

## Terre di Canossa 2018: the eighth rally is ready to go!

**111 crews are waiting for their starting orders, with over two thirds from abroad.**

**16 countries and 28 car manufacturers will be represented.**

**A challenge dressed 'in pink' with 40% of lady competitors, but it is 'green' too, as the Organisers went to great lengths to be eco-friendly.**

**19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018:** these are the dates of the eighth "Terre di Canossa" to note in your diary; an itinerary crossing the delightful roads of Emilia Romagna, Liguria and Tuscany and the usual, unrivalled combination of sport, passion, scenery, culture and unforgettable evening entertainment, in full respect of the environment.

### The Teams

The organisers have had to bend the rule limiting the total number of crews to 100 so that at least a few more of the many aspiring applicants are able to take part this year.

And so there will be 104 classic cars as well as 7 modern Ferraris.

A tribute to the Prancing Horse and an eye-catching contrast with the older cars taking part: a 1925 OM 665 Superba, a 1926 Fiat 509, a 1926 Amilcar GCSS ... more than 90 years of the history of automobiles will be taking to the road.

There will be some truly special cars in the 2018 Terre di Canossa, like the Triumph TR3 that had a part in the film "La Dolce Vita" and will be making her first public outing since her extensive renovation.

There will also be some rare vehicles like a splendid barchetta Maserati 200Si, a pair of Delahaye 135, two Jaguar C-Types, two Lancia Lambdas from the Twenties, an Alfa Romeo 6C 1750, and a Ferrari Daytona followed by three "little" Dino 246s...

The current Italian champion, Andrea Vesco, will also be competing in a 1934 Fiat 508S Balilla Sport accompanied by his friend Andrea Guerini, his usual co pilot.

32 teams are represented in the competition, including "Amici senza Frontiere" with the most competitors.

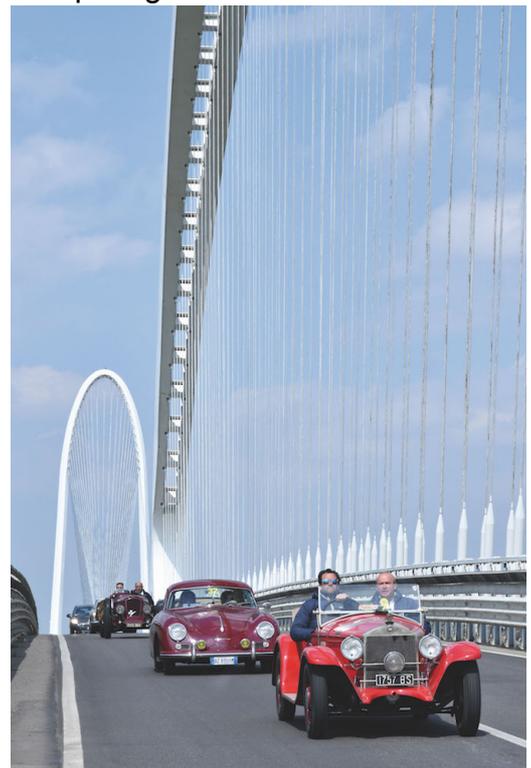
The number of foreign competitors is still rising, who also see the event as a chance to visit Italy: this year, two thirds of the registered participants will be coming from abroad, putting the Terre di Canossa on a par with the Mille Miglia as the Italian rally with the highest rate of foreign crews.

### The 2018 Terre di Canossa

Art towns and cities, marvellous countryside, ancient castles, rolling hills and challenging mountain passes will provide the backdrop for one of the top international classic car events.

The rally will cover an itinerary of around **600 km** and include **6 average speed trials** and **60 timed trials**.

But the Terre di Canossa is not just a competition; it is primarily a winning combination of fantastic cars and gentlemen drivers from all around the world who come here to enjoy a uniquely Italian experience, combining the adrenalin rush of the competition with the delights of Italian food and wine, and the chance to explore the



country en route. The fatigue at the wheel will be abundantly compensated by the time set aside for more convivial moments.

Some of the most popular attractions in rally of previous years have been included in the programme of the eighth rally: the passage on the **ancient city walls of Lucca**, the **Trofeo Forte dei Marmi** and the **Trofeo Tricolore**, reserved for non “professional” drivers, who are always welcome to take part in this splendid competition, the “Pre-War Cup” reserved for older classic cars, dinner overlooking the sea at Bocca di Magra, and the hugely popular sunset **beach party** at **Forte dei Marmi**, the pearl of Versilia.

## The route and the programme

**New** for the **2018** rally: lunch in the enchanting seaside town of **Portovenere**, the departure from the lovely spa town of Salsomaggiore Terme and the parade in the Italian Navy’s Arsenal in La Spezia, where the masts of the Amerigo Vespucci stand tall, ready to salute these classic “gems”.

In the afternoon of Thursday **19<sup>th</sup> April**, the cars will be on display in the streets of Salsomaggiore for the public to admire. The **Gala Dinner** will be held in the prestigious Liberty setting of the Palazzo dei Congressi in Salsomaggiore, with a menu designed by Michelin star Massimo Spigaroli, an excellent “spokesman” for the cuisine of Parma and the unrivalled “king” of culatello.

