

RALLY GUIDE 1



APRIL 9th - APRIL 12th



CROATIA RALLY 2026

rally-croatia.com



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Ministry of
Tourism and Sport



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Please note that this document has NO REGULATORY POWER. It is for information only.

For binding regulations refer to the 2026 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome letter from President of Organising Committee

Dear friends,

A warm welcome to Croatia - a country of a thousand islands and countless shades of asphalt!

Back in 2013, I began assembling a team around one clear ambition: to bring the World Rally Championship to Croatia. Eight years later, in 2021, that ambition became reality. Our first WRC Croatia Rally presented many challenges, but thanks to our dedicated organizing team, the event ran smoothly and left a strong positive impression on the crews, teams, FIA representatives and WRC staff. Afterward, Juha Kankkunen told me we had made our biggest mistake by being too good the first time - because from then on, nothing less would be acceptable. In 2022 we encountered new difficulties, yet we knew that hosting a WRC round is a continuous learning experience. My team responded swiftly, sensibly and professionally to every unexpected issue. The support and guidance we received from FIA officials and the WRC Promoter were truly invaluable.

For last five years we were based in Zagreb, but every once in a while change can bring a whole new challenge. Accordingly Croatia Rally will move in 2026 to the Adriatic coast. Nevertheless our aim remains the same: to offer both the crews and the fans a challenging and demanding rally. That is why we devoted particular attention to shaping the itinerary. Although Croatia may be small, its landscape offers an exceptional variety of technical and exciting routes. We will use some stages that have already become iconic and we have found the new ones to enrich the rally's character. The event area will continue to span from the Adriatic coast in the south to southern outskirts of Zagreb County in the north. The service park will be hosted at Grobnik track, while the Ceremonial Start and Finish will take Rijeka's Korzo. Croatia will once more present its finest qualities - warm hospitality, breathtaking scenery and unforgettable culinary and wine experiences. I truly hope our guests use their time here to explore the coast, the national parks and the many stunning sights of our inland regions.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone involved - our volunteers, Special Stage teams, service park personnel, senior officials, members of the Organizing Committee, and all FIA and WRC Promoter staff. More than 2,000 dedicated people work together to deliver the Croatia Rally, and such an achievement would be impossible without all of them sharing the same vision and commitment. Their motivation grows each year, fueled by the incredible response from fans. In 2022, over 300,000 spectators followed the action, in 2023 and 2024 that number surpassed 400,000. We have already witnessed two dramatic Power Stage deciders at Zagorska Sela - Kumrovec. In 2023, Elfyn Evans secured a victory prior to the final stage and in 2024 Sebastien Ogier sealed the win on Sunday after a tight fight between Thierry Neuville and Elfyn Evans on Friday and Saturday. The ERC Croatia Rally in 2025 delivered an equally spectacular finish, with Jon Armstrong winning the rally win and Miko Marczyk claiming the title. So far, all three manufacturers have stood on the podium, though only Toyota crews have clinched victories, with Hyundai and M-Sport earning second and third. I sincerely hope 2026 brings us yet another unforgettable showdown.

To all competitors, fans, volunteers and the entire organizing team - I wish you the very best. Enjoy Croatia to the fullest and may the fastest and most deserving crew triumph at the Croatia Rally!

Best regards,

Daniel Šaškin

President of Organising Committee

1.2 Croatia Rally, yesterday, today, tomorrow

Croatia Rally is the oldest, most difficult and most popular car racing event in Croatia. Its history dates back to 1974, when the first event was held under the name INA Delta TLX Rally. In following three years the rally grew from regional character into a national championship event of former Yugoslavia. Extremely long itineraries to mid eighties passed through Gorski Kotar, Lika, Primorje and Continental Croatia. In 1986, the event entered the FIA calendar for the first time and attracted crews from Austria, Germany, Czech Republic and Slovakia. The same year it was nominated for the European Championship.

In the second half of the eighties the event has moved to Zagreb and its surroundings. Special stages were located at Žumberak, Plešivica, Zagrebačka gora and Hrvatsko Zagorje. Delta Rally which was slowly becoming recognized internationally passed a very difficult period during the war in Croatia. However, at the time, the event was rapidly growing year after year. European prefix was awarded to the rally in 1992. Perfect organization of AC Delta from Zagreb brought the increasement of the coefficient to the rally in the years to come. In 1995 the event was held with a coefficient of 10, and organizer nominated it in 1996 as the Croatia Delta Rally for the highest step of the contemporary European Championship - 20. But another 11 years passed before that level was reached.

