

Press release
Prague, December 14, 2021

RunCzech organized a popular running race in the south of Italy

Running in the Czech Republic during the winter. It's possible, but not really at any big events. That is one of the reasons why RunCzech, during this time of the year, is organizing races abroad. One of them took place on the first weekend of December in Sorrento, in the south of Italy. The program included fun runs for families and competitive races of 27 or 54 km distance. *„RunCzech organized this race for the fifth time with 1500 runners, including 50 Czech representatives, standing at the starting line. There are now perfect conditions for running in Italy and the route led along the coastline in a beautiful environment. Early next year, we are going to organize a half marathon in the center of Naples.“* said Carlo Capalbo, president of the RunCzech Organizing Committee.

The demand for races out of home countries is growing, as well as the inquiries from Czech runners about events abroad. Especially during the winter time, when running in freezing temperatures and on a slippery surface is not quite comfortable. *„RunCzech hosted the first running event in Italy five years ago. If there was no pandemic, we would have maybe held races even in other countries by now.“* said Carlo Capalbo.

Runners like to travel and combine high quality races with tourism. It is southern Italy that gets at the forefront of their interests with Sorrento being one of the most famous places. During the race, runners had the chance to enjoy the view of Capri Island in front of them, the lovely town of Naples with Mount Vesuvius on the right, and last but not least, the magical towns of Sorrento and Positano. *„It was a great challenge for runners to overcome the ultramarathon or panoramic distance at such a unique place at sunrise and during the Christmas time. They really enjoyed it.“* added Capalbo, according to whom the organization of races in Italy is very specific.

„Italian runners are used to complete registrations just before the race. It used to be very similar in the Czech Republic, whereas now most of runners register even a year in advance. This means a bit more challenging planning and production for us,“ said Capalbo from RunCzech. *„Our team travelled to the south of Italy in advance to help and ensure a smooth process. In some way, this is like organizing small Olympics, when we have to coordinate everything with the police, stop traffic, collaborate with the city and regional authorities.“*

The next race in Italy will take place in Naples next year at the end of February. Registrations are already open.

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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