



2020 MICRO MARATHON



September 11-21

Authentic: up to 500cc pre-'59

Pre-War: up to 1000cc pre-'44

Spirit: up to 700cc pre-'69

RAC



Newsletter: November 2018

* * **Pyrenees here we come!** * *

We had a fabulous Liège-Brescia-Liège Rally and are deeply grateful to all who took part, and all who helped, for giving this year's event the best feeling of camaraderie and fun that I think we've ever known. It was at times exhausting – driving microcars over mountains is never going to be easy, except for some of the more powerful Spirit category cars – but it was immensely rewarding, and heavy traffic heading into the Alps and climbing the Stelvio were about the only concerns... For the 2019 LBL for Triumph TRs, we'll follow a quieter (though admittedly less authentic) route into the Alps, and aim to hit the Stelvio earlier in the morning.

Traffic is one thing you won't be complaining of on our next microcar rally! The Pyrenees are much quieter than the Alps and in September, after schools have gone back, we will have much of the route to ourselves. The route we will follow is a refinement of our last Micro Marathon of 2009, which we already refined for Jaguars in 2014 – on both occasions it was very much enjoyed. With LBL, brilliant though the route is, we are a bit restricted in what changes we can make without losing the authenticity of the event: in the Pyrenees and northern Spain, we can pick exactly the route we want: and it's all the better for it.

As in 2009, we will welcome pre-war cars up to 1000cc to the event, and this time we have organised transporters from England to Toulouse (for those that want it), to whisk cars down to the start and back from the

In 2009 we had the most wonderful microcar rally in the Pyrenees and have always wanted to repeat it: at last, we will!

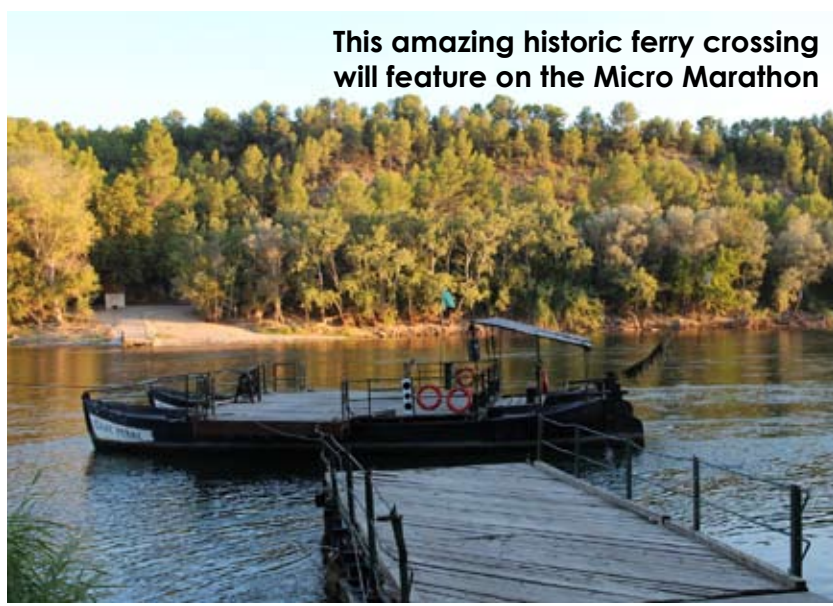


finish so that you can fly down and meet them, taking all the hassle of getting to/from the event. Provided we fill the transporters, the cost will be under £1000 return per car.

We will provide a luggage van, and welcome microcars from 175cc up to 700cc to this exciting rally, which will follow our well-established formula of fun competition comprising map navigation (using the excellent Michelin 1:150,000 and 1:250,000 maps of France, Spain and Andorra) with circuit tests – there are some superb circuits in SW France and northern Spain so, provided we get a good entry, we can promise some really amazing tests.