In late 2006 FIA has granted much-anticipated status for next year's Croatia Delta Rally - naming it as one of European Rally Championship (ERC) events in season 2007. After three successfully organized ERC rallies, the event was relocated from Zagreb to Rijeka. The event changed the name to Croatia Rally and was organized in year 2010 by the Automotive Association of Primorje-Gorski Kotar County and in the next two years AC MRC. Special stages were held at Gorski Kotar, Učka, Ćićarija and Istria, with particularly attractive Super special stage at legendary track Preluk.

In year 2013 Croatia Rally has moved once again. This time to Istria and the town of Poreč, which was the host and co-organizer of the event. The rally was organized by the Croatian Automobile & Karting Federation and the special stages were driven at Učka, Ćićarija in the triangle of the cities of Buzet, Motovun and Pazin. Another relocation of the event happened in 2021 when the event became a part of World Rally Championship (WRC). Rally HQ and Service Park were based in Zagreb, while the itinerary brought a mixture of historical special stages and the ones set for the very first time. The Power Stage was staged at Hrvatsko Zagorje and it has promoted Sebastian Ogier the rally winner literally at the last corner. Later the Power Stage Zagorska Sela – Kumrovec was voted The Turning Point of the Season 2021 by rally fans all around the world.

The second WRC edition of Croatia Rally had spread the Itinerary to Varaždin and Primorje Gorski Kotar counties. Shakedown was held near historical site Okić southwest of Zagreb with the Ceremonial Start at Zagreb Fountains following in the evening. A total of 20 stages during three days of rallying brought Kalle Rovanpera as a leader until the penultimate stage. For the second consecutive year Croatia Rally was decided at Wolf Power Stage Zagorska Sela – Kumrovec. Ott Tanak lost to Rovanpera although the young Finn was driving hard tire compound.

Not many changes to the Itinerary were made in year 2023. The new Special Stage in Primorje Gorski Kotar County, Ravna Gora - Skrad was brought on board, while the concept remained the same. Shakedown and Ceremonial Start were held on Thursday, April 20, followed by eight Special Stages on Friday and Saturday with four more on Sunday. The winner was Elfyn Evans who dominated the rally after Ogier and Rovanpera have experienced wheel damage on SS 2 and Neuville crashed on SS 11.

The 2024 and 2025 editions of the Croatia Rally continued the tradition of fierce competition and thrilling finales that have made this event a highlight of the WRC and ERC calendars. In 2024, the battle for victory became one of the most memorable in the rally's history. Thierry Neuville and Elfyn Evans spent Friday and Saturday locked in an intense duel, trading the lead stage after stage, often separated by mere tenths of a second. Their fight set the tone for a nail-biting weekend, but on Sunday Sébastien Ogier delivered an exceptional final push, overturning the deficit and securing a spectacular victory.

The 2025 edition, held within the FIA European Rally Championship, brought another dramatic storyline. Jon Armstrong claimed a hard-fought rally win after a tense rainy final day, while Miko Marczyk secured the overall ERC title thanks to Andrea Mabelini's mistake. Together, these two editions underscored Croatia Rally's reputation for unpredictable conditions, shifting momentum, and breathtaking battles that keep fans and teams on edge until the very last kilometre.

The year 2026 will bring a notable change, as the Service Park relocates from Westgate City to the Grobnik Circuit, adding a fresh dynamic to the event's logistics and atmosphere. Over the course of three competition days, crews will tackle a total of 20 special stages, maintaining the well-proven format of 8 stages on Friday, 8 on Saturday and 4 on Sunday. Friday will also feature a remote service in Karlovac, ensuring a smooth flow of the demanding opening leg. Several classic stages will return to the itinerary, offering fans a sense of tradition and familiarity, while a selection of brand-new TV stages in Istria and the Primorje-Gorski Kotar County will introduce exciting scenery and fresh challenges. Together, these elements promise a more diverse, visually striking and competitive rally experience in 2026.

