

# SILK 2021 RALLY WAY 丝绸之路拉力赛

MORE THAN RALLY ABSOLUTE ADVENTURE



## PRESS KIT

www.silkwayrally.com











"In 2021 we will open an entirely new chapter in Silk Way Rally history..

Modern reality changed the course of events last season. It impacted every sphere of life, including the motorsport.

However, the Silk Way Rally team has not stopped preparing throughout the year and continued to develop the rally route for the coming edition. We are sure that our competitors will enjoy what we have planned for 2021.

Next July, Silk Way Rally competitors will discover completely new regions. The rally route will pass through territories never raced over before: welcoming Siberia and the Altai region with its amazing nature and breath-taking landscapes; new regions in Mongolia, completely different from the previous edition, and of course the Gobi Desert – an indispensable part of the Silk Way Rally, eagerly anticipated by every competitor.

In this challenging new reality, we understand how hard it is for competitors to develop projects and find support to go racing and we are there to help. Car, SSV and truck crews under 30 years old, as well as female motorcycle competitors and female crews are exempted from paying entry fees.

I wish everyone a fantastic adventure on this updated 2021 Silk Way Rally route".







## LUC ALPHAND Silk Way Rally Deputy Director, Head of European Office

"I would like to say first of all that after the difficult period, you know, out of context for everybody, we will offer this year the part of freedom and adventure we were missing for more than 1 year, and this year rally will be just like a balloon of oxygen for all the riders and competitors.

This year the route goes only in Russia and Mongolia, but we will discover something different from Mongolia that we had in 2019. We will go through Altay in Russia and a different part of Siberia. The West of Mongolia is very great for adventure and off-road races. This year we will try to well balance the Rally between like the Mongolian steppe and also lots of mountains. I think it is gonna be nice and well-balanced edition about 3,000 kilometers of special stages and it will be a fantastic race.

I hope that we will have lots of competitors again; as always all the people working on SWR will try to organize the best race as possible and, of course, we will meet you in July in Omsk".









Supported by the President of the Russian Federation, the Government of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Sport of the Russian Federation



2 host countries (Russia and Mongolia)



5,200 km, including over 2,600 km of special stages



more than 350 competitors in all categories





**562** hours of international broadcasting



72 broadcasting channels in196 countries







#### FREE ENTRIES FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG CREWS

Since its creation, the Silk Way Rally has always been keen to encourage competitors, promote the presence of women in cross country rally and renew the discipline by attracting young talent. So once again this year, race entries will be free to all 100% female crews (in bikes, cars, SSVs and trucks), as well as for crews under 30 (only in the car, SSV and truck categories)







#### **ECO-RESPONSIBILITY ON THE SILK WAY RALLY - GAS INTO ENGINES!**

Starting from 2021, the Silk Way Rally will give manufacturers of gas-powered prototypes the opportunity to put their vehicles to the test in true cross-country rally conditions. As part of an eco-responsible initiative, the organisers will be particularly attentive to the needs of competitors entering natural gas, methane, propane and hydrogen powered vehicles and these entrants will benefit from favourable entry conditions.



#### **GAZPROM AND CAMF - PRINCIPAL PARTNERS**

The Silk Way Rally is a large-scale international project, whose birth and development were made possible thanks to a unique close-knit team, as well as reliable support from rally partners.

In 2021 Gazprom and CAMF will act as General Partners of the rally, providing comprehensive support.

The 2021 Silk Way Rally is a challenge for everyone who is ready to test their strength and speed opening new routes!









One of the biggest cross country rally competitions in the world, the international Silk Way Rally is traditionally held in mid-summer.

Participants from more than 40 countries gather with the best racing technology — motorcycles, ATVs, SUVs and trucks.

In less than two weeks the rally route crosses the territory of several countries. Millions of people follow this event on TV around the world.

In 2021 the rally route will include regions that haven't previously been used on other editions of the Silk Way Rally. The Altai region in Russia and Mongolia and the Gobi Desert in Mongolia.

New routes that will challenge those who are ready to test their skills. They will have the opportunity to prove their speed. They will discover a new rally alongside the other competitors.

#### **COMPETITION STATUS**



FIM Cross-country Rally World Championship



FIA World Cup for Cross-Country Rallies













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#### **NASSER AL-ATTIYAH**

#### **TOYOTA GAZOO RACING**



Of course, the Silk Way Rally is one of the best cross-country rallies in the world, and I'm happy to do this rally. We have very good relations with the organizing team, and I would like to thank them for help. We missed the Silk Way Rally in 2020, but I'm sure – in 2021 we are coming!



#### **CARLOS SAINZ**

#### **XRAID MINI JCW TEAM**



A good rally for me. I have been there two times and I won the rally! I really enjoyed it. It was a good and different race. For me, good memories and I really enjoyed it a lot!