Starting with LBL, at least one fun ferry crossing has become a trademark of our events – the Micro

This amazing historic ferry crossing will feature on the Micro Marathon



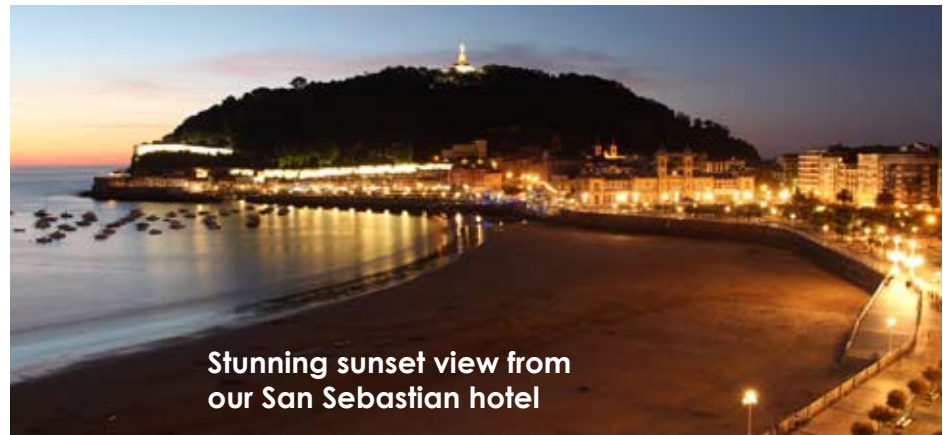
Marathon will be no different, as we have found a really delightful historic crossing of the fast-flowing River Ebro operated by the same ferry boat since 1946: it has no engine but uses the power of the river for the crossing, and it carries just three normal cars – but how many microcars? We can't wait to see!

We have some truly wonderful hotels lined up for you. After a hotel chosen for convenience in Toulouse, the first night in the Pyrenees will be in a magnificently-located Bishops' Palace with stunning apartments and views, plus a really outstanding French restaurant for our Welcome Dinner. The second will be in a lovely, traditional family hotel in



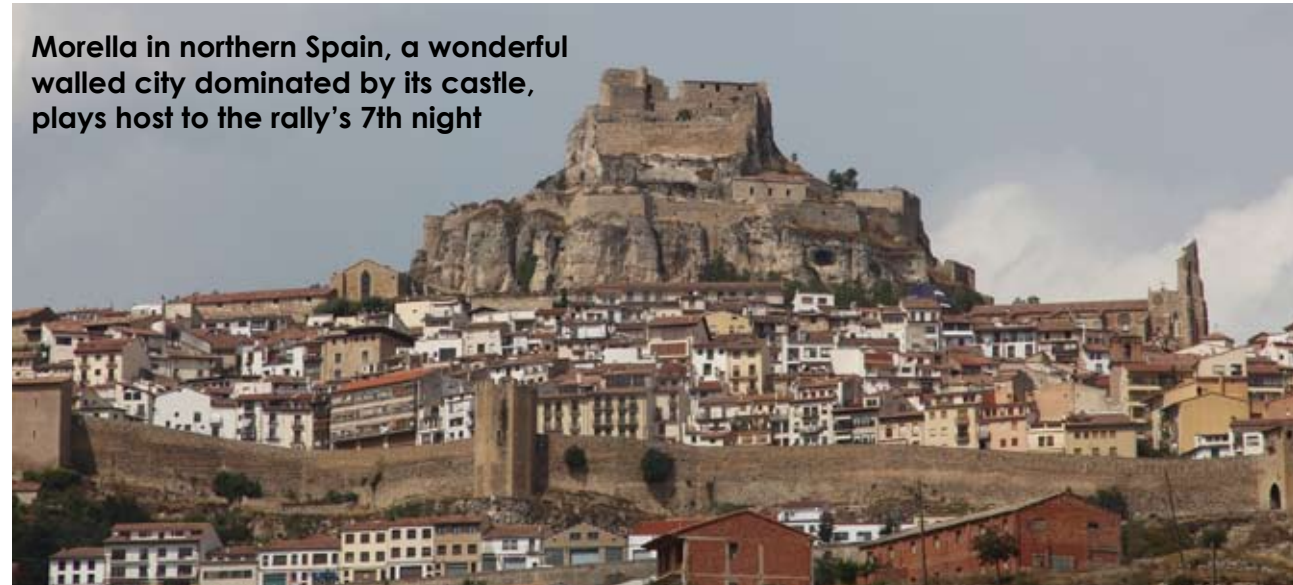
First night in the Pyrenees: the Bishops' Palace

