

Press Release
Prague, 22 April 2024

Prague offers a last chance for Olympic qualification

The Prague International Marathon is one of the final opportunities for athletes to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. It's no wonder that the elite start list for the race includes athletes from several countries looking for a chance to qualify for Paris. While everyone is wondering who the men's and women's winners will be, this year The Prague International Marathon is about much more, it's about athletes looking to fulfill their Olympic dream.

Among the participants, we will see runners from China, Brazil, Mongolia, Peru, Jordan, Ecuador, and India, as well as from Portugal and Bulgaria. Most of these countries have set the standard at 2:08:10 for men and 2:26:30 for women. A maximum of 3 places are available per country, and it will vary according to existing qualifiers in each, but there will still be places up for grabs!

China is sending 3 athletes to Prague – two women, ZhiXuan and Dan Li, and one man, Jianhua Peng. Runners from Brazil also have high hopes in Wendell Souza and Grazi Zarri, who will be striving to achieve Olympic qualification (after all, the well-known runner Paulo Paula qualified for the Rio Olympics in Prague 2016). It will be interesting to see how Grazi Zarri performs, as if she runs well, she could become the first Brazilian woman to represent her country in the marathon at the Olympic Games. Paola Bonilla from Ecuador and Ferdinan Cereceda Rodriguez from Peru are also taking part and hope to perform well here.

Other countries with representatives seeking Olympic places include India, who are sending 3 men, Bugatha Srinu, Vikroma Ban Griyu and Gopi Thonakal. They are joined by Byambac Teseveen from Mongolia, and Moath Alkhalwaleh from Jordan will be – the latter, due to their federation rules, only needing to surpass the 2:17 mark to qualify. In addition, Portuguese runners Jesus Solange and Ana Mafalda Ferreira will also come to Prague to fight for their Olympic dream.

The Prague International Marathon caters for all these athletes' hopes of success, with pacemakers not only for the top athletes in the race but also for those aiming for qualifying times.



Czech fans are already pleased to know that Tereza Hrochová and Moira Stewartová have qualified for the Olympics, and while the Czech men need to improve quite a bit to do the same, the domestic championships, which is part of the Prague Marathon, is still a very highly valued race. Set at 2:08 the Olympic standard is a tough challenge for the Czech men.

Overview of runners who have announced their intention to attempt to meet the Olympic criteria for their countries in Prague:

Women:

	Solange Jesus	POR	2:27:30
Dan Li	CHN	2:27:32	
Paola Bonilla	ECU	2:27:38	
Militsa Mircheva	BUL	2:29:23	
Ana Mafalda Ferreira	POR	2:31:27	
Graziele Zarri	BRA	2:42:48	

MEN

Byambajav Tseveenravdan	MGL	2:09:19	
Jianhua Peng	CHN	2:09:59	
Ferdinan Cereceda	PER	2:12:19	
Bugatha Srinu	IND	2:14:41	
Wendell Souza	BRA	2:16:20	
Mo'ath Alkhaldeh	JOR	2:18:43	
Bangriya Vikram Bharatsinh	IND	2:27:06	

We wish them all the best, hoping that Prague becomes their gateway to Paris.



Note for editors

- Each of the five races are certified by AIMS, have been awarded a 5 Star Road Race standard by European Athletics or have hosted the IAAF (World Athletics) Half Marathon Championships.
- RunCzech races are awarded the quality mark by World Athletic and the Prague International Marathon, Prague Half Marathon and Birell 10k Race received the World Athletics Elite Label Road Race award.
- SuperHalves races have played host to World Record performances (2 in Lisbon, 2 in Prague, 1 in Copenhagen and 3 in Valencia).
- RunCzech organizes running events in cities across the Czech Republic and in Italy, with Napoli Running, and in Japan and China supported by local entities.
- Prague International Marathon spol. s.r.o. ("PIM")/RunCzech was established in 1995 by Carlo Capalbo, President of the Organizing Committee, with the aim of staging a world-class international marathon in Prague.
- Nearly 1.2 million runners have participated in RunCzech events since its inception. In 2019, we welcomed over 120 000 finishers from 101 different countries.
- ALL RUNNERS ARE BEAUTIFUL is our way of welcoming everyone to the world of running.
- Initiatives like RunCzech Running League and SuperHalves were created to motivate casual runners. To support elite European athletes, we created the EuroHeroes Challenge.
- RunCzech Racing is dedicated to the development of young athletes, community ties, and sporting excellence. Eight World records so far and over 150 podium finishes for our team!
- In 2021, RunCzech introduced the unique running invention called The Battle of the Teams. "Professional marathoners competing in teams, strategically drafted based on their collective personal bests, giving each team a serious chance to win gold".
- We host other events such as our Bambini Runs, Family Runs and Junior Marathon Championship to encourage youth participation.
- Our FreeRun courses form a network of running trails across the Czech Republic.
- Our Running Mall serves as the epicenter of the running world in Prague.
- All accompanying information regarding RunCzech can be found at this link:

[Notes for editors](#)



RUNCZECH

ALL RUNNERS
ARE BEAUTIFUL

Contact

For more information, please get in touch with:

- reach the office at pr@pim.cz

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/runczech>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/runczech/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/RunCzech>



Františka Křížka 11, 170 00 Praha 7, Czech Republic
Email: info@runczech.com

Tel: +420 224 919 209
Fax: +420 224 923 355

www.runningmall.cz
www.runczech.com