



# SILK WAY 2021 RALLY

## 丝绸之路拉力赛



30/06/2021

## D-2 - OMSK - TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHECKS

### OMSK GETS READY FOR THE START



It is in OMSK, the former capital of the Cossacks, that the SILK WAY RALLY is preparing to write the 11th chapter of its history.

This 2021 edition will consist of 10 stages and almost 5,500 kilometres between OMSK, in south-western Siberia, and Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia, crossing SIBERIA and MONGOLIA from west to east, the ALTAI MOUNTAINS and part of the GOBI DESERT. An exceptional and fascinating race, two thirds of which will be run against the clock and with marathon status (coefficient 1.5) for both the FIM CROSS COUNTRY RALLIES WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (motorbikes and quads) and the FIA WORLD CUP FOR CROSS COUNTRY RALLIES (cars and SSVs).

Before the start ceremony of this 11th edition of the SILK WAY RALLY on Thursday evening, the countdown is officially underway with two days of administrative and technical scrutineering on Wednesday 30 June and Thursday 1 July.





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## START OF SCRUTINEERING AND HEALTH MEASURES

Coming from all over the world, the first motorbike competitors and car and truck crews, as well as their assistance teams have been undergoing administrative checks (licences, vehicle registrations, driving permits, etc.) at the Omsk Congress Centre since the beginning of the morning.

Motorbikes, quads, cars and race trucks are subjected to a battery of tests and safety equipment checks, in accordance with the regulations laid down by the FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme) and the FIA (Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile). From medical forms to technical controls, through the various administrative procedures, the ritual remains unchanged before facing one of the most demanding races in the world.

In the current health context, the SILK WAY RALLY strictly complies with the measures in force on any international sports event. Each participant, whether a competitor, assistance or member of the organisation, has undergone the prescribed tests in order to guarantee the health and safety of the event and the smooth running of the race.

## TRIAL RUN: SEPARATE ROUTES

Allowing competitors to make a final test run and last-minute adjustments before the start, two separate tracks, one for bikes, one for cars and trucks, were available today between 9am and 6pm (GMT+6), east of OMSK.

## STARTING PODIUM:

### IN FRONT OF THE DORMITION CATHEDRAL

This Thursday in the middle of the afternoon, the SILK WAY RALLY will set up in the historic centre of OMSK. The parc fermé, on Lenin Avenue, will progressively fill up during the two days of scrutineering and will offer the spectators the opportunity to discover the race vehicles.

After the general briefing by Vladimir CHAGIN, General Director of the Silk Way Rally and Luc ALPHAND, the event's Sporting Director, it is at SOBORNAYA PLACE, in front of the majestic DORMITION CATHEDRAL, decorated with its blue and golden domes, that the competitors will climb the official start podium of this 11th edition of the SILK WAY RALLY, at 7.00 pm (3.00 pm, CET).

**#SilkWayRally2021**

## OMSK, ITS COSSACKS, MICHEL STROGOFF AND DOSTOEVSKY

A city forbidden to foreign visitors until the beginning of the 21st century, OMSK is steeped in history and has fed the collective imagination.

The last capital of the Russian Empire during the civil war, it has remained forever the home of the feared Siberian Cossack horsemen. Nestled at the confluence of the OM and IRTYCH rivers, which join the OB to form one of the longest rivers in the world before flowing into the Arctic Ocean, OMSK and its fortress will forever represent for lovers of





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literature and adventure, the birthplace of the adventurer Michel STROGOFF, a character created by Jules VERNES. The imperial messenger who had to cross the whole empire from west to east and face the Mongolian hordes to reach IRKUTSK at the end of a breath-taking journey.

From 1850 to 1854, Omsk was also the prison town of the famous writer Fyodor Dostoevsky, who used it as a source of inspiration for his most famous works and whose effigy and name the town now proudly displays in the heart of its historic centre.

