



MYCENAEAN-MINOAN RALLY-TOUR 2019

March 31 - April 17, 2019

NEWS: OCTOBER 2018



Jaguar XKs & E-types explore Greece & Crete

Last few places available!



With less than six months to go to the start of our most exciting event yet, the anticipation is definitely building and we are hard at working dotting the final 'i's and crossing the final 't's to ensure you have the best possible experience in Greece. All the hotels are booked and after some strenuous negotiation, we've managed to get confirmation of a superb beach hotel for our final night on Crete, not open normally to one-night bookings, which will make the last two days' rallying flow so much more smoothly – and we've changed our hotel at Delphi from a delightfully friendly family hotel with limited car parking (it had the rarity of an underground garage, but not big enough for all of us) to a larger establishment that is better equipped to serve us – and has even better views. We have also had a very encouraging meeting with E.M. Rogers Transport of Northampton, who will transport many cars to and from the event, and were delighted to find they too are Jaguar enthusiasts, with an XK 150 DHC on the family fleet!

Participants said of our last XK/E event:

Supported by:

- It couldn't have been better, brilliantly organised... The hotels were splendid...*
- Organisation was immaculate and the choice of routes was inspired...*
- As a rally first-timer, I'm not sure it could be beaten...*
- A fantastic event, we thoroughly enjoyed it...*
- The hotels and catering were really of an excellent order...*
- A superb rally which we really enjoyed: your organisation was impeccable...*



The idyllic rallying recipe: warm weather, beautiful spring flowers, terrific camaraderie, breathtaking mountain passes, glorious winding coastal roads, deserted country lanes, fascinating historic relics in the cradle of European civilisation, luxurious hotels, great cuisine – and a fun element of competition. The Mycenaean-Minoan Rally Tour awaits you!





Beautifully-crafted 17th-century bridges recall when Epirus was under Turkish rule



On day 2, you can take the opportunity to consult the Oracle of Dodoni, a magnificent site off the tourist trail

Best of all, we've had a very good meeting with Julian Barratt, as a result of which we can confirm that SNG Barratt will not only provide a stock of spares for XKs and E-types – refined from supporting our two previous events in the Alps and Pyrenees as well as the Clubs' Round Britain Coastal Drives – but will also provide the SNG Barratt Jaguar XF Sportbrake support car and their hugely knowledgeable and capable Jaguar mechanic, Peter Stant, to follow the entire event. We do still expect you to take out European Recovery Cover for the event – for which we hope soon to be able to announce a special discounted rate from our friends at the RAC, at least for UK-based entrants – but Pete will be able to assist with most minor ailments that might affect any well-prepared car on tour. We very much hope that Julian will also be able to join us on the event in either his XK150 DHC or Series I or 3 E-types.

In early April, snow still caps the high peaks



For those making use of the E.M. Rogers transport from UK to Bari and back from Athens, please note that E.M. Rogers would like your car to be dropped off at their Northampton depot by Friday March 22, to give them time to get the cars loaded and off down to Bari. There should be no problem with packing luggage etc in the cars before transport, so you don't have to carry everything with you when you fly. Cars will then be available for collection from the return journey by Monday April 29, or hopefully at the end of the previous week.

Currently booked for the transporters are:
Transporter 1: Wolf Rost, John Sharpe, Paul Over, Reagan Stone, Neil Donnan, Christian Welter (pick up Geneva?).
Transporter 2: John Hunt, Stephen Lewis, Dan O'Brien, Peter Gerstrom, Rod Shears, SNG Barratt
There are quite a few names missing here who we

Glorious hairpin passes link mountains and plains: we will have them virtually to ourselves



Wherever you are in Greece, the sea is never far away: here the Aegean Sea is revealed as we descend from Mount Olympus towards Thessaloniki



suspect may well want to take advantage of the transporters, so please let us know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE if you would. We suspect we can fill another transporter, or at least get close to it, but obviously the price is higher for late-comers who are not on a full transporter. The prices are confirmed at £4500+VAT per 6-car transporter to Bari, and £7525+VAT for the return from Athens. With full transporters, this works out to £900 inc VAT per car for the trip out to Bari and £1505 inc VAT per car for the return.

Frustratingly (one of those little details one just cannot predict!), none of the three possible direct flights from the UK to Bari from three different airlines that existed this

year at the same time, is currently scheduled for Saturday March 30, 2019: British Airways, Easyjet and Ryanair have all changed their schedules. We have looked long and hard at different options, including redirecting the transporter to meet you at an airport with more direct flights, but it still makes more sense to take the cars to Bari and fly there via a connecting flight.

Ideally we need to board the overnight ferry to Igoumenitsa by 17:30, so Alitalia from London City via Milan (09:00-14:55), or Air France from Heathrow via Paris (09:00-16:50), look the best single-operator options, but more may become available (and prices will reduce) over the next few months. Dual-operator opens many options, one of the most attractive being British Airways Heathrow-Rome 10:00-13:40, followed by Alitalia Rome-Bari 15:25-16:30 (and of course you can fly to Rome from many regional airports). Three months in advance is said to be the ideal time to book flights in terms of cost and availability, so we'll monitor the situation.



