



Croatia rally to set new records, a total of 15 crews have entered with WRC2 cars

Porec and Istria will host 44. Croatia rally next week. It's the oldest Croatian motorsport Event, which is lately referred as one of possible destinations of World Rally Championship in near future. It has reflected the number of crews that have announced they will come to Croatia, so the Entry list has 15 R5 cars, known as WRC2 class. A total of 71 competitors from 12 countries will come and 32 will chase European Rally Trophy points.

„I think the competition will be tough. Last years winner, Majercak of Slovakia will come, a talented Hungarian Hadik, also Croatian stars Prodan and Sebalj, as well as probable Croatian Champion for 2017 Krisztian Hideg“ said Clerk of the Course Goran Vujsic.

Itinerary consists of 10 special stages. A total length of the rally is 435 km, out of which 155 will be special stages. Start and finish will be held in the centre of City of Porec, at a parking lot in Partizanska street. Special stages will be driven on Friday, 29. September and Saturday, 30. September.

“Same as the last year ceremonial start will be held on Thursday night in Porec, but we have moved from the central square to the parking lot, at the service park, so it will be closer for the crews. The important thing is the shakedown on Friday noon, on the site of first two super special stages, where the spectators will be able to see 15 R5 cars in action in three loops, which brings us to the total of 90 passages of R5 cars in just one day, which is unseen in Croatia” added Vujsic.

The price of R5 cars goes as much as €200.000, depending on components used. But, soon three times pricier WRC cars could drive on Croatian roads. Already this year Croatia rally was close to WRC candidate status.

“It was mentioned our Event should be WRC candidate, but unfortunately that hasn't happened. After the candidature is held next year, we will be expecting WRC in 2019. Offcourse, it takes Government support, as well as whole Country support. Preliminary meetings were held and I think the president of Organizing committee Daniel Saskin did a great job this year. All in Croatia is eagerly waiting for WRC to come” concluded Goran Vujsic.

Croatia rally was offered WRC calendare place in July 2018, which is unacceptable due to high turist season in Croatia. New rounds of negotiation are set to start any time soon and if all goes well, World Championship should come to Croatia in 2019.