2019 EAST AFRICAN SAFARI CLASSIC RALLY

A foreword, by former factory team driver Rauno Aaltonen

'A DREAM TO COME TRUE'

Long before I became a motor sport professional I read articles about the East African Safari. It appeared to be tough, long, very difficult. Shortly said the event was a real adventure.

After the Rally Monte Carlo in January 1962 I met by chance in Paris Airport a lady from Kenya. I mentioned my interest and she said she worked for the Safari organizing motor club. Two weeks later a letter arrived to me announcing that Mercedes importer D.T. Dobie was kindly prepared to sponsor me and a Mercedes 220 SEb was ready for me in Nairobi. I just had to arrange my flight ticket. I made a short recce with D.T. Dobie technical manager Jim Heather-Hayes. Jim taught me many essential skills how to drive through the jungle and offered many practical advices.

Through wrong slotting many times and getting stuck in mud we were later excluded because of lateness. We did not finish but I realised that the word adventure was a very mild expression to describe East African Safari Rally. I gave my heart to East Africa and entered the Safari 23 times of course with varying success but with very many second places. It was a very tough rally or more of a road race. No special stages, flat out for the whole time. If it rained the lateness was taken away from the rest periods. But there was an obligatory rest of 35 minutes per 24 hours. In some occasions we had no sleep in a bed from Thursday to Monday.

There was only one slightly similar event in Europe, the Spa-Sofia-Liege but the former Yugoslavia lacked the beauty of Africa as well as the wildlife and deep river crossings.

Today the Classic Safari Rally cannot be organized as the originals were for safety reasons however participants will experience real Africa and the same rally roads I did. The fascinating countryside, high mountain ranges, slippery hairpins, jungle roads, mud, dust, heat, river crossings and game of all sizes are still the great part of the original East African Safari rally experience.

If one has the chance to enter use it and enjoy it. Your dream will come true.

Rauno Aaltonen

East African Safari Classic Rally reflects the heyday of original Safari Rally events as a long distance open road motoring adventure event set in the beauty of East Africa featuring extreme road and weather challenges with free roaming wildlife.

EVENT PROGRAM

OPENING DATE OF ENTRIES : 26th September 2018

CLOSING DATE OF ENTRIES : 9th October 2019

PUBLICATION OF LIST OF ENTRIES: 24th October 2019

PUBLICATION OF SEEDED ENTRY LIST : 31st October 2019 (or earlier)

DOCUMENTATION

EASR Ltd offices for local competitors on Wednesday, 13th and Thursday, 14th November 2019 – from 08h30 to 15h30

Whitesands Hotel on

Sunday, 24th from 10h00 to 16h00 Monday, 25th and Tuesday, 26th from

08h30 to 16h30

SCRUTINEERING & TRACKING SYSTEM FITTING

: Sunday, 24th Scrutineering by request maybe arranged at team base venues on

a first request priority bases Monday, 25th and Tuesday, 26th

November 2019 at Whitesands Hotel

from 08h00 to 17h00

DRIVERS BREIFING

: Wednesday, 27th November 2019 at 08h00 at Baraza Conference Room,

Whitesands Hotel

CEREMONIAL START + PROLOGUE

: Wednesday, 27th November 2019 from

11h00

STEWARDS FIRST MEETING

: Wednesday, 27th November 2019 at

17h00 at Baraza Conference Room,

Whitesands Hotel

PUBLICATION OF START LIST

: Wednesday, 27th November 2019 at

18h30

WELCOME PARTY

: Wednesday, 27th November 2019 at

19h00

RE-START OF RALLY

: Thursday, 28th November 2019 at 06h00

FINISH OF RALLY

: Friday, 6th December 2019 from approx.14h00

Podium Ceremony 17h00

POST EVENT SCRUTINY

: Friday, 6th December 2019 from 14h00

PUBLICATION OF PROVISIONAL

: Friday, 6th December 2019 at 16h00

RESULTS

PRIZE GIVING : Friday, 6th December 2019 at 21h00

OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

: At Rally Headquarters

Don't miss your chance to experience The World's Greatest Classic Rally!!!