

Press Release
Prague, 14th February

Get ready for the start! RunCzech is opening registrations for its popular Prague races

Prague, 14th February – Finally! After two years, it is possible to register for some of the most popular races globally and the biggest in the Czech Republic. RunCzech is opening registrations for Prague Half Marathon, Volkswagen Prague Marathon with dm Family Run, Prague Relay and Birell Grand Prix. The first sporting event will be held on 2nd April, followed by the famous marathon on 8th May, relay racing on 22nd – 23rd June and the exciting night race on 10km and 5km on 3rd September. It is possible to register from Monday 14th February. *“After two years postponing, we are expecting a high volume of interest. Around 40 thousand runners will attend all four races,”* says Carlo Capalbo, the president of the organizing committee of RunCzech.

Iconic shots of thousands of runners on Charles Bridge to the sound of the Vltava symphonic poem will reach the masses worldwide again. After all, moments from the Volkswagen Prague Marathon are usually broadcasted in 131 countries with a certified reach of over 700 million viewers. Thanks to these events, Prague will once again receive its deserved recognition. *“We are sensing the massive demand for healthy activities and traveling. That is something we all need. Organising the marathon in Prague can be perceived as the symbolic start of the return to normal,”* said Prague mayor Zdeněk Hřib. *“Of course we will be acting hand in hand with updated government regulations. All information will be regularly updated on our website,”* added Carlo Capalbo from RunCzech.

Runners registered in 2020 had an opportunity to re-confirm for this year’s races prior to new applicants. Organizers contacted every runner. However, there is still a chance to obtain a registration. *“Prague races were basically sold out from the previous years, but new runners have still the opportunity to register and enjoy the race. New runners will have to be really fast. The capacity for these well-known races has always been limited, and we cannot increase it,”* highlighted Mr. Capalbo. *“According to signals from social media, we will be welcoming runners from, whole Europe, USA, and around the World”* he adds.

Registrations for long-awaited Prague races open from Monday 14th February. The Prague Half Marathon will take place in April, together with team race, Medical run, and Rescue and Safety Forces category, all happening over the course of the weekend. In May, the Volkswagen Marathon Weekend awaits running enthusiasts together with the dm Family Run. This will also include the Czech National Championship in Marathon and the Junior Marathon Championship



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final. Prague Relay is taking place in June on the premises of the Czech Exhibition Hall. In September, the program will include the popular Birell Grand Prix, i.e. the Birell 10km race and the adidas Women's race on 5km.

This year's season will also include Mattoni regional races in Karlovy Vary, České Budějovice, Olomouc, Ústí nad Labem and Liberec. *"The interest is massive. We have already sold over fifty per cent of the total capacity,"* noted Carlo Capalbo.



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Note for editors:

- 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”) 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:
<https://bit.ly/2X83DLD>

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