

**2018 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC)**

**Round 10: Rally Turkey**

***The MICHELIN LTX Force poised for maiden Turkey outing***

July's Rally Finland saw Michelin adjust its range of tyres for the FIA World Rally Championship. While teams still get to select two types of compound for all gravel rounds, there haven't been any changes to the regulations per se, but Michelin now offers its partners an opportunity to choose from three options, making a variety of different combinations possible. In addition to the hard-compound H4 version of MICHELIN LTX Force which continues to be available, new medium and soft alternatives (the MICHELIN LTX Force M6 and MICHELIN LTX S6 respectively) can now also be specified.

For Rally Turkey, which returns to the WRC calendar after an eight-year absence, Michelin teams will be able to choose between the MICHELIN LTX Force H4 and MICHELIN LTX Force M6. Meanwhile, its WRC2 runners will be able to fit either the MICHELIN Latitude Cross S80 (soft) or MICHELIN Latitude Cross H90 (hard).

"This event promises to be a big challenge because it is completely new and there are a lot of unknowns regarding the state of the stages," notes **Arnaud Rémy**, manager of Michelin's rally programmes. "We sent a technician to recce the route during the summer and we expect it to be a tough event for the cars and tyres alike. The second passes are likely to be particularly rough. Although it takes place in a picture-postcard setting, this rally could well turn out to be a nightmare for any driver who strays off the ideal line!"

The total length of Rally Turkey is 882.69 kilometres, including 321.20 kilometres divided into 17 stages, the average length of which is almost 20 kilometres. The longest test – Cetibeli (38.50km) – will be visited twice on Friday following Thursday's evening's start ceremony and short super-special (1.5km) in the streets of Marmaris, close to the service park in Asparan.

While half of the week's total competitive distance takes place on Friday, Saturday's action could spring a few surprises since crews will spend more than 12 hours in their cars in the course of a particularly compact run that features 134 against-the-clock kilometres, with road sections totalling just 172km.

Sunday morning's menu comprises four short stages, including two attempts at the same test, plus the 7.5-kilometre Power Stage. Although short, their aggressive surface is likely to make them hard-wearing on tyres. Michelin's engineers have taken this into account, however, and feel confident due to what they have seen on the numerous other rough rallies that have already been held this season.

The event's winners will be treated to a special prize put up by Turkey's motorsport governing body. The reward comprises a one-week cruise in a 47-metre yacht for them and their families (up to 12 people) in order to explore the delights of the country's Mediterranean islands.



**Didier Laurent** – [didier@autopressclub.com](mailto:didier@autopressclub.com) – Phone: +33.6.75.60.50.62

**Alessandro Barlozzi** – [alessandro.barlozzi@michelin.com](mailto:alessandro.barlozzi@michelin.com) – Phone: +33.6.42.23.55.93

### The MICHELIN LTX Force H4 and M6 (WRC crews)

Number of tyres available in Turkey: **800**

Allocation per WRC driver: 32 tyres (not including shakedown) from a total allocation of 32 hards (H4) and 24 mediums (M6).

### The MICHELIN LATITUDE Cross H90 and S80 (WRC2 crews)

Number of tyres available in Turkey: **580**

Allocation per WRC2 driver: 30 tyres (not including shakedown) from a total allocation of 30 hards (H90) and 22 softs (S80).

### Michelin staff for the 2018 Rally Turkey

Michelin's partners at the 2018 Rally Turkey will be backed by a total staff of 18:

- **Pascal Couasnon** (Director of the Mobility Experience Business Line)
- **Matthieu Bonardel** (New Director of Michelin Motorsport)
- **Arnaud Rémy** (Rally Programme Manager)
- 4 team advisors
- 2 coordinators
- 8 fitters
- 1 press officer



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