

Scarred4Life Sahara Rally July 2007



Stages & Itinerary

July 23rd 2007 - Departure date

Day 1, Stage 1 - Cambridge to Bilbao, via Le Mans, Bordeaux, San Sebastien

Route: Cambridge to Dover; Calais to Rouen (A16/A28), Rouen to Le Mans (A28), Le Mans to Tours (A28), Tours to Poitier (A10), Poitier to Bordeaux (A10), Bordeaux to Bayonne, Bayonne to San Sebastien, San Sebastien to Bilbao (A8/A68)

What to expect: An early start .. then through England from Cambridge to Dover, across the Channel to Calais, stopping at Le Mans for lunch, on to Bordeaux and then Bilbao in Spain's Basque country, for the first overnight stay.

Day 2, Stage 2 - Bilbao to Fenguiriola, via Madrid

Route: Bilbao to Burgos (A8), Burgos to Madrid (A8), Madrid to Jaen (A4), Jaen to Granada (A44), Granada to Malaga (A92), Malaga to Fuengirola

What to expect: Down through Spain, lunching in Madrid, continuing on to Fuengirola, on the Costa del Sol, for an evening party and the second overnight stay.

Day 3, Stage 3 - Fuengirola to Ifrane, via Algeciras, Tangier, Fez

Route: Fuengirola to Algeciras (port); Tangier to Larache, Larache to Kenitra, Kenitra to Meknes, Meknes to Fez, Fez to Ifrane

What to expect: An early departure for Algeciras, catching the fast ferry to Tangier, on to the ancient city of Fez for lunch and then to Ifrane, for the third overnight stay.

Day 4, Stage 4 - Ifrane to Merzouga, via High Atlas mountains to Sahara sand dunes

Route: Ifrane to Azrou, Azrou to Midelt, Midelt to Errachiddia, Errachiddia to Erfoud, Erfoud to Merzouga

What to expect: Another early start, over the beautiful High Atlas mountains, along a dried-up river bed lined with palm trees straight into the sand dunes of the Sahara desert itself. The overnight stay is in the Saharan town of Merzouga, close to the Algerian border.

Day 5, Stage 5 - Merzouga to Ouarzazat, via Zagora

Route: Merzouga to Zagora, Zagora to Ouarzazat,

What to expect: Driving through the desert and the Anti Atlas mountain peaks and plateau to Zagora, in time for lunch. The tents and camels of many Berber tribesmen will line the route to Ouarzazat, where the fifth overnight stay takes place.

Day 6, Stage 6 - Ouarzazat to Marrakesh

Route: Ouarzazat to Marrakesh

What to expect: A short drive to the mystical city of Marrakesh, for a day spent soaking up the atmosphere, including perhaps a visit to the newest Moroccan night club, Pacha, or just enjoying the medina and local culture.

Day 7, Stage 7 - Marrakesh to Essouira

Route: Marrakesh to Taroudannt, Taroudannt to Agadir, Agadir to Essouira

What to expect: From Marrakesh to the resort of Agadir and arriving at Essouira for another overnight stay.

Day 8, Stage 8 - Essouira to Tangier, via Casablanca

Route: Essouira to Bouguedra, Bouguedra to Casablanca, Casablanca to Rabat, Rabat to Tangier

What to expect: Final stretch in Morocco, travelling up the Atlantic Coast, through Casablanca and on to Tangier to enjoy the markets, souks and beaches before the charity Ball at The Chellah hotel. Overnight stay.

Day 9, Stage 9 - Tangier to Bilbao

Route: Gibraltar Straits, Seville, Cordoba, Madrid, Bilbao

Day 10, Stage 10 - Bilbao to Cambridge (returning on **August 1st, 2007**)

Route: Reverse of Day 1, from Bilbao to Cambridge

Note: The donations to the charities will be presented at the Ball in Tangier. Rally crew may wish to extend their break in Morocco, Spain or France or join others in returning to the UK. It is anticipated that a post rally party, including sponsors, will be held a few weeks after our return to catch up with everyone's stories, experiences, photos etc.