



7,482 KMS IN 30 DAYS

JUNE 8 TO JULY 7, 2020

## FROM ROMANOFFS TO ROMANS

A truly unique tour that takes in the Russian home of the Romanoffs and finishes in Italy, the home of the Romans

Norway, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia and Italy. A unique event that explores some of Europe's most extraordinary and seldom visited places.

No-one has ever travelled Europe in this way as we take the Hurtigruten ferry north from Bergen, driving by day and sleeping on board by night, before entering Russia from its most northerly border with Norway. Taking unspoiled and seldom driven roads we drive south via Murmansk, the home of the Russian fleet, to St Petersburg. Then through the Baltic States into Poland before making our way to Venice and finishing in Portofino Fino on the Ligurian coast.



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2020 BESPOKE RALLIES 2020

**THE IMPERIAL RALLY**

FROM ROMANOFFS TO ROMANS

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## HOME OF MAHARAJAS, MONUMENTS AND MAJESTY

### SO, WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THE IMPERIAL RALLY?

Among the unique aspects of The Imperial Rally are entering Russia from its most northerly border in Europe, driving upwards through Norway and using the Hurtigruten ferry as our floating hotel, visiting Murmansk, the home of the Russian Arctic fleet, spending three nights in St Petersburg to enjoy this most exotic and cultured city. We will include visits to the to the Hermitage, the ballet and historic centre of the town.

We then head into the Baltic states visiting Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania before spending three days in Poland where we take in some of the most amazing sights including miles of underground tunnels from the last war. Beautiful cities, historic buildings and superb scenery abound.

Budapest in Hungary, one of Europe's unspoiled cities follows. We have a day off here to check out the highlights including the vast Buda museum, the amazing parliament building, the thermal spa, Heroes Square and a number of amazing churches, all bordered by the Danube river. Our next drive is to one of the great hidden gems of Europe, Slovenia. So many things to do here including riding a train through ancient caves, Lake Bled and extraordinary roads in the mountains.

Our final country is fabulous Italy where we go to Portofino via Venice.

Portofino is one of those places that everyone has to visit at least once. Set on an idyllic cove it also has the Splendido Hotel, one of the most famous and sought after in Europe.

### NORWAY – THE LAND OF FJORDS

Following the ferry north is one of the best ways to see this great country. By night we are on the ship and by day we are out exploring the wonderful fjords, stunning scenery and the midnight sun.

### RUSSIA – A UNIQUE ENTRY POINT

No rally has done this before – enter from the North and then travel down to St Petersburg. After Murmansk we stop in Belomorsk and Sortavala – do you know anyone else who has done that? In St Petersburg we make the most of our visit by doing all the major sights as well as the ballet – it's all included!

### HURTIGRUTEN FERRY

We include an outside Arctic Superior cabin, all onboard meals, passage for your car and packed lunches. There are upgrade options to suites. This is the most luxurious way to travel along the coast of Norway as your hotel meets you each evening.

### INCREDIBLE ITALY

We visit two of the best places in Italy. Venice is well known but only the lucky go to Portofino and one of the best hotels in the world.

## THE ROUTE



Details correct at time of going to print. Please be aware that route and hotels may vary.



**INTERESTED? CALL US NOW TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE +44(0)1483 271 699**



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# THE IMPERIAL RALLY

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## THE ITINERARY

DAY	DATE	FROM	TO	KMS	HRS	NOTES
Day 1	June 08	Oslo	Arrive			
Day 2	June 09	Oslo	Oslo	0	0	Norway
Day 3	June 10	Bergen	Board ship	463	7	Board Ship
Day 4	June 11	Torvik	Alesund	244	5	Norway
Day 5	June 12	Stay on board		0	6	Stay on board today
Day 6	June 13	Ornes	Bodo	237	4	Norway
Day 7	June 14	Harstad	Tromso	349	5	Norway
Day 8	June 15	Havoysund	Kjollefjord	385	6	or to Mehamn
Day 9	June 16	Kirkenes	Murmansk	235	5	Russia
Day 10	June 17	Murmansk	Belomorsk	638	8	Russia
Day 11	June 18	Belomorsk	Belomorsk	0	0	Russia
Day 12	June 19	Belomorsk	Sortavala	567	8	Russia
Day 13	June 20	Sortavala	St Petersburg	292	5	Russia
Day 14	June 21	St Petersburg	St Petersburg	0	0	Russia
Day 15	June 22	St Petersburg	St Petersburg	0	0	Russia
Day 16	June 23	St Petersburg	Tallin	373	5	Estonia
Day 17	June 24	Tallin	Riga	374	5	Latvia
Day 18	June 25	Riga	Riga	0	0	Latvia
Day 19	June 26	Riga	Kaunas	541	8	Lithuania
Day 20	June 27	Kaunas	Bydgoszcz	577	8	Poland
Day 21	June 28	Bydgoszcz	Wroclaw	284	4	Poland
Day 22	June 29	Wroclaw	Zamek na Skale	130	3	Poland + sightseeing
Day 23	June 30	Zamek	Budapest	527	8	Hungary
Day 24	July 01	Budapest	Budapest	0	0	Hungary
Day 25	July 02	Budapest	Ljubljana	479	7	Slovenia
Day 26	July 03	Ljubljana	Ljubljana	0	0	Slovenia
Day 27	July 04	Ljubljana	Venice	370	6	Italy
Day 28	July 05	Venice	Portofino	417	8	Italy
Day 29	July 06	Portofino	Portofino	0	10	Italy
Day 30	July 07	Portofino	Depart	0	0	Depart