1.3 Past winners

Year	Driver	Co-driver	Nationality	Car
2025.	Jon AMSTRONG	Shane BRYNE	IRL	Ford Fiesta Rally2
2024.	Sebastien OGIER	Vincent LANDAIS	FRA	TOYOTA GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID
2023.	Elfyn EVANS	Scott MARTIN	GBR	TOYOTA GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID
2022.	Kalle ROVANPERÄ	Jonne HALTTUNEN	FIN	TOYOTA GR Yaris Rally1
2021.	Sebastien OGIER	Julien INGRASSIA	FRA	TOYOTA Yaris WRC

2. CONTACT DETAILS

2.1 National Sporting Authority (ASN), address and contact details

Croatian Automobile & Karting Federation (CAKF)
 Kršnjavoga 1, HR-10000 Zagreb
 Web: www.haks.hr / Email: haks@haks.hr

2.2 Organizer name, address and contact details

Automobile club D.T. Motorsport
 Rade Končara 11, HR-52440 Poreč
 Email: daniel.saskin@rally-croatia.com

Automobile club Cro Dakar Team
 Gračansko borje 6, HR-10000 Zagreb
 Email: marin.frcko@rally-croatia.com

2.3 Organisation for technical realisation - name, address and contact details

Automobile club „Delta Sport” Zagreb
 CROATIA RALLY, Mirka Viriusa 16, HR-10090 Zagreb
 Mobile: +385 91 230 7569
 Web: www.rally-croatia.com / email: info@rally-croatia.com

2.4 Key officials

Name	Position	E-mail
Daniel ŠAŠKIN	President of Organizing Committee	daniel.saskin@rally-croatia.com
Marin FRČKO	Vice President of Organizing Committee	marin.frcko@rally-croatia.com
Željko ŠTEFANIĆ	Clerk of the Course	zeljko.stefanic@rally-croatia.com
Goran VUJISIĆ	CoC Deputy & Chief Safety Officer	goran.vujisic@rally-croatia.com
Zvonimir HARAPIN	CoC Deputy / Operational Assistant Manager	zvonimir.harapin@rally-croatia.com
Dino DELJKIĆ	Secretary of the Rally	info@rally-croatia.com
Matija ŠTEFANIĆ	Rally HQ Manager	entry@rally-croatia.com
Marko ŠIVAK	National Press Officer	press@rally-croatia.com

2.5 Rally HQ contact details

Permanent contact details from 6th till 12th April 2026:
Automotodrom Grobnik, Automotodrom 1, 51219, Čavle
 Dino DELJKIĆ, Secretary of the Rally, Mob: +385 91 230 7569 / E-mail: info@rally-croatia.com

Working hours:

Monday	6 April	09:00 - 20:00	Friday	10 April	07:30 - 23:00
Tuesday	7 April	06:45 - 19:30	Saturday	11 April	07:15 - 22:30
Wednesday	8 April	07:30 - 21:00	Sunday	12 April	06:45 -
Thursday	9 April	07:30 - 21:00			

2.6 Media centre contact details

Permanent contact details from 8th till 12th April 2026:

[Automotodrom Grobnik](#), Automotodrom 1, 51219, Čavle

Marko ŠIVAK, National Press Officer, Mob: +385 91 634 8903 / E-mail: press@rally-croatia.com

3. PROGRAMME

3.1 Schedule before the rally week

Monday 9 February		
	Publishing of the Supplementary Regulations	www.rally-croatia.com
	Opening day for Entries	
	Opening date for Media accreditation	
Tuesday 10 March		
	Closing date for entries	
Thursday 12 March		
	Rally Guide 2 publication, Road Book and Route Map available	www.rally-croatia.com
	Closing date tyre orders	
	Closing date for FIA fuel orders	
Monday 16 March		
	Publication of Entry List	www.rally-croatia.com
Thursday 19 March		
	Closing date for National media accreditation	press@rally-croatia.com
Wednesday 25 March		
	Closing date for Helicopter registration	www.rally-croatia.com
	Closing date for submitting Service area additional request form	service@rally-croatia.com
	Closing date for reconnaissance only application	entry@rally-croatia.com
Thursday 26 March		
	Closing date for international media accreditation	FIA
	Closing date for TV and international radio accreditation	WRC Promoter
	Publication of Media Safety Book	www.rally-croatia.com
	Closing date to nominate the competitor representative	
Sunday 5 April		
09:00	Service Park opening for Manufacturer teams and Priority competitors	Automotodrom Grobnik

3.2 Schedule during the rally

Monday 6 April		
09:00	Service Park opening for all competitors	Automotodrom Grobnik
	Car photo shoot 1 car per Manufacturer Team	Rijeka city centre
14:00 - 20:00	Registration for reconnaissance, administrative checks, collection of materials & documents	Rally HQ Automotodrom Grobnik
14:00 - 20:00	Collection of individual event access codes (and smartphones, if opted) for reconnaissance tracking app (RS Lite)	SAS truck, Service Park
Tuesday 7 April		
07:00 - 09:00	Registration for reconnaissance, administrative checks, collection of materials & documents	Rally HQ Automotodrom Grobnik
	Collection of individual event access codes (and smartphones, if opted) for reconnaissance tracking app (RS Lite)	SAS truck, Service Park
08:00 - 19:00	Reconnaissance Day 1	
14:00 - 19:00	Collection of FIA WRC Safety trackers for rally cars	SAS truck, Service Park
21:00	Deadline for all drivers and co-drivers to have completed the FIA e-learning course on the FIA Safety Tracking system	

