

## The ECO energy Rally Bohemia will host the world elite of ECO rally

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**The second edition of the ECO Energy Rally Bohemia will be able to showcase the participation of the complete top of the FIA Electric and New Energy Championship. All three of the best crews of this year's world cup and last year's world champions will meet in Liberec and Mladá Boleslav.**

The starting list of the ECO Energy Rally Bohemia is 34 crews, of which 24 are electric cars that score the FIA Electric and New Energy Championship (FIA ENEC) world cup. Ten of the registered cars use other types of drive, including hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and CNG. This allows them to participate in the Organizer's Cup - Czech Trophy of Regularity in ECO-Rally.

The starting number one will be held by the current world champions ECO-rally of regularity and the winners of last year's first ECO Energy Rally Bohemia, mixed crew Didier Malga / Anne Bonnel from France, who exchanged their last year's Renault Zoe for Tesla Model 3. They are not so successful this year and are sixth in the championship. But this was also true last year and only the victory in Mladá Boleslav put them in the fight for the title, eventually victorious. So let's see if they can repeat this success this year. Secondly, the leading crew of this year's world classification, the French Arthur Prusak / Thierry Benchetrit on Audi e-tron, will set out on the regularity track. They succeeded in winning the Czech New Energies Rally in Český Krumlov in May, so Czech roads probably suit them. The third crew to hit the race from the starting ramp on Liberec Dr. E. Beneš's square, one of the most experienced participants in the FIA ENEC World Cup, are Italians Walter Kofler / Franco Gaioni. These are world champions of 2017 and last year's vice-champions, who missed last year's ECO energy victory Rally Bohemia only by a hair's breadth. While Tesla's S-model was linked with them in recent years, they have moved to Audi e-tron this year. In the Audi Autotest Motorsport team, their compatriots, Guido Guerrini / Emanuele Calchetti, are running with an identical car. And they are very successful because they are currently third in the world cup classification, only two points behind Kofler / Gaioni. They even managed to win at the Rallye du Chablais in Switzerland. Fifth in the order, Germans Dr. Jan Rosner / Patrick Weber have just started with their BMW i3 in Cesky Krumlov and there they took the fourth place, so we will see if they can repeat the good result. Bulgarian Kalin Dedikov has a lot of experience with ECO-rally of regularity and starts sixth.

The first Czechs, Lukáš Hataš / Tereza Němcová, will set out on the track as the seventh. They will be closely watched, because last year at the Rally Bohemia, they managed to take a bronze place with Tesla X 90D in the FIA ENEC World Cup and at the same time silver in the Czech Trophy, which ranks them among the favorites of both competitions. Behind them, Jiří Paroubek / Jana Neubauerová, who will present themselves with the Hyundai Ioniq, will finish in both classifications last year. However, it will not be easy for them because last year's winner of the Czech Trophy at the Rally Bohemia Michal Žďárský, this time with Kristýna Žďárská on the passenger's seat and SEAT Leon TGI with the CNG gas drive, are also on the starting list. In the starting list of ECO Energy Rally Bohemia we can also find names known from the classic speed rally - with the BMW i3, the ladies crew of Michaela Maňovská / Kateřina Blahoutová, who we could see together on special stages with Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VI, Honda Civic or VW Polo. An even better-known name on the starting list is Miroslav Plíhal (Volkswagen E-Golf), who is particularly well-known for his starts with the Škoda Octavia WRC and just recently belonged to the top of the Czech Championship in Sprintrally.



ECO energy Rally Bohemia starts on Friday 12th July at 9 PM at the Liberec Dr. E. Beneš's square. The ECO energy Rally Bohemia crews can look forward to a 620km track, of which special regularity stages are more than 300km divided into 23 tests. They are partly led on the closed tracks of the special stages of the classic speed rally. The participants of the ECO energy Rally Bohemia will open the program at the spectators' super SS SCALA Gladiator Sosnová at Autodrom Sosnová near Česká Lípa on Friday at 5 AM. On Saturday afternoon it will be possible to see them on the special stages of the classic speed rally Hradčany, Rašovka, Milíře and Bzí. On Sunday morning, then on Kvítkovice, Chludov and ŠKODA AUTO Staroměstská special stages. The ceremonial finish and the award ceremony to ECO energy Rally Bohemia winners will take place at the Old Town Square (Staroměstské náměstí) in Mladá Boleslav on Sunday at 2:20 PM.

Further information on all parts of Rally Bohemia 2019 can be found at [www.rallybohemia.cz](http://www.rallybohemia.cz). You can also watch more information and learn interesting facts about the competition on social networks. The traditional general partner of the competition is car company ŠKODA AUTO.

**Rally Bohemia can be found on these accounts on social networks:**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/rallybohemia](https://www.facebook.com/rallybohemia)

Youtube: [www.youtube.com/user/RallyBohemia](https://www.youtube.com/user/RallyBohemia)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/rallybohemia](https://www.instagram.com/rallybohemia)

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