### INCLUDED IN THE RALLY

- The ultimate Imperial adventure
- Your berth on the Hurtigruten ship
- The best hotels for our event
- All breakfasts
- Most evening meals
- Packed lunches in Norway
- Tours and excursions in St Petersburg
- The midnight sun
- The magnificent Hermitage Museum
- St Petersburg
- The Beautiful Baltic
- Poland, Hungary and Slovenia
- Belmond Hotel in Portofino
- Mountain roads
- Tulip Roadbook and GPS
- The experienced Bespoke Team
- Mechanical support
- Clothing
- Finishers' medal
- Welcome dinner
- Gala dinner

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## MORE ABOUT BESPOKE RALLIES' EVENTS

### WHY GO WITH BESPOKE RALLIES?

We are a very experienced rally organisation with notable events past and present, including the Tiger Rally in South East Asia, the Himalaya Classic Rally, The Great Amazon Adventure, The Maya Classic Rally, The Cuba Classic Rally, The PanAm Classic, The Royal Rajasthan, The Trans Himalaya Rally, Slartibartfast, Magical Madagascar and the Grand Prix of South America. We have pioneered rallies into Vietnam and were the first to get permission to take a rally to Bhutan which we visited twice. We have a great team in the office and on the road which means you are in good hands from start to finish.

### WHAT TYPE OF EVENTS DO YOU RUN?

Our events are either a Tour or a Competition or an Endurance event. Our Tours are designed to give you time to enjoy the scenery as well as the journey. Our Competition events are based on regularity. Our Enduro events are tougher and generally include dirt and/or graded roads. All events have a Touring class.

### WHAT SUPPORT DO YOU GIVE?

On most events we provide mechanical assistance using one of our teams of experienced 'bush' mechanics who are used

to keeping cars on the road in all conditions.

### WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE ENTRY FEE?

Apart from great driving, exceptional routes and our fantastic team, the entry fee always includes all your accommodation on rally days, breakfast and most evening meals including a welcome and final gala dinner. On Competitive events we include trophies and comprehensive results. On every event there is a rally bag containing a detailed roadbook, some clothing appropriate to the event, pens, clipboards etc. We also include car decals, rally plates and on Touring events we provide a GPS to make sure you get round with ease.

### WHAT ARE YOUR ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

For most events we like to have pre-1980 cars as around this time they started to become more complicated and include computers. However, if you have a later classic and are prepared to accept that we cannot repair the electronics, then give us a call and if we like the sound of it, you are welcome to join us.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO NAVIGATE ON A COMPETITION RALLY?

You need a trip meter from Brantz, TerraTrip, Monit or similar. We suggest you

have a couple of clocks in the car and read the rules and regulations carefully.

### HOW DO I ENTER?

Complete an entry form as far as you can at the time and send it with a deposit to Bespoke Rallies. We will write back and confirm you have been successful. The entry form should be accompanied by a deposit as specified. If you have any queries please feel free to call the rally office. Our T&Cs are on the website.

To keep up to date with our events download our Bespoke Rallies App on Apple and Android.



## GET IN TOUCH

Follow [bespokerallies](https://www.bespokerallies.com)

**Address:** Bespoke Rallies LLP, No 4 Telford Court, Littlemead, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8ND, UK

**Tel:** + 44 (0)1483 271 699 **Email:** [john@bespokerallies.com](mailto:john@bespokerallies.com)

For more information and to book one of our worldwide classic rallies visit [www.bespokerallies.com](http://www.bespokerallies.com)