#### STEPHANE PETERHANSEL

#### **XRAID MINI JCW TEAM**



I did the Silk Way Rally two times. I did not do a good result, but I have really good memories. The race is really nice to do, different kind of tracks, beautiful dunes and good organization. I have good memories and hope to be back in the future!



#### **MATHIEU SERRADORI**

#### **SERRADORI RALLY TEAM**



Silk Way Rally is a super rally. We will try to come next year to fly the flag for SRT.



#### **EDUARD NIKOLAEV**

#### **KAMAZ-MASTER**



I was looking forward to the Silk Way Rally – for me it will be the long-awaited cross-country rally of the season and, of course, I expect good results.







#### **MATTHIAS WALKNER**

#### **RED BULL KTM FACTORY RACING**



I cannot wait for the Silk Way Rally! I've heard that it's a super-super nice race with good organization and cool landscapes.



#### **ROSS BRANCH**

#### MONSTER YAMAHA RALLY OFFICIAL TEAM



I'm from Botswana! Unfortunately in 2020 we could not be at the Silk Way Rally due to the pandemic. It's so unusual and exciting – come to Russia to the start of the rally!



#### **ANDREW SHORT**

#### MONSTER YAMAHA RALLY OFFICIAL TEAM



 $\label{localized} In 2020 \, I \, was \, so \, bummed \, that \, I \, couldn't \, be \, at \, the \, Silk \, Way \, Rally. \, The \, 2019 \, race \, was \, amazing, and \, I \, hope to see you guys this year. \, This is an event I'm looking forward to. \, \\ ------$ 



#### **RICKY BRABEC**

#### MONSTER ENERGY HONDA TEAM



Unfortunately we couldn't make it out to the Silk Way Rally in 2020. But we really look forward to going out there this year and having some fun with everybody!



#### **ADRIEN VAN BEVEREN**

#### MONSTER YAMAHA RALLY OFFICIAL TEAM



In 2020 we didn't have a chance to come to the Silk Way Rally, but I really hope we'll be there in 2021. I can't wait to race again on these amazing landscapes. See you at the start!







#### **RALLY ORGANIZATION**

The Rally is organized using unique technologies. Medical cover during the race will be provided by professional medical teams transported by specially equipped vehicles following the rally, supported by special-purpose aircraft for emergency evacuation and medical repatriation, with the participation of the Russian FMBA providing specialists and equipment, along with medical institutions in large cities situated along the route.

Rally vehicles safety will be ensured by advanced hitech onboard equipment and satellite communication systems. The air mobile headquarters of the race will work 24/7 supported by patrolling security and emergency aircrafts. In total, 11 aircrafts and 277 motor vehicles will provide rally support. The bivouacs have the capacity to accommodate up to 3,500 people: competitors, organizational teams, media and guests of the rally. The race will gather daily around 50 thousand fans along the rally route.

#### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

Over the nine years it has existed, the Silk Way Rally has gained global recognition as a sports brand, associating famous sports personalities with an intense battle. It has become an independent and stand-alone sports event with a huge number of fans from all over the world. In Russia, the event will

be broadcasted in depth by Match TV and Russia 24 channels. Regular broadcasts are also planned on NTV and Russia Today, Ren-TV, as well as 360° special channel.

Over 150 journalists will follow the race from Omsk to Ulaanbaatar on a permanent basis, and more than 250 media representatives have obtained authorizations for the separate race legs.

The existing experience of large-scale cross country rally has shown the great potential of this event. The implementation of such remarkable sports projects on an international scale helps Russia gain a positive reputation worldwide, underlines the great possibilities of our country in the organization of globally significant events, and creates a basis for international cooperation in various domains.

Cross country rally is a unique discipline comparable only to round-the-world yacht racing. It is a test of endurance and professionalism, courage and quick wit, team spirit and patriotism. A competition for people as well as for vehicles, materials, technologies and ideas. A strong note of adventure, testing the endurance of individuals and vehicles under extremely harsh conditions, along with the atmosphere of friendly competition, attracts more and more people to the discipline.







#### **BEFORE THE RALLY**

The team of professionals involved in organizing and holding the Silk Way Rally has special people in the Project Sports Directorate – their work begins in August immediately after the event end and continues almost until the start of the next race. They work in the reconnaissance group - a group that is engaged in laying the route of the future cross-country rally, its elaboration and repeated checks.

In August, the Sports Directorate starts developing the route for the next edition of the Silk Way Rally – it includes planning, checking using satellite maps, agreeing on alternative routes. And in the autumn, the reconnaissance group goes along the developed and selected route for the first time in order to check the feasibility of the project, and, if necessary, make adjustments to the original plan.