The race will get off to a start at **9.00 a.m.** on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April** opposite the spectacular Berzieri Spa Baths, the prize of the town in authentic Liberty decò style. The cars will then set off for Varano de’ Melegari Racetrack for their first race on the track. They then take to the roads in the Apennine mountains, with their first stop at Borgo Val di Taro, the “capital” of porcini mushrooms, before crossing the **Cento Croci Pass**, and heading down towards the Bay of La Spezia.

After a relaxing stopover in the enchanting seaside town of **Portovenere**, overlooking Palmaria island, the crews and their cars will parade through the Arsenal of the Italian Navy at La Spezia. Built by Camillo Benso Conte di Cavour between 1861 and 1869, the Arsenal is still one of the main bases of the Italian Navy as well as a centre of excellence for ship maintenance.

The route then follows the coastline, passing the **Bay of Poets**, to **Lerici**. After a quick visit to the castle, the pace quickens with adrenalin-packed timed trials at Montemarcello, from Lerici to Ameglia, before bringing the day to a close with dinner at **Bocca di Magra**, at Capannina da Ciccio Restaurant, a favourite among the local yachtsmen.

According to tradition, the route will explore **Tuscany’s** spectacular scenery and some of the most famous art cities in Italy on **Saturday**. After setting off from the avenue along the coast at Forte dei Marmi, the itinerary enters the Apuan Alps and the Cipollaio Tunnel heading towards Castelnuovo di Garfagnana, for a parade through the ancient fortified town. This is followed by the passage alongside the



Ponte del Diavolo bridge, before reaching **Lucca**, ready to welcome the many crews with a thrilling parade on its ancient walls and lunch inside the Real Collegio.

After Lucca, the cars will continue towards **Pisa**, where they will parade in the oldest part of this splendid city with a checkpoint in Piazza dei Cavalieri.

The leg will finish at Forte dei Marmi, with the usual time trials in Piazza Marconi, valid for the “**Trofeo Forte dei Marmi**”,

reserved for non priority drivers. The evening will culminate with the long-awaited **Beach Party** with live music on Bambaissa beach, for an unforgettable evening.



**On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>**, the route passes through the old town centre of Sarzana and continues up and across the Cerreto Pass located in the Tuscan-Emilian Apennine National Park. The journey continues down to **Reggio Emilia** where the crews will race against one another for the Trofeo Tricolore across the spectacular Calatrava Bridges. The last leg is scheduled to arrive from 1.15 p.m. in **Piazza del Duomo**, where the cars will be presented to the public. After their arrival, the lunch and awards ceremony will be held at Ruote da Sogno this year, the main sponsor of the event.

### **The Terre di Canossa 2018 in Numbers**

This year's event is record-breaking in its numbers:

- 111 crews will line up at the starting line; the event sold out well before the last date for registrations
- 16 countries represented, including many European countries and places further afield, like the United States, Argentina, Australia and Russia.
- 28 motor vehicle manufacturers represented, including 15 Alfa Romeos, 13 Ferraris, 12 Jaguars and 12 Porsches
- 79 cars built before 1965, with 20 pre-war cars
- 60 timed trials and 6 average speed trials
- 2 Trophies reserved for 'non priority' drivers
- 67% participants from abroad
- 300 people providing various services for the organisation of the rally: from the members of Scuderia Tricolore to the organising team at Canossa Events, the rally personnel, the timekeepers, photographers and cameramen, Police officers, etc.
- 4 automatic watches offered by Cuervo y Sobrinos, main sponsor of the event

### **A challenge dressed 'in pink'**

One number stands out in particular: almost 40% of the competitors are ladies, without any need for 'women's quotas'! Terre di Canossa is a dream come true: a challenging race as well as a chance to see the sights, an opportunity enjoyed equally by the most determined drivers as well as those who want to treat themselves to an extra special vacation.

### **A challenge dressed in 'Green'**

The organisers have once again confirmed their eco-friendly outlook by deciding to implement a CarbonZero protocol this year and completely offset the residual emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> by planting new trees in the Tuscan-Emilian Apennines. The Terre di Canossa is once again **the only “zero emissions” event of its kind**.

“The Terre di Canossa has made its name as one of the top regularity rallies around the world, and as an occasion for enthusiasts to get together”, said Luigi Orlandini, president of Scuderia Tricolore and the visionary founder of Canossa Events. “It’s a joy to hear participants saying: “See you at the Canossa!”. Its success is the outcome of the heartfelt enthusiasm of all those taking part, the hospitality offered by the towns and cities along the route, and the passion of the close-knit team of people who work for a full 12 months so that next year’s event will be even better. And obviously, we must also thank our partners of excellence too, like Ruote da Sogno and Cuervo y Sobrinos”.

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Download a selection of photos of the Terre di Canossa via the link below:

<https://we.tl/wza9c0GzBj>

For more information, visit [www.gpcanossa.it](http://www.gpcanossa.it)