a delightful small town high in the mountains. We then cross to the Spanish side and a fabulous hotel right on the beachfront at San Sebastian – with a late start next day so you have time for an early-morning dip! Our fifth hotel is in the heart of La Rioja, our sixth is an authentic Spanish castle, our seventh nestles in the heart of an astonishingly well-preserved mediaeval walled town, where cars are not normally allowed, and our eighth is a stone's throw from the Mediterranean and overlooking the most wonderfully well-preserved Roman amphitheatre in a city that was once the capital of the western Roman Empire. On our ninth night we enjoy Alpine-style magnifi-



Stunning sunset view from our San Sebastian hotel

Morella in northern Spain, a wonderful walled city dominated by its castle, plays host to the rally's 7th night



cence high in the Pyrenees in our third country of the trip, Andorra, and our final night is in the heart of legendary Carcassonne, France's finest restored mediaeval walled citadel, where cars are now completely banned.... except us!

Here are a few more photos to set the scene. The Regulations and Entry Form are now available, and entries are already coming in: we will struggle to find hotel rooms for more than 30 cars, so if you'd like to join us, please let us have a deposit of £250 now to hold a place. This can then be deducted from the first main payment due in November 2019, or returned if you find before that time that you will be unable to take part after all.

See you in Toulouse!



Micro Marathon 2020 Provisional Programme

This Timetable is provisional and may be amended.

Friday September 11

15:00-18:00 Signing On, Ibis Styles Toulouse Labège

Saturday September 12

08:30-09:00 Start, Toulouse

10:45-13:00 Special Test & Lunch, Circuit International de Lavelanet

18:00-19:00 Check In, Le Domaine du Palais des Evêques, St Lizier

20:00 Welcome Dinner, Le Carré de l'Ange

Sunday September 13

09:30-10:00 Check Out, St Lizier

17:30-18:30 Check In, Hotel le Montaigu, Luz St Sauveur

Monday September 14

08:30-09:00 Check Out, Luz St Sauveur

19:00-20:00 Check In, Hotel de Londres y de Inglaterra, San Sebastian

Tuesday September 15

Morning Explore San Sebastian

10:30-11:30 Check Out, San Sebastian

14:30-16:30 Special Test, Circuito de Navarra

17:00-18:00 Check In & Wine Tasting, La Rioja,

Bodega Eguren Ugarte

Overnight Hotel Eguren Ugarte, Castillo el Collado

Wednesday September 16

08:30-09:00 Check Out, Logroño

17:00-18:00 Check In & Special Test, Motorland Aragón

Overnight Parador Alcañiz

Thursday September 17

09:30-10:00 Check Out, then Special Test, Motorland Aragón

13:00-14:00 Check In, Morella

Afternoon Free to explore historic town

Overnight Hotel Rey don Jaime, Morella

Friday September 18

08:30-09:00 Check out, Morella

11:00-13:00 Special Test & Lunch, Circuito Mora d'Ebre

14:00-15:30 Check In, Hotel Imperial Tarraco, Tarragona

Afternoon Free to explore historic Roman city of Tarragona

Saturday September 19

09:30-10:00 Check Out, Tarragona

11:00-14:00 Private Classic Car Collection Visit

17:00-18:00 Check In & National Motor Museum Visit, Andorra

18:00 Police Escort through Andorra la Vella

Overnight Sport Hotel Village, Soldeu, Andorra

Sunday September 20

08:30-09:00 Check Out, Soldeu, Andorra

14:00-16:00 Visit, Château de Peyrepertuse

18:00-19:00 Check In, Carcassonne Citadel Gates

Overnight & Prizegiving Dinner, Hotel de la Cité, Carcassonne

Monday September 21

Morning Breakfast; departure.

Visit Mediaeval Citadel of Carcassonne



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