Wednesday 8 April

08:00 - 19:00	Reconnaissance Day 2	
08:30 - 12:00	Scrutineering - Sealing & Marking of Components for P1	Service Park
13:30 -	Scrutineering - Sealing & Marking of Components for others	Service Park
16:00	Team Managers Meeting, by invitation only	HQ
17:00	Publication of the Start list for Shakedown (P1 and invited drivers)	Digital Notice Board
17:00 - 21:00	Return of reconnaissance smartphones (if rented)	SAS truck, Service Park
17:00	Mandatory tabard media safety briefing	Media Center
20:00	Drivers Safety Briefing	HQ

Thursday 9 April

09:01 - 15:00	09:01 - 11:00 Shakedown for P1 & invited P2 drivers 11:01 - 13:00 Shakedown for all priority competitors 13:01 - 15:00 Shakedown for all competitors, except P1	Shakedown Krk
13:00 - 13:30	FIA WRC Media Pen for P1/P2 drivers and P1 Team Principals	
13:30 - 14:00	Autograph signing for invited crews	
16:00	Publication of the Start lists for Ceremonial start & Section 1	Digital Notice Board
18:00	FIA Meet the Crews for invited crews and team representatives	Rijeka Korzo
18:30	Ceremonial start	Rijeka Korzo

Friday 10 April

08:00	Rally Start, Section 1	TC 0 - SP OUT
~20:00	FIA Meet the Crews with P1 Team Principals and Top 3 drivers	Service Park
22:30	Publication of the Start list for Section 3	Digital Notice Board

Saturday 11 April

07:52	Start of Section 3	TC 8D - PF OUT/SP IN
~19:15	FIA Meet the Crews with P1 Team Principals and Top 3 drivers	Service Park
22:00	Publication of the Start list for Section 5	Digital Notice Board

Sunday 12 April

07:12	Start of Section 5	TC 16D - PF OUT/SP IN
13:15	Start of the Power Stage	SS 20
16:10	FIA Meet the Crews & FIA Post-rally Press Conference	Rijeka Korzo
16:20	Podium Ceremony and Prize giving	Opatija
17:20	Finish of the rally	TC 20B - PF IN
~17:30	Final Scrutineering	Service Park
18:00 - 20:00	Return of FIA WRC Safety trackers rally cars	SAS truck, Service Park
19:00	Publication of Provisional Classification	Digital Notice Board

4. ENTRY DETAILS

4.1 FIA Titles for which the Rally Counts

- FIA World Rally Championship for Drivers and Co-Drivers
- FIA World Rally Championship for Manufacturers
- FIA World Rally Championship for Teams
- FIA WRC2 Championship for Drivers and Co-Drivers
- FIA WRC2 Championship for Teams
- FIA WRC2 Challenger Championship for Drivers and Co-Drivers
- FIA WRC Masters Cup for Drivers and Co-Drivers
- FIA WRC3 Championship for Drivers and Co-Drivers
- FIA Junior WRC Championship for Drivers and Co-Drivers

4.2 List of entry fees

Championship for Manufactures, WRC Teams and Junior WRC:

As agreed with WRC Promoter.

Championship FIA WRC2 and WRC3

As per the 2026 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, Appendix VI.

Non-priority competitors

Private competitor: € 4.500

Legal entity as competitor € 9.400

**Private competitor = competitor is one of the crew members, holding a valid international competitor's licence*

**Legal entity as competitor = crew entered by an entity holding a valid international competitor's licence*

Participation in reconnaissance only € 1.500

4.3 Entry packages for non-FIA registered teams

The entry packages for FIA Championship competitors will be as stipulated by the FIA in the 2026 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations - Appendix VI. Entry packages for non-priority competitors:

		Private Competitor	Legal entity as competitor
Vehicles plates	Service plate	1	2
	Auxiliary	1	1
Passes	Driver	2	2
	Team	2	6
Printed materials	Road Book sets	1	2
	Route maps	1	2
Service park area, approximately		80 m ²	120 m ²

5. SERVICE PARK

5.1 General information

[Automotodrom Grobnik](#), Automotodrom 1, 51219, Čavle.

