

Press Release
Prague, March 29, 2023

The running stars are preparing to assault records at the sold-out Prague Half Marathon

A huge crowd will hit the streets of Prague this Saturday. The Prague Half Marathon is back after a year, and in full power! It will feature thousands of runners, including pro athletes. Kenya's Benard Kimeli will be aiming for his third triumph in this race, while his compatriots and the local Jiri Homoláč are also looking to be at the front. One of the biggest stars on the women's start list is Irine Jepchumba Kimais, who managed to win this year's half marathon in Barcelona with a time of 1:04:37. The race will start from Jan Palach Square on Saturday at 10:00 and it will be televised and streamed live.

Kimeli attacked his third triumph at the Prague Half Marathon last year already, however, finished third. He will be the major favorite again in this year's race, as Prague is his favorite place. His training takes place mostly in Japan, where he spends more than six months of the year as a professional athlete of Fujitsu Corporation. Kimeli is also a member of the RunCzech Racing team.

His best time in 2019 was 59:07 in Prague, the men's course record is still 58:47 minutes. Roncer Kipkorir Konga, who ran 59:38 in Paris, also wants to reach high, as does another Kenyan, Geoffrey Kimutai Koech, who was two seconds faster in Houston in 2020. There are also pro-athletes such as Paulos Surafel from the UK or the locals Jiri Homoláč and Patrik Vebr, the new members of the RunCzech Racing team.

Among women there are very interesting names as well. In particular, the Kenyan Irine Jepchumba Kimais is in great form - this year she already won in Barcelona, with an impressive time of less than an hour and five minutes. Last year, she finished third in the Berlin Half Marathon or won in Arid, Saudi Arabia. Kenya's Nesphine Jepleting, who reached the time of 1:06:57 here last year, will defend her victory.

Spectators will be on the course to also watch and support Moria Stewart, the Czech national record holder for the half marathon (1:10:14) and 10km.



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At the Prague Half Marathon, she will be aiming to break her own Czech record, paced by another local endurance ace, Vítek Pavlišta. Tereza Hrochová, the winner of the České Budějovice Half Marathon 2022 as part of the RunCzech Running League and the 2019 World Hill Running Vice-Champion, will also fight for a place on the podium.



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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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