Spring flowers carpet Greece in early April: these are on Kefalonia...

Among many wonderful spots we found on Kefalonia, which you will be free to explore at your own pace, this Minoan-era fortress looks across to the island of Ithaca



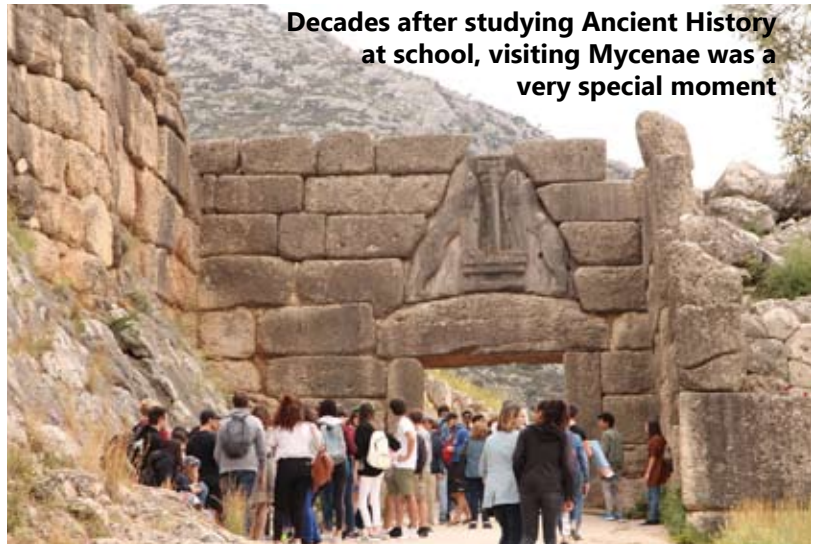
Olympia, home of the Olympic Games and astonishingly well-preserved, is one of the must-go historic sites on our route – and surprisingly quiet in April



Our friends at Superfast Ferries, Anek Lines and Blue Star Ferries have confirmed the code for our 30% discount on the ferry crossings from Athens to Crete and back during the rally, and (if required) Bari to Igoumenitsa (and back) before and after the event. Bookings will not open until November and again there is no rush to get these booked (we will confirm the exact details for booking once lines are open) but for the record, the code is 18/1090/O30/GPA.

The next important piece of news is that the second 50% of your **entry fee** is due by the end of this month. Some need to pay £4500, some £4750 (and some more): if you're not sure how much, drop us an email and we'll confirm.

If you've not yet entered, do so swiftly as fees are rising and there are very few places left: Entry Forms and Regulations are available on request, so please don't hesitate.



Decades after studying Ancient History at school, visiting Mycenae was a very special moment

Mycenaean-Minoan Rally 2019 Provisional Schedule

- Sun 31 Mar – Start Igoumenitsa, drive north/east, empty roads, beautiful mountain scenery, hairpin passes, night at Ioannina c270km**
- Mon 1 Apr – Ioannina-Ioannina, mountains south and east, Oracle of Dodoni, Orraon historic city, cliffside Kipina monastery c325km**
- Tues 2 – Ioannina-Thessaloniki, with time to visit several breathtaking Meteora monasteries, stunning views of Mt Olympus c350km**
- Wed 3 – Thessaloniki-Thessaloniki, lap consistency test at super Serres Circuit, optional day off for relaxation & sightseeing 166km**
- Thur 4 – Thessaloniki-Thessaloniki, wild northern scenery, Lake Kerkini, Oenogenesis winery, Filippi, Krinides mud baths c380km**
- Fri 5 – Thessaloniki-Delphi, passing Mt Parnassus ski centre and finishing with time to visit the stunning Delphi Oracle 390km**
- Sat 6 – Delphi-Kefalonia, wonderful coast roads, floating bridge to Lefkada, chartered ferry to Kefalonia, coastal hotel at Argostoli 350km**
- Sun 7 – Kefalonia-Kefalonia: so many options to enjoy this stunning island, scene of the book & movie, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin***
- Mon 8 – Kefalonia-Monemvasia via scheduled ferry to the Peloponnese, visiting fine ruins at Olympia and Benakopoulos Olive Mill 330km**
- Tues 9 – Monemvasia-Monemvasia: enjoy this astonishingly untouched mediaeval island walled town, and visit Mystras, Sparta c75km**
- Wed 10 – Monemvasia-Overnight Ferry to Crete, via glorious coastal scenery and taking in the impressive remains of Mycenae 300km**
- Thur 11 – Ferry-Chania, a day for relaxation and tourism in this stunning harbour town on Crete, plus a great test at Chania Circuit c25km**
- Fri 12 – Chania-Chania, exploring the delights of western Crete, plus a brewery, a monastery, a world-beating gorge and more c275km**
- Sat 13 – Chania-Heraklion, more lovely Cretan roads, well off tourist routes, including a forgotten Minoan palace and Phaestos c275km**
- Sun 14 – Heraklion-Heraklion, tourist day: visit the Minoan splendour of Knossos, superb archaeological museum, relax, and shop! 0km**
- Mon 15 – Heraklion-Ierapetra, taking in the whole east coast, lunch on a palm-lined beach, amazing hillclimb, fun circuit test c275km**
- Tues 16 – Ierapetra-Overnight Ferry to Athens, wonderful mix of stunning roads, church frescoes, ruined city, cave and winery c250km**
- Wed 17 – Ferry-Athens, day off to explore and shop, Parthenon, museums, evening prizegiving dinner overlooking the Acropolis c10km**
- Thur 18 – Breakfast in Athens...**