Manufacturers and other championship entrants will be allocated a designated space in accordance to 2026 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations. Legal and private entrants will be allocated an approximately area of 80 m² or 120 m². The service park will open on Sunday, 5th April 2026 at 9:00 hrs for Manufacturer teams and Priority competitors and on Monday, 6th April 2026 for all teams. If a Competitor has multiple competition cars to be located together in Service Park, the application for consecutive Service Areas must reach the Organiser by Wednesday, 25th March 2026.

Layout of Service Park displaying Service space designated to each competitor will be published on Digital Notice Board

5.2 Access to Service Park

Only vehicles with Service passes and Auxiliary passes are allowed to access the Service Park. Auxiliary vehicles may only enter the service park to bring or collect personnel and / or equipment and only while no competition cars in the service park. The vehicles must be clearly identified by designated stickers issued by the Organizer and affixed on the windscreen. Removal of the sticker is prohibited until the end of the rally. Non-entrants will not receive any auxiliary plates. Reconnaissance cars are allowed to enter Service Park and park in their own service area.

5.3 Facilities at Service Park

- Public toilets
- Water supply
- Power supply
- Waste removal
- General lighting

5.4 Environmental requirements

A car wash facility will be available near the Service Park. Washing cars within the Service Park is prohibited at any time. Wheels and other parts may be washed in the designated wash bays set up within the Service Park. All competitors must put in place a suitable size plastic ground sheet to cover the whole area where service work is being carried out. This ground sheet must be impervious to all fluids. Cleaning of the ground sheets must be done so that no materials are allowed to come into contact with the ground surface. All waste material must be disposed of in the facilities provided at the service park.

6. TWO-WAY RADIO

It is possible to use radio devices and frequencies if you previously acquire the license that is issued by the Croatian telecommunication agency. The application needs to be submitted at least 30 days before the usage and the fee 150 €.

Croatian Telecommunications Agency

Jurišićeva 13 Phone: +385 1 4896 000
10000 Zagreb Fax: +385 1 4920 227
Croatia E-mail: hacom@telekom.hr

7. IMPORT OF VEHICLES AND SPARE PARTS

From the European Union (EU)

Competitors coming from the European Union do not need to make any special custom clearance for temporary import of cars and equipment with the purpose to participate in Croatia Rally 2026.

From outside the European Union (EU)

For temporary import of competition tyres, spare parts and other tyres it should be showing ATA carnet on entry in Croatia. The goods declared that way shall be exempt from customs duties.

Custom Agency, Central office

Alexandera von Humboldta 4a Phone: +385 0800 1222
10000 Zagreb Fax: +385 1 6211 011
Hrvatska E-mail: javnost@carina.hr

8. HELICOPTERS

Only helicopters registered with the organiser and following the instructions of the organiser are permitted to fly within the airspace of the rally area and land at the service areas or other sites during the rally.

The deadline for Helicopter applications is Wednesday, 25 March 2026. The Helicopter Application form will be available in the Competitors section at www.rally-croatia.com.

The number of helicopters permitted to fly will be decided after the deadline of applications. Information about the administrative fee and / or payment will be sent to the applicants who have been accepted. Before the rally, a briefing for all pilots is mandatory. All pilots will receive a pilots pack containing timetables, maps and necessary information. Helicopter pilots briefing will be carried out at video conference. A link to the conference will be sent to the participants.

9. HOSPITALITY ARRANGEMENTS

Official hospitality partner is BTravel and will be responsible for VIP operations at Croatia Rally 2026. Any other company wishing to organize VIP hospitality arrangements must advise the organizer and get the Official Rally Pack.

Contact details:

BTravel, +385 (0)1 6661-093, rallycroatia@btravel.pro.

10. HOTEL / ACCOMMODATION RESERVATIONS

Organiser has prebooked list of hotels and other accommodation facilities near Service park and its surroundings for teams, competitors, media and sponsors. These can be booked via our accommodation coordinator. Please make your reservation in time.

For further information please contact: reservations@rally-croatia.com.

11. MEDIA

Contacts before the rally

FIA WRC Media Delegate:

Sven GOOD, email: sgood@fia.com

National Press Officer:

Marko ŠIVAK, e-mail: press@rally-croatia.com, Mob: +385 91 6348 903

Accreditation procedure

The accreditation guidelines and criteria will be published on the WRC Croatia Rally website: www.rally-croatia.com.

RALLY GUIDE 1

CROATIA RALLY 2026

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