

new dimension



PREVIEW SILK WAY RALLY 08th - 22nd July 2017



Line-up:

MINI John Cooper Works Rally

Yazeed Al-Rajhi (KSA) / Tom Colsoul (BEL)
Bryce Menzies (USA) / Pete Mortensen (USA)



The Silk Way Rally
crosses

3

countries: Russia,
Kazakhstan and China

9608

km are scheduled in total

4089

km against the clock

The longest stage
(SS11) will be

489

km long

Silk Way Rally facts

- The 2017 edition is the seventh in the event's history. It will start in Moscow, Russia and lead to Xi'an, China
- The 2016 edition also started in Russia and took the field across Kazakhstan to China. Last year, Beijing was the venue of the finish
- The event will start at Moscow's Red Square
- In Russia and Kazakhstan the rally will mainly be held on firm, rocky terrain. In China however the competitors have to cope with sand and dunes
- Only cars and trucks may contest the event this year but from 2018, motorbikes will also be allowed
- Find out more at silkwayrally.com

Programme

- 08th July SS1: 61,43 km
- 09th July SS2: 157,00 km
- 10th July SS3: 324,00 km
(Border crossing to Kazakhstan)
- 11th July SS4: 373,22 km
- 12th July SS5: 484,47 km
- 13th July SS6: 387,86 km
(Border crossing to China)
- 14th July SS7: 106,60 km
- 15th July SS8: 250,37 km
- 16th July Rest day in Urumqi / China
- 17th July SS9: 421,00 km
- 18th July SS10: 360,28 km
- 19th July SS11: 488,65 km
- 20th July SS12: 254,75 km
- 21st July SS13: 318,66 km
- 22nd July SS14: 100,67 km



Yazeed Al-Rajhi:

Al-Rajhi has to contest the Silk Way Rally without his long-term navigator Timo Gottschalk. The German suffered injuries in a motorbike accident and can't contest the event. Al-Rajhi, who finished second in the 2016 Silk Way Rally, will be accompanied in his MINI John Cooper Works Rally by Tom Colsoul.

"This is our second participation in Silk Way Rally, as the first one in 2016 was a distinctive and unique experience, where we managed to secure the second position overall. This rally consists of diverse types of stages, and varies between dunes, terrains & gravel. Each stage is more interesting than the other. The legs are tough and very long. All of that gives the Silk Way its special trait. For sure we enjoy being in this event, as we cross 2 continents and 3 countries, which makes Silk Way the longest Rally in the world, during which we encounter different civilizations, territories and climates. That is awesome. I expect the competition in 2017 edition will be fiercer than in the last year, but we are well prepared (crew, service team, the car) and ready to go for the podium."



Bryce Menzies:

Following a longer break, Bryce Menzies will be back behind the wheel of the MINI John Cooper Works Rally. In 2016, his first cross-country rally season, he succeeded in causing a stir with great results but then, he had to cancel his participation in the 2017 Dakar Rally due to a shoulder injury.

"I'm really looking forward to participating in this year's Silk Way Rally. There is no better race to get prepared for Dakar so I'm taking this race very seriously. Pete and I have been practicing our navigation as that'll be really important in the latter stages of the rally when we get into the dunes and we are looking forward to seeing how we do. Aside from the race, I'm excited about this adventure where one day I can tell my kids how I raced a MINI from Russia to China!"

www.x-raid.de

