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## **Grand Moroccan Escapade - From the Atlantic Ocean deep into the Sahara Desert**

Budapest, 17th September 2018

On 12th October 2019, an exciting new driving challenge will begin, setting off from Morocco's most enchanting city, Marrakesh. Driving 2000 kilometers over the next 9 days, teams of amateur adventurers will cross the Atlas mountains, explore the Sahara and enjoy traditional Moroccan hospitality.

Organized by experienced explorers and travel professionals the Travel Scientists, the Grand Moroccan Escapade is an amateur, low-budget, minimal assistance rally. Teams of 2-3, from all over the world, will experience nine thrilling days encountering the dramatic scenery, rich history, and delicious cuisine of the 'Gateway to Africa'.

After dodging snake charmers while wandering among the old markets and narrow lanes of Marrakesh, the rally crosses the Atlas mountains on the way to historic Ouarzazate and Ait Benhaddou, a setting for countless movies. The route will then follow the 'Road of One Thousand Kasbahs' to the sand dune sea of Erg Chebbi. For several days the Sahara will become the teams' ultimate playground with quad-biking, camel riding, and many off-road adventures to see gorges, canyons, and amazing oases in the middle of the desert. Before returning to Marrakesh, participants will hit the beach at laid back Agadir on the Atlantic coast.

There is no experience required, but the drivers' off-road talents will be tested time and again, on very challenging terrain, including routes made famous by the classic Paris - Dakar rally. Some nights will be spent in hotels, others sleeping under the stars in traditional Berber tents. Parties are planned for certain nights en-route, and spontaneous celebrations are encouraged as a way to meet locals interested in checking out what is sure to be a memorable spectacle. Participants must rely on their own endurance, ingenuity, teamwork and luck to make it to the finish line. The emphasis is on discovery and having a great time instead of setting any land speed records.

Various packages cater to every budget and adventure level – from basic rally entrance to all-inclusive which includes accommodation. It is possible to bring your own vehicle, or rent a car for the trip.

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 organised road trips in exotic locations across the globe, including the Rickshaw Challenge (Southern India), Central Asia Rally (discovering the ancient Silk Road), the Caucasian Challenge (from Istanbul to Yerevan, via the mountains of Georgia), the Great Balkan Ride (through old conflict zones of South-Eastern Europe), the Wild West Challenge (exploring the old frontier in the USA) and the India's Cup.

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