The reconnaissance group consists of the most experienced racers, having more than a dozen cross-country rallies behind, both as participants and as organizers. Laying the route, they apply all their skills and abilities, each time creating a unique and interesting route that will be remembered by the participants.

In winter, calculations, administrative approvals, negotiations with partners and budgeting of the next year's race are carried out based on the route plan developed by the Sports Directorate and on the information that the reconnaissance group brought from the expedition.

And finally, in April, the reconnaissance group goes to the final route check – the so-called general reconnaissance, after which the next Silk Way Rally route is finally approved.

The main tasks of the reconnaissance group are laying

the Silk Way Rally route, checking it, drawing up a Road Book for participants, working out the route for the technical assistance teams and medical teams, choosing viewpoints for journalists, as well as fixing helicopter landing sites and checking sites for future bivouacs of the international event.

An additional difficulty for the reconnaissance group is the elaboration of the so-called marathon stage. During such a stage, participants are required to repair their cars and motorcycles on their own – only other competitors can help them, but mechanics or any other team members are strictly prohibited from approaching the vehicles of the race participants.

In addition, for the repair and maintenance of their equipment, racers can use only those spare parts that they carry with them or that are carried by their rivals – they can share spares when necessary. This format of the marathon stage requires a special thoughtful strategy and tactics from the participants, because the racers need to take care of their equipment and tyres.

And for the reconnaissance group, the marathon stage entails the need to search for two bivouac bases, because the participants will spend the night separately from the technical assistance teams and organizers.

In 2021 the Silk Way Rally route has been laid across the territory of two countries – the Russian Federation and Mongolia. For ten days, from 1 to 11 July, participants will overcome seven natural areas – there will be forests, deserts, mountains and swamps.

Only one thing can be said with certainty – it will not be easy, but it will definitely be interesting!





**RUSSIA** 

Time zone
MSK+3 (UTC+6)

Temp. in July +23°...+36°C

The most exciting adventure of this summer will start in July 2021 in Russia.

Discovering new regions, the Silk Way Rally invites you to visit the Altai region.

The Altai Republic is located in the South of Siberia. It is surrounded by tundra, mountain valleys and thousands of lakes. Most of this Russian area is occupied by nature reserves.

Horses still graze here, people believe in spirits and the mountains both amaze and give a charge of energy. Altai nature is undisturbed by man. It has the purest air, a unique climate and mineral water springs.

#### **OMSK**

The rally will start in the city of Omsk, located at the confluence of the Irtysh and Om rivers. It is the second largest city in Siberia, with a population of over 1 million people. The Trans-Siberian Railway Network runs through this major transport hub. This city was a capital of the Russian Federation (1918-1920) one hundred years ago.

Siberian cuisine, legendary dumplings and pies are a specialty of the region. You will be impressed by the amazing history of the city and by its architecture, an incredible mix of Siberian merchantry and Soviet heritage from the last century.





#### **MONGOLIA**

Time zone
MSK+4 (UTC+7)

**Temp.in July** +19°...+36°C

After spending several days off-road in Russia, passing through forests, over hills, plains and steppes, participants will arrive in the majestic and diverse landscapes of Mongolia.

Mongolia will host the Silk Way Rally participants and guests for the second time in 2021. The amazing landscapes, steppes, mountains and valleys of the 'Blue Sky Country' impressed everyone in 2019.

Participants will get a unique chance to see Mongolia in July, when this country is at its most beautiful. The whole world knows about the great conquests of Genghis Khan. Dinosaurs remains are still found here and this region has preserved its identity and mystery. These features attract travelers from all over the world.

Silk Way Rally participants are lucky enough to follow a completely different route to that of 2019. Totally different landscapes, tracks and mountains in the Mongolian Altai region

#### **ULAANBAATAR**

There is a city in the valley of the Tuul River that spreads for tens of kilometers along its channel, right in the middle of the endless steppe. Its name is Red Hero. Translated into Mongolian it sounds like Ulaanbaatar. This is the coldest capital of state in the world, but hearts of people who live here are burning with fire. They are surprisingly hospitable and attentive to everyone who comes to the main city of Mongolia. Almost half of the country inhabitants live here, and this is the only capital in the world where real nomads populate to this day. In July 2021, the city of Ulaanbaatar will become a place where modern nomads – the Silk Way Rally participants – will arrive.













The Silk Way Rally is a unique transcontinental project of global significance. In recent years this major international event on the cross country rally calendar has enticed famous names and united diplomatic, social, economic and sport federations of several countries in the domain of motorsport.

Having started its history in 2009, the event was held on the initiative of the Presidents

of Russia, Turkmenia and Kazakhstan, with their personal participation at the prize giving ceremony. In 2019 the rally got official approval as a World Cross Country event for motorcycles and quads.

Every year factory teams and top drivers start the rally, traditionally held in the regions where the merchant caravans of the Great Silk Road originally passed.







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