
2027 1 2027
28 STATES
MARATHON
13 October to 11 November 2027
RTG
Rally the Globe
VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB
FKJ220C



Photo: gerardbrown.co.uk

Starting from the Atlantic shores of Cape Cod, this true *Marathon* event will be a voyage of discovery, along roads less travelled, and through parts of the United States far from the tourist trail. More than 7,000 miles, many of them on gravel, will see us explore the real America. Non-driving days in Detroit, Indianapolis, New Orleans and Nashville will allow competitors to discover these dynamic, very individual cities in depth. Between rest days, the open road beckons, and competitors will enjoy smaller, off-the-radar experiences that make this both a competitive *Marathon* rally and an insight into contemporary America. The rally travels through diverse climates and cultures, before a gala finish in historic Savannah, Georgia.





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28 STATES MARATHON

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Route notes:

We gather for scrutineering and documentation by the ocean in Chatham Bars, just as New England's autumn colours arrive. Our first evening sees a drinks reception followed by the traditional Welcome Dinner.

Cape Cod, MS to Detroit, MI

Our adventure begins in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, known for its quaint villages, seafood shacks, lighthouses, and home to one of the only fully authenticated golden age pirate shipwrecks. We follow the iconic Old King's Highway before briefly entering the state of Rhode Island for the first Test of many, before the route leads us to the wide-open spaces of New Hampshire.

Soon we are in mountainous territory and stay overnight in the Winter Olympics venue of Lake Placid in New York State. Mountain passes, reminiscent of the Alps, stay with us before we descend back into the autumnal colours and New York's Finger Lakes region.

The Rust Belt formed the industrial heartland of the United States, with economies based on iron and steel, automobile production, and coal mining. Western NY state, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan are the historical core of the Rust Belt and will provide a fascinating backdrop for



Wed 13 October 2027: Arrival & car collection*
Thu 14 October: Scrutineering & signing on
Fri 15 October: Rally starts from Chatham Bars
Thu 11 November: Rally finish and Prizegiving

** Car collection date to be agreed directly with your shipping agent*













Photos: gerardbrown.co.uk, Marcus Rowe & shutterstock.com





Mackinac Bridge







Indianapolis

Photos: gerardbrown.co.uk, Marcus Rowe & shutterstock.com

our explorations, alongside twisting gravel roads, Tests at local circuits, covered bridges, Amish country, abandoned steel mills, and deserted former coal towns.

Many of the cities along the route have reinvented themselves, becoming magnets for remote workers, and embracing service industries, the arts, and new technologies. With Autumn colours peaking and an abundance of quiet back roads and small towns, we anticipate the competition will be almost as breathtaking as the scenery.

Our first rest day is in Detroit, Michigan. Known not only as the site of Henry Ford's first ever automobile production line, but also for the distinctive Motown sound. As America's comeback kid, Detroit is now a bustling and resurgent city, and there will be an abundance of distractions to keep crews entertained.

Detroit, MI to Indianapolis, IN

Crews will wave a fond farewell to Detroit, pressing north towards upstate Michigan via several Tests and Regularities. The forest roads here lend themselves to our kind of event: North America's first steps into rallying as we know it today took place in the region in the 1970s, with the legendary Press on Regardless Rally. We overnight near the tip of the Lower Peninsula before crossing the 5-mile long "Mighty Mac" bridge with Lakes Huron to our right and Michigan on our left.

The scenery and temperature changes once we are into the wilds of the Upper Peninsula, a forested area rife with bears, deer, wolves and moose, incredible gravel roads, and as we head north, cliffside views of Lake Superior. The locals here are known as Yoopers, while they in turn refer to their southern neighbours as Trolls (they live under the bridge...).

The rally then tacks west and follows forested routes before cutting south through the Land O'Lakes region and into Wisconsin, a place as famous for its cheese as it is for its manic American football fans. Tests at off-road parks and small dirt ovals are planned, with overnights in the lesser-visited cities of Oshkosh, host to the largest airshow in the world attracting over 10,000 aircraft each year, and Prairie du Chien on the Mississippi.

