



# THREE CASTLES TRIAL 4-7 JUNE 2019

## CLASSIC RALLYING AT ITS BEST

THE FRIENDLY CLASSIC RALLY, CREATED BY ACTIVE COMPETITORS FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY, WHETHER NOVICE OR EXPERT. MAGICAL NORTH WALES, WITH MEDIEVAL CASTLES, MOUNTAINS AND MYTH. CHALLENGE, ADVENTURE, CLASSIC CAMARADERIE AND OUTSTANDING SUPPORT.



# CLASSIC RALLYING AT ITS BEST IN A LAND OF MEDIEVAL CASTLES, MOUNTAINS AND MYTH



Welcome to our sixteenth fabulous year, in which the experienced Three Castles team once again bring you a sociable, competitive Three Castles Trial with an imaginatively planned, scenic route. We again recall the happy combination of tour, regularity rally and driving tests of our very first event, with emphasis each day on one element while including a taste of all. Heritage and Classic category cars share the same experience, each with cars of their own kind. All the best ingredients of past years feature, and there are plenty of new ideas too.

Cars of all ages from 1923 to 1985 are welcome. You enter either the Classic or Heritage category. Everyone enjoys the same three-day historic road rally, with touring sections and competition balanced between regularity sections and driving tests. You share the same route and social programme, but the Heritage category has its own separate awards. The rules are simple: the competition is fair for all.

Based comfortably in a single town, the charming Victorian resort of Llandudno on the North Wales coast, the Trial is fun for everyone of any experience level. Running on weekdays to avoid the crowds, we visit fine venues, from historic **Mostyn Hall** to the twisting track at **Glan y Gors** and the amazing thrills of the **Great Orme**. We enjoy lunch beside the sea at **the famous Italianate village of Portmeirion**,

in the country at historic **5★ Palé Hall** and in **Ruthin Castle**, all the while mixing new with all-time favourite venues.

Around twenty tests and a dozen regularity sections offer plenty to do en route, and there's just as much to enjoy when you're out of the car, facilitated by our dedicated Hospitality team. Help and support is with you all the way, with our great Brit Assist team and our friends at **North Wales VW, Vintage Tyres** and **Brantz Rallymeters**.

Our official Three Castles charity for 2019 is again the Llandudno branch of the **Royal National Lifeboat Institution**. We're hoping to arrange for you to visit their superb lifeboat station on the Promenade on Prologue Day.

We rotate start times to give everyone an equal experience, and those doing well will run first on the last day. Our mid-event dinner offers a range of choices and you'll be back at the end of the day in good time to enjoy them.

Oh, and the weather will be glorious, of course. It almost always is...

Join us in 2019. You'll enjoy every minute.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Ian Craighero". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive hand.

**4**  
**JUNE 2019**



## PROLOGUE - TUESDAY

### THE WARMEST OF WELCOMES

*An exhilarating (and penalty-free!) taste of the competition to come.*

The elegant Victorian seaside town of Llandudno will be our home for four days and nights. There'll be a great atmosphere at scrutineering, which starts at 08.00 on the Promenade. Lord Mostyn, whose family built Llandudno, is invited to lead the judging of the Concours d'Elegance, sponsored this year by Rally HQ, the Imperial Hotel, and spectators can enjoy the show from 9.30 – 11.30.

A (gently timed) thirty-mile optional Prologue with a practice regularity section and driving test will help you warm up this afternoon. Almost all crews opt to join in. Documentation will be in Rally HQ, the Imperial Hotel, while in the evening the Welcome Dinner will give us a great start.



**5**  
**JUNE 2019**



## DAY ONE - WEDNESDAY

### SEAS & ISLES

*Long sea views and great venues to enjoy*

Starting at 08.00 from Llandudno Promenade, we begin with a scenic mountain drive that offers the first stunning sea views, then move west to our first driving tests of the day at Penrhyn Park and Plas Faenol.

