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The Central Asia Rally - Do The Silk Road Your Way!

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May 31st, 2020 marks the kick-off of the Central Asia Rally, another escapade from notorious adventure travel company The Travel Scientists. From Astrakhan, in Southern Russia, to Bishkek, capital of Kyrgyzstan, teams (from all over the world, and all walks of life) will travel more than 6,500 km over 14 days, following the ancient Silk Road and crossing the stunning Pamir Highway.

Participants, and their vehicles of choice, pass through Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, while the brave can even venture into Afghanistan and other (former) conflict zones. This event is not for professionals: the goal is not to have the fastest time, but the most memorable journey. Nevertheless the event is only for experienced drivers and not everybody will be admitted to participate.

Various packages cater to every budget and adventure level – from basic rally entrance to all-inclusive which includes accommodation. The event is a 'minimal assistance rally': organizers provide help and expertise with necessary documentation, rally preparation, and route planning. It is up to the adventurers to decide their exact route and get themselves from start to finish each day: participants share goals and destinations, but each journey is unique. The epic stories that result are a highlight of the group celebrations each night.

Event organizer Attila Berenyi promises an adventure like no other. “The Central Asia Rally is basically managed mayhem that is part road rally, part adventure travel, part social experiment, part gateway into the unknown, part high-octane party.” What type of traveler do they cater to? “It's not for everyone,” Berenyi says, “but it is for anyone who wants to step outside the bland boundaries of modern travel and share an experience that is unique, thrilling, and unforgettable. We build a community of like-minded thrill-seekers and set them loose on the adventure of a lifetime.”

Like many Travel Scientist events, The Central Asia Rally also includes a charity component. Participants are encouraged to meet villagers in an isolated village deep in the Pamir Mountains, learn more about the challenges they face, and contribute time and money to help alleviate suffering.

The Travel Scientists were founded in 2006 to promote adventure travel through some of the world's most exciting locales. Founders carefully design events for a growing legion of adventure travel enthusiasts who want to share unique experiences that recall the glory days of exploration. The Travel Scientists have organized rallies in exotic locations across the globe, including the 'Rickshaw Challenge' (Southern India), 'Caucasian Challenge' (through current disputed areas in the Caucasus), the Great Balkan Ride (through former war zones in Eastern Europe), the Wild West Challenge (exploring the old frontier in the USA) and India's Cup (done in Hindustan Ambassadors.)

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