

2020 FIA World Rally Championship
Round 5: Rally Turkey

***The MICHELIN LTX Force tyres ready for the WRC's
roughest ride***

Whereas last season's Rally Turkey was the 11th round of the FIA World Rally Championship, this time around it comes as the year's fifth clash because of the calendar adjustments that have been made due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Following an eight-year absence from the series, the Asian event was reinstated in 2018 and, as in 2019, will be based in the Marmaris region on the country's southwest Mediterranean coast.

In contrast to the pleasant climate and superb scenery enjoyed by this popular tourist spot, the rally itself is notorious as one of the championship's toughest dirt fixtures, with slow but extremely rough stages that put the cars, crews and tyres to a particularly challenging test.

This year again, the hard-compound MICHELIN LTX Force H4 tyre, which has showcased its strengths across the globe, is likely to be the most frequently chosen tyre as the French firm's partners look for the resilience, grip and confidence they need to cope with temperatures in excess of 30°C, rocks the size of footballs and deep ruts.

"After Rally Estonia's fast, smooth stages, we move on to Turkey which promises to be one of the season's toughest tests for the cars and their tyres," says **Arnaud Rémy**, the manager of Michelin's rally programmes. "We are expecting the usual hot weather in this part of the country where the extremely rough dirt tracks are strewn with rocks. With the first two visits to this event in its current form under our belts, however, our technicians and partner teams have a better understanding of the wear-rates involved and the state of the roads second time through. The hard-compound H4 version of the MICHELIN LTX Force is likely to be the chief choice, but the drivers will still need to manage their individual tyre allocations wisely from start to finish."

The itinerary of the 2020 Rally Turkey is much shorter than last year. As in Estonia, strict sanitary measures have been put into place – including a ban on spectators – and crews face a total competitive distance of just 223km divided into 12 stages, compared with 309.86km and 17 tests in 2019.

In addition to the hard-compound MICHELIN LTX Force H4, the medium MICHELIN LTX Force M6 will also be available for the Michelin-equipped WRC runners, while their WRC2 colleagues will be able to choose between the MICHELIN Latitude H90 (hard) and MICHELIN Latitude Cross M80 (medium).



The MICHELIN LTX Force H4 and MICHELIN LTX Force M6 (WRC runners)

Number of tyres available for Rally Turkey: **540**

Drivers may use up to 28 tyres (including shakedown) from a total allocation of 24 H4s (hard compound) and 16 M6s (medium compound).

The MICHELIN LATITUDE Cross H90 and MICHELIN LATITUDE Cross M80 (WRC2 and WRC3)

Number of tyres available for Rally Turkey: **152**

Drivers may use up to 26 tyres (including shakedown) from a total allocation of 22 H90s (hard compound) and 16 M80s (medium compound).

Michelin's staff for the 2020 Rally Turkey

Michelin will have a total staff of 12 in Turkey:

- Arnaud Rémy (Rally Programme Manager, Michelin Motorsport)
- 3 team advisors
- 2 coordinators
- 6 fitters

