

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Explore the wild side of Europe

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On August 2nd 2019, Sarajevo will host the start of the third edition of the Great Balkan Ride, the latest minimal assistance rally adventure organised by the world's most gonzo travel operator, the Travel Scientists. Awaiting participants from all across the globe, the Great Balkan Ride is a nine-day odyssey of over 1000 miles, exploring the heart of a Europe's most underrated region, home to natural beauty, complex history, and a culture of generous hospitality (consisting of welcoming smiles, strong drinks, and delicious cuisine).

After leaving Bosnia's picturesque capital, teams of 2-3, driving their vehicles of choice, will discover the stunning nature of Montenegro, the surprising energy of Kosovo, and the diversity of Albania, on their way to the sun and sea of the Aegean. This event is not for professionals and no experience is required, but be prepared for steep, winding, mountain roads, remote dirt tracks, and even off-road routes along dry river beds. It's not a race: the goal is to have the best experience, not the fastest time.

The Great Balkan Ride is a minimal-assistance rally: organisers assist with documentation, preparation, and route planning, but aren't there to hold participants' hands every step of the way. Teams figure out their own way to each destination, but when they arrive they'll be greeted with unforgettable parties, and the chance to bond with the community of like-minded thrill-seekers. Various packages cater to every budget and adventure level – from basic rally entrance to all-inclusive, which includes accommodation.

We'll take the scenic route through the untouched nature and unexplored treasures of the Balkan peninsula, from Sarajevo's cafe culture all the way to Thessaloniki's vibrant nightlife. Along the way we'll stay in Žabljak, the highest town in the Balkans, and Kosovo, Europe's youngest country. Then Albania's famous hospitality, ancient traditions, and diverse scenery like Lake Shkodra; the isolated mountain paradise of Theth; the beaches and blue waters of Vlore and Durrës; and, finally, the perfectly preserved history in Gjirokastër await participants.

The Travel Scientists were founded in 2006 to promote adventure travel through some of the world's most exciting locales. Founders carefully design events for a growing legion of adventure travel enthusiasts who want to share unique experiences that recall the glory days of exploration. The Travel Scientists have sponsored races in exotic locations across the globe, including the 'Rickshaw Challenge' (Southern India), 'Caucasian Challenge' (through current disputed areas in the Caucasus), the Central Asia Rally (driving to the heart of the ancient Silk Road), the Wild West Challenge (exploring the old frontier in the USA) and the India's Cup.

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