$25,000** prize pool among the top three finishers.

Sources:

- Endurance Sportswire, “The New AR Panama Race Launches the Adventure Racing World Series for 2022”
- Endurance Sportswire, “Team Brazil Multisport Win AR Panama to Launch the 2022 Adventure Racing World Series”
- Panamá América, “Brasileños, primeros en llegar a la cima del volcán Barú en el Panamá Adventure Race”
- La Estrella de Panamá, “Parque Nacional Volcán Barú será escenario del Adventure Race Panamá”