Temperatures warm a little as the rally heads south, kissing the states of Minnesota Illinois, and Iowa. Anchored firmly in America's heartland, this is where farmers feed a nation, and the sheer scale of the agriculture in the prairies will give competitors a lot to think about between Tests and Regularities.

Indianapolis is our next rest day. A minor league city with major league assets, Indy is as approachable a city as America can offer. The self-proclaimed Racing Capital of the World, the city is steeped in motor sport history, and everyone you meet is affiliated with the business in some way or other. A visit to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum is a must. On race day for the Indy 500, the speedway itself becomes Indiana's second-largest city, with a population of 300,000 – 400,000 people. If contemplating the logistics involved is enough to drive you to drink, then you'll be spoilt for choice at any of the exceptional cocktail bars and high-end restaurants within walking distance of our hotel.

Indianapolis, IN to New Orleans, LA

The rally swings south out of Indianapolis via a spectacular Regularity, and a visit to the other Hindustan before exploring roads in the Hoosier National Forest and Tests at a motorsports park and drag strip. We then pass briefly into Kentucky, before pressing onward to our hotel on the banks of the mighty Mississippi, just over the border in Missouri.





New Orleans



New Orleans





University campus, Tuscaloosa



Chattanooga

Photos: gerardbrown.co.uk & shutterstock.com

Next morning we make full use of the famous rally stages in the Mark Twain National Forest, and a Test at an off-road park, before an evening spent enjoying Halloween in the way that only America can. All Saints Day sees us exploring the roads of the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas before passing through the Hot Springs National Park to the town of that name. Bathhouse Row consists of eight bathhouse buildings that were constructed between the years of 1892 and 1923, an ideal opportunity to revitalise weary limbs.

Fully refreshed we have a midday stop right on the border between Arkansas and Texas, at a small motor museum in the town of Texarkana. Founded in 1873, the city is split down the middle by State Line Avenue, creating two separate municipalities—Texarkana, Texas, and Texarkana, Arkansas. Our destination is the oldest town in Texas, Nacogdoches. Founded in 1779 it is the garden capital of the state.

The next day brings us to New Orleans, a raucous party town, with jazz, cocktails, and delicious gulf oysters spilling out of every doorway. The city is 60% African American and, like Detroit, (77% African American) is one of the few "Minority Majority" major American conurbations. Great food and entertainment is assured.

New Orleans, LA to Nashville, TN

With everyone having had an early night in America's party capital, we will be well prepared for an action-packed day ahead of us as we head to Alabama. On the menu today are a major raceway, a dirt oval Test, some interesting Regularities, a drive by an abandoned amusement park, and a very brief dip into Florida to bag another state!

Tuscaloosa is best known for the University of Alabama and its dominant Crimson Tide football team, creating a vibrant college town atmosphere, while it is also steeped in the history of the American civil rights movement.

Tennessee is our next state and Chattanooga our destination, where we intend to arrive early enough to visit the famous station with its legendary train. Sunday morning sees us depart on the short drive to Nashville, famous as the home of country music, but these days the real centre of America's music industry. It feels like every hotel and every bar has the world's next superstar performing, and we may spend our free day sampling as many as we can.

Nashville, TN to Savannah, GA

From Nashville, competitors will enjoy a short run through the beautiful Smoky Mountains, where good gravel and crooked roads abound, before pulling into our night halt in Pigeon Forge, one of the weirdest cities in all of America. The home of Dollywood is a unique blend of natural beauty and over-the-top, eclectic tourist traps. It's a place where kitschy Americana meets genuine mountain culture, resulting in a bizarre destination known for its non-stop attractions and unique local quirks.

The following day could not be more of a contrast as driving south through beautiful countryside, and touching briefly on the Carolinas, we enter our final state, Georgia. Genteel Augusta is our overnight stop, and the excesses of 24 hours earlier will be but a distant memory.

Our final day is a short one but with one final Test and a tricky Regularity before we arrive in beautiful Savannah. The coastal city is known for manicured parks, horse-drawn carriages and antebellum architecture. Its historic district is filled with cobblestoned squares and parks and will be a great venue to end our 28-day adventure through the heart of little-known America.

