

What is this Gigathlon? How long has this event been happening in the Czech Republic, where does it come from? The main organiser Jan Plachý have all answers for you.



When you hear to say Gigathlon, what crosses your mind?

Gigathlon is the unique international sporting event of 5 disciplines (swimming, in-line skating, road bike, mountain bike and run). There is no such other event in the Czech Republic. It's a sporting challenge for singles, couples or teams, its also unique in its whole weekend concept and for the Gigathletes it's definitely a long last experience.

Where does Gigathlon come from and who can take a part?

Gigathlon started in 1998 in Switzerland. In that times more and more multi-sporting events were coming up, so a big sportsman in heart and head from Curych Petr Wirz decided to launch one more event on the market. First years were mainly focused on extreme single athletes. But over years Gigathlon became more a team event, weekend that brings friends together, who are more after having a quality time together surrounded by nature than after results.

How Gigathlon made it from Switzerland to the Czech Republic?

I have lived in Switzerland for 10 years. But in 2011 I have decided to move back home to Czech and started here a company eventime. Nevertheless Switzerland was still in my heart as well as a passion for multi-sporting events. I was looking for a link and I found that link in "Gigathlon Czech Republic".

Is there another Gigathon besides of Gigathlon SUI and Gigathlon CZ?

At the moment we are the only one and we are proud, that as the only one we have managed to start Gigathlon in a new country. I believe that the event will get more spread especially across Europe. The neighbour countries Germany and Austria have already shown an interest as well as Mexico, where last year was already even held a Test Tour. Let's see who will join our Gigathlon family next.

Gigathlon CZ has had already three successful years. How do you look back?

The preparation of the fourth year is already under way and thanks to previous years we don't start from scratch, so we can move faster ahead. First year we had 300 Gigathletes at Lipno, what was more than I hoped for. That was a big success and it showed us the path to follow. I don't personally think that Gigathlon will be a mass event in Czech, but it will be a quality event that people will look forward to it throughout the year and will be coming back.

Will the Gigathlon Czech Republic 2019 follow the same pattern?

For two years we stayed in South Bohemia Region and now we are staying for the second time again partially in Ustecky region and spreading in Central Bohemian Region. The last summer holiday weekend became a traditional date for Gigathlon CZ and it wont be any different for this year. Save the date: 30.8.-1.9.2019!

Thank you for the first part of interview.

Petra E. Votočková (Gigathlon CZ OC)