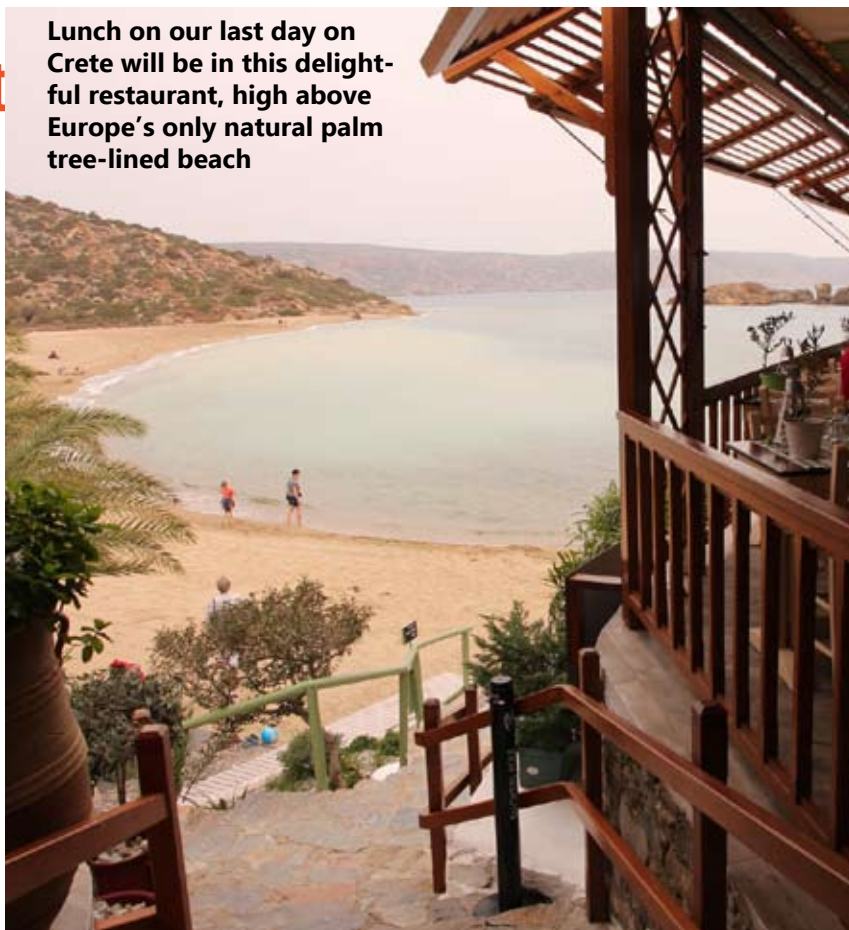
The total route amounts to some 4000km or 2500 miles, though it will vary according to individual entrants' chosen options. Longer days involve some motorway driving (also with remarkably low traffic volumes) to cover the ground more efficiently.

Mycenaean-Minoan Rally

2019 Provisional Entry List

XK		
XK 120 DHC	John Edwards	UK
XK 140 DHC	Paul & Tina Over	UK
XK 140 DHC	Stephen & Polly Lewis	UK
XK 140 DHC	Neil & Olivia Donnan	UK
150S 3.4 OTS	John & Jan Hunt	UK
150 3.8 DHC	Rod Shears	UK
150 3.8 DHC	Reagan Stone	USA
XK/E TBC	Gerry & Corry Driessen	NL
150S/S3 OTS	Christian & Florence Welter	CH
150/SI/S3 OTS	Julian Barratt	UK
E-type		
SI 3.8 OTS	Patrick & Anne Dewez	Monaco
SI 3.8 OTS	Peter Gerstrom/Carolyn Brigg	UK
SI 4.2 OTS	John & Dominique Sharpe	UK
SI 4.2 OTS	Dr Wolf Rost	UK
SI 4.2 OTS	Simon Dudfield	UK
S3	Martyn & Elizabeth Oldroyd	UK (CI)
TBC	Jim & Sue McLagan	CA
Others		
Triumph TR3	Dan & Bernie O'Brien	USA
Austin-Healey	Martin O'Donovan/Tony Maybury	USA/IE

Lunch on our last day on Crete will be in this delightful restaurant, high above Europe's only natural palm tree-lined beach



Email organisers ClassicRallyPress Ltd, led by Malcolm McKay, at LBLRally@aol.com or classicrallypress@yahoo.co.uk, or phone 0044 7711 901811 for more information. See also www.classicrallypress.co.uk and www.facebook.com/LBLRallies

Wonderful roads snaking their way from mountain to sea and back again typify the coastline of Crete: as you can see, this one was unusually busy on our recce: two cars!

