



PRESS RELEASE

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RunCzech races are gradually filling up! Registrations are now closed for both the Volkswagen Prague Marathon and the premiere of the Mattoni Karlovy Vary Half Marathon.

We are witnessing further confirmation of the unprecedented interest in RunCzech Running League races as two more races - the Volkswagen Prague Marathon and the Mattoni Karlovy Vary Half Marathon, both taking place in May - reach capacity.

With more than one month to go before the race, all start numbers have sold out for the 19th ever **Volkswagen Prague Marathon** taking place on 12th May at 9:00 am on Prague's Old Town Square. The last thousand runners have registered during the past ten days! Once again this year, the second largest running race in the Czech Republic, awarded the highest ranking Gold Quality Label from the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), will welcome 9 000 runners. The breakdown of participants includes 56 % Czechs with the remaining 44% hailing from more than 80 countries. The highest number of registered runners from abroad come from Italy, France, Slovakia, Germany and Great Britain, however the race will see competing runners spanning all continents.

It is still possible to sign up for the Volkswagen 4.2 km Family Run as well as take part in the Walk with dogs to experience a slice of the action during the Volkswagen Marathon weekend. Runners taking part in competitive runs will be able to take advantage of special offers. "Each registered participant of the main race is given one free registration to a non-competitive run. You can choose between the Volkswagen Family Mini Marathon and a Walk with Dogs. Registrations for both of these races are already open on www.runczech.com," according to Václav Skřivánek from the Organising Team.

The first ever Mattoni Karlovy Vary Half Marathon is scheduled to take place fourteen days later. Capacity for 1 500 runners was already reached with a month and a half to go before the race. The event taking place on 25th May at 6 pm on náměstí Osvobození (Liberty Embankment) will welcome runners from all over the world. Over 40 % of runners come from the Karlovy Vary Region, with women making up a third of all participants.

For those interested, the Karlovy Vary race also offers the chance to take part in the Mattoni 3 km Family Run. This non-competitive race offers a great way for those who love sport to enjoy the day with close friends and family.

Both races form part of the RunCzech Running League which boasts a total of seven races across the whole Czech Republic, allowing all those involved the chance to merge their



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passion for running with travel. Come and discover Prague, Karlovy Vary, České Budějovice, Olomouc and Ústí nad Labem through our races.

Hurry up to register for Mattoni České Budějovice Half Marathon or Mattoni Olomouc Half Marathon as the capacity of these races will be full very soon!

To find out more, go to www.runczech.com.

Should you be interested in further information, please get in touch with:

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Notes for editors:

The RunCzech running league

The RunCzech running league brings together all the prestigious Prague races organized under the Prague International Marathon heading, along with races in selected regions of the Czech Republic organized by tempo team prague, and collectively known as the RunCzech races. This series of races spanning the whole Czech Republic allows all those involved to combine their passion for running with a love for travel.

During the course of 2012, 64,043 runners from all over the world took part in the RunCzech running league. This created a prestigious running ranking system for the 34,346 people participating in competitive runs allowing them to measure their results against other runners in categories according to sex, age, and the new grouping by professions.

In 2013 the RunCzech running league includes the following races:

Hervis Prague Half Marathon (April 6th)

Volkswagen Prague Marathon (May 12th)

Mattoni Karlovy Vary Half Marathon (May 25th) – a new race in 2013

Mattoni České Budějovice Half Marathon (June 8th)

Mattoni Olomouc Half Marathon (June 22nd)

Prague Grand Prix (September 7th)

Mattoni Ústí nad Labem Half Marathon (September 15th)

And the host race the Košice International Peace Marathon (October 6th)

An eighth race will be added to the RunCzech running league in 2014, at which point capacity is expected to reach 81 000 runners, completing the project.

Boasting a total of five IAAF Road Race Label awards, organizers of the RunCzech running league have received more of these accolades than any other group in the world which attests to the first-rate standards of the organization.



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These awards include:

- The IAAF Road Race Gold Label for the Hervis Prague Half Marathon
- The IAAF Road Race Gold Label for the Volkswagen Prague Marathon
- The IAAF Road Race Silver Label for the 10 km Run featured as part of the Prague Grand Prix
- The IAAF Road Race Silver Label for the Olomouc Half Marathon – **new in 2013**
- The IAAF Road Race Silver Label for the Ústí nad Labem Half Marathon - **new in 2013**

Prague International Marathon, spol. s r.o.

Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o. (“PIM”) was set up in 1995 by Carlo Capalbo, President of the Company with the aim of organizing a large-scale international marathon on the streets of Prague. A total of 958 runners made it to the start line of that first race. Since then, PIM’s activities have burgeoned into a whole series of running events referred to as the RunCzech running league.

The Volkswagen Prague Marathon ranks among the top 10 world marathons taking place in one of the most beautiful locations. The 2012 race attracted 9 057 competing runners from all over the world. Since 1999 we have also been organizing the Prague Half Marathon along with the the Prague Grand Prix races over shorter courses. In 2012 the Hervis Prague Half Marathon became the year’s fastest half-marathon in the world! The Ethiopian runner, Atsedu Tsegay completed it in the event record time of 58:47.

Races organised by PIM are sponsored by some of the largest companies in the Czech Republic; Volkswagen, adidas, Hervis and Mattoni. The whole organization and atmosphere of the races has drawn a number of renowned names in the athletic world to the Czech Republic (the likes of Haile Gebrselassie, Stefano Baldini, Paul Tergat, Moses Tanui, Antonio Pinto and Patrick Makau), as well as thousands of visitors.

In addition to the above events, PIM also organizes the Junior Marathon for high school students. A relay race comprised of ten member teams which initially participate in regional rounds, the winners will proceed to the final as part of the Volkswagen Prague Marathon, scheduled for Sunday May 12th 2013.

tempo team prague s.r.o.

tempo team is dedicated to developing marathon races along with other running events held in Europe. It was established in 2000 by a group of experts and sporting enthusiasts. The term “tempo” is derived from the name of the organization “The European Marathon Promotion Organization”.

tempo team’s activities entail concept creation, brand building, and marketing as well as the actual organization of sporting events. Right from the start, tempo team has played a key role in organizing the Prague marathon as well as developing the RunCzech Running series.

tempo team is the name of the main organizer of races taking place in various regions under the RunCzech running league heading comprising the České Budějovice Half Marathon, the Olomouc Half Marathon, the Ústí nad Labem Half Marathon and most recently the Karlovy Vary Half Marathon.