We hope you can join us!

Route details are subject to change.





Photos: Marcus Rowe & shutterstock.com

Rally the Globe
VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB

Rally the Globe is a not-for-profit club that exists to support a broad family of motorsport enthusiasts who want to explore the world in vintage and classic vehicles.

We go out of our way to find memorable accommodation.

You will be with a great bunch of like-minded people creating memories that will last forever.

Entering

The *28 States Marathon* is open to crews of all ability levels, although you may wish to consider entering a shorter event to gain some experience first. Husbands and wives, parents and children, and just good friends all compete on our events. United in adventure, extraordinary experiences are a daily occurrence, creating memories that will last a lifetime, while at the end of the day friendships new and old are strengthened over a cold drink.

Eligible cars

Just about any car or 4x4 of a type built before the end of 1985 is welcome. If your vehicle was built a little later but is of similar specification to an earlier model, then it is almost certainly eligible. Just check with us before submitting your entry form. We're always happy to talk cars! We do love to see early cars on our events, so we have a completely separate category for cars of a specification produced before the end of 1945.

Event description

The *28 States Marathon* will use a variety of terrain, including gravel and dirt roads and tracks. We use minor roads to explore areas that few tourists will ever see, some of which will present driving challenges. However, we do our utmost to ensure that rough and car-damaging roads are avoided where possible.

On this event you will encounter some "Regularity" sections, where you will try to arrive at secret checks at a precise time. We have also planned Tests on private land, tracks and circuits.

Underlying the competitive elements will be the basic challenge of driving across the United States in a fifty-year-old car. Your preparation, ingenuity and resilience will all be tested.

Hospitality

30 nights' accommodation is included in a shared room (double or twin). Single rooms are available for a supplementary fee but may be limited at some hotels.

We strive to provide good quality accommodation wherever it is available. In some of the more remote parts of the route our options may be limited, but when we are in more mainstream locations, and particularly during rest days, the hotels will be high quality.

Dinner and other refreshments will be provided on most competition days. A light lunch will be included where this is possible. As a *Marathon* event, you will need to carry all of your own luggage in your car.

What to take

A fire extinguisher, full first aid kit, warning triangle, high visibility jackets and a towrope are all mandatory. On occasion we will park in historic areas where we insist an oil-resistant groundsheet is placed under each car.

Your car will need to be fitted with a tripmeter that can be calibrated to that of the organisers (eg Monit G-100+) and you will need a simple stopwatch for the Regularity sections.

A list of other mandatory equipment will be issued in the lead up to the event and may include items of car preparation, essential spares, navigational equipment, etc.

On event support

Our expert team of sweep mechanics follow the last car on the rally route and are prepared to help anyone they come across. Should your car be off-route, you must contact the sweeps as soon as possible. Should you need to be transported by truck we will help as much as we can, but all responsibility, including payment, rests with the competitor.

We always have at least one doctor or paramedic on our events.

Getting there and back

The nearest international airport to the start of the event is Boston Logan, about 90 miles away. Cape Air has connecting flights to Hyannis Airport, about 25 miles away.

From the finish Savannah Hilton Head Airport has connecting flights to Europe. American Airlines route through Charlotte or Philadelphia, while United use Newark or Chicago.

We work closely with CARS who will be offering a range of car shipping options to the start and back from the finish, but competitors are reminded it is their responsibility to ensure their vehicles are delivered on time. All import requirements are also the competitor's responsibility.

Insurance and other documents

Vehicle insurance is not included, and we strongly recommend you have adequate travel, medical and cancellation insurance. Please contact *Rally the Globe* HQ for suggested providers.

Details of any visas, driving licences or other documents that you will require throughout the event will be provided in due course. The responsibility for obtaining these lies with the individual.

More information

Our regular newsletters will keep you updated, including any relevant travel and medical information you may need. If you require any information on shipping cars to the event, preparing yourself and your car for a visit to the United States, or anything else, please feel free to contact *Rally the Globe* HQ on the details below.

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For more information and latest news see: www.rallytheglobe.com

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