



## Philip Rush, Honor Swimmer, New Zealand, 1985



Personal Website (None known)

**Philip Rush** swam the English Channel in 1985 in a single-crossing and then set a double-crossing record in 17 hours and 56 minutes. He made successful single-crossings in 1986 and 1987 and then became the second swimmer to achieve a triple-crossing in 28 hours and 21 minutes included a first leg of 7 hours and 55 minutes which was the fastest swim of the year. In his epic triple-crossing, he swam his first leg in 7 hours 55 minutes, which was the fastest swim of the year, his second leg in 8 hours 15 minutes to set a double-crossing record, and his third leg in 12 hours and 11 minutes for a triple-crossing record of 28 hours and 21 minutes. Philip completed his tenth crossing in 1988. Philip also completed two double-crossings of the 25.7 km (16-mile) Cook Strait in New Zealand (16 hours 16 minutes in 1984 and 18 hours and 37 minutes in 1988).

He also crossed the Cook (North to South) in 8 hours and 56 minutes in 1979, placed second in a 38 km (23.6-mile) professional marathon race in the Nile River, Egypt in 1979, seventh in the 36 km world championships in Italy in 1980, sixth in the 14.7 km Maratona del Golfo – Capri-Napoli world championships in Italy in 1981, seventh in the 34 km (21-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac St-Jean professional race in 1981, first the 22 km (13.6-mile) Wellington Harbour in New Zealand race in 1982, first the 22 km (13.6-mile) Otago Harbour in New Zealand race in 1982, first in the 24 km (14.9-mile) Australian Championships in 1982, fifth in the 36 km (22.5-mile) Around-the-Island professional marathon swim in Atlantic City, USA in 1983, fifth in the 34 km (21-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac St-Jean professional race in 1983, fourth in the 48K (29.8-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac Memphrémagog professional race in 1983, first in the 29 km (18-mile) Paspédiac marathon race in Canada in 1983, fifth in the 36K (22.5-mile) Around-the-Island professional marathon swim in Atlantic City, USA in 1984, eighth in the 48 km (29.8-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac Memphrémagog in 1984, fourth in the 42 km (26-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac St-Jean professional race in 1984, second in the 29 km (18-mile) Paspédiac marathon race in Canada in 1984, did the first 84 km (52-mile) double-crossing of Lake Taupo in 23 hours and 6 minutes in New Zealand in 1985, did the

Ironman Enduro Rotorua that included 10 hours of swimming in 1985, finished sixth in the 48 km (29.8-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac Memphrémagog professional race in 1985, second in the 62 km (38.5-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac St-Jean double-crossing professional race in 1985 and 1986, fourth in the 48 km (29.8-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac Memphrémagog professional race in 1986, second in the 48 km (29.8-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac Memphrémagog in 1987, seventh in the 48 km (29.8-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac Memphrémagog in 1987 and crossed from Maori Kapiti Island to d'Urville Island in New Zealand.

Rush continues to play a valuable role as he coaches and advises swimmers who challenge the Cook Strait. To date, he has coached more than 25 swimmers successfully across the Cook Strait and is helping develop New Zealand's open water swimming program.

[Expanded Biography \(Openwaterpedia\)](#)

[Long Swims Database \(Marathon Swimmers Federation\)](#)