

Press Release
Prague, September 8, 2023

Ankara Gears Up for the Inaugural Runkara International Half Marathon on October 8th

The bustling city of Ankara is one of the few global capital cities without a half marathon or a marathon. All that is about to change with the very first *"Runkara International Half Marathon"* which will be held on October 8th. This monumental event is expected to bring together running enthusiasts from around the globe, catering to both amateur and professional athletes.

The organization behind Ankara's First International Half Marathon - Runkara is DAZSPOR, the team specialized in professional sports events and organization, aiming to offer unforgettable experiences to wide audiences. Runkara has been awarded the highly-regarded World Athletics Label, recognizing its commitment to exceptional event organization and safety measures.

Adding to the excitement, the event has partnered with RunCzech, a renowned name in the world of running event management, as the official and professional solution partner. "RunCzech has the pleasure of embarking on this remarkable journey with DAZSPOR creating the first Half Marathon in Ankara. Our main goal is to embrace the city's energy and unite runners from all walks of life to create an unforgettable experience. Get ready to feel the pulse of the city, and be part of history in the making", said Carlo Capalbo, the President of the organizing committee of RunCzech.

Participants can expect a range of exciting events such as a three day EXPO, Family Run, 4km run, 10km run in addition to the half marathon. Registrations for the Runkara International Half Marathon are now open, and interested participants are encouraged to visit the [official event website](#) for more information and to secure their start numbers.



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Runkara Sports & Technology Expo

Runkara International Half Marathon is about more than just racing - it is also set to feature a dynamic and innovative Sports and Technology Expo, which will take place from October 6th to October 8th. The EXPO will provide an exciting and engaging experience, with families being able to explore the venue, with the opportunity for their children to enjoy the children's sports area. In addition, dedicated interactive areas for youth will be provided.

"*Turkiye's Only Sports and Technology Fair*" is expected to attract up to 25,000 visitors, providing a unique platform to experience "the spirit of sports and a new era in sports in Ankara."

Website: <https://runkara.com.tr/en>



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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](#)



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