Our next aim this morning is to enjoy the scenic roads of the Llyn peninsula, taking in a visit to popular Dylan's brasserie in Criccieth for a coffee by the sea.

After a regularity section to warm up with and a driving test at a nearby kart circuit, we'll make back towards the coast. By the sea near Porthmadog lies the famous AA\*\*\*\*\* Portmeirion Hotel, where we'll wander down through the famous Italianate village (in which the 1960s TV series 'The Prisoner' was set) enjoying lunch in the hotel with its wide views.

In the afternoon we'll shift focus, enjoying a couple of regularity sections to anticipate the next day, then taking in the great high views of Snowdonia, giving you a fine opportunity to enjoy the mountains close up. We plan to stop for afternoon tea at Bryn Tyrch, an old whitewashed roadside inn near the mountain village of Capel Curig that's become well known for its great food in recent years.



Back in Llandudno, you'll choose from three options. Supper at a convivial Llandudno bistro is included, as is supper at the Imperial Hotel, rally HQ. At a supplement, there will be a champagne reception and private view at Plas Mawr (the finest Tudor merchant's house in Britain) followed by a fine dinner at the Castle Hotel in Conwy.

**6**  
**JUNE 2019**



## DAY TWO - THURSDAY

### HILLS AND LAKES

*We start from Llandudno at 08.00, running south over the highest hills to lunch at wonderful Palé Hall Hotel and tea at historic Tal-y-Cafn..*

After a short regularity to warm us up around the Orme today the action continues with another through the scenic country south-east of Llandudno.

A further section then takes us over more high hills to a coffee break and action at Glan-y-Gors FIA Kart Circuit, after which another regularity takes us to lunch at spectacular AA\*\*\*\*\* Palé Hall, a huge hit in 2018.

After lunch we enjoy more stunning roads as we head across to Trawsfynydd to tackle a sensational test across the open hillside. One last regularity then winds back to finish the day in the Conwy Valley with tea at a splendid venue new to us, a coaching inn turned bistro, the Tal-y-Cafn Inn.

Back in Llandudno and your hotel, after a long day, you've earned it. This evening, enjoy an evening off – time to try some local seafood, maybe?



**7**  
**JUNE 2019**



## DAY THREE - FRIDAY

### TESTS AND BESTS

*An exciting final day including a dozen driving tests, a couple of last regularities on the quieter lanes, and lunch at a castle steeped in history*

We're off from the Promenade at 08:00 and dive straight into a complex of several tests over closed roads on the Great Orme before driving east, towards further tests at stately homes such as Bodrhyddan Hall, Kinmel Park and Plas-yn-Cefn that lead to a splendid coffee halt at historic Mostyn Hall.

A new test or two and the event's penultimate regularity section then take us over the Clwydian Hills to lunch in the historic surroundings of Ruthin Castle. Now an AA\*\*\*\* hotel, this beautiful spot is a Victorian castle built on romantic much older ruins that was visited regularly by Edward VII. The gardens make for a fine wander after lunch.

On then to a thrilling Three Castles finale, with a series of fast paced tests, a break for tea at the expensively just-refurbished Dinorben Arms and a last regularity, before reaching the Grand Finish on Llandudno Promenade. Relax now, ready for the Gala Awards Dinner, from eight 'til late at rally HQ, the Imperial Hotel.



AROUND FIVE HUNDRED MILES IN THREE DAYS. OPEN ROADS AND REAL HOSPITALITY AT EVERY TURN. YOUR FEEDBACK TELLS US THAT THE THREE CASTLES TRIAL IS UNBEATABLE FUN. AND IN 2019, WITH LOTS OF FRESH IDEAS AND VENUES TO OUR FAMILIAR HIGH STANDARDS, WE AIM TO PROVE IT ONCE AGAIN.

*Detailed specifications subject to change. Route description illustrates intent and may vary.*



## GREAT VALUE

Entry to the