

# PREVIEW

## Baja Aragon / 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017



7<sup>th</sup> race of the FIA World Cup for Cross-Country Rallies

**MINI John Cooper Works Rally**  
Mikko Hirvonen (FIN) / Andreas Schulz (GER)  
Kuba Przygonski (POL) / Xavier Panseri (FRA)

**MINI ALL4 Racing**  
Orlando Terranova (ARG) / Paulo Flúza (PRT)



OpenStreetMap\* are „Open Data“ who are, according to the Open Data Commons Open Database Lizenz (ODbL), available through the OpenStreetMap Foundation (OSMF).

The Baja Aragon was won  
**9**  
times by vehicles designed  
and built by X-raid

Win No. 1 in  
**2003**  
by Alphand/Debrion in  
their BMW X5

Total distance amounts to  
**770,76 km**

**544,31 km**  
have to be raced against  
the clock

### Schedule

21<sup>st</sup> July - Scrutineering

21<sup>st</sup> July - SS1: 9,60 km

22<sup>nd</sup> July - SS2: 216,80 km

SS3: 139,20 km

23<sup>rd</sup> July - SS4: 178,70 km

### Baja Aragon facts:

- The special stages will be contested around the city of Teruel
- For the first time part of the Dakar Challenge
- Special regulations for Bajas – inter alia: only three mechanics may work on the car and only for a limited period of time. Drivers with FIA rating (Priority Drivers) may use only 12 tyres during the event. Part of the World Cup calendar since 1993

### X-raid News:

In addition to the Baja Aragon there are news around X-raid – including a new signing for the team’s management. After eight years at X-raid, our highly esteemed team-member and co-driver Michel Périn has opted for leaving the team. After Michel navigated for Nani Roma, Guerlain Chicherit and once again for Nani, before finally cooperating with Mikko Hirvonen, he is now pursuing new challenges .

Sven Quandt: “We’d like to thank our long-term team-member Michel for the great time we had with him. In 2014 he won the Dakar together with Nani Roma in our MINI ALL4 Racing. In addition to celebrating numerous other successes with our team he also was given a good shake during all the kilometres of testing he covered for us. Of course, I also thank Michel for the support he lent Mikko Hirvonen in the past years while the latter familiarised himself with cross country rallying. We really regret that he leaves us as he is one of the best navigators in the sport and in addition, he always impressed with maximum commitment. I wish him all the best for his future, not only in the cross-country sport but also in his regularity rallies.”

Finding a successor for Michel was anything but easy and so, we are really delighted with having been able to convince Andreas Schulz to navigate for Mikko, in the future. Andi also is a really experienced co-driver and with two wins, he is one of the most successful German Dakar competitors. His intuition and all his experiences will prove to be helpful for his new task.

A new team-member – but a well-known face – returns to X-raid after a three-year break. From the 01<sup>st</sup> of September, Bernard Lindauer will be X-raid Team’s Technical Director. He can look at many successes as Technical Manager. He supported Tommi Mäkinen a lot on the way to securing all his World Championship titles and Dakar wins for Mitsubishi and he also was massively involved in the last four Dakar wins of our MINI ALL4 Racing vehicles.

Sven Quandt: “I’m particularly delighted with having the opportunity to announce that we succeeded in bringing Bernard Lindauer back to X-raid. With his wide-ranging expertise and his wealth of experience he will not only support me but even will replace me as Technical Director. In consideration of all the development tasks the cross-country sport will make necessary in the coming years we hope we will be able to tie in with the Dakar wins Bernard already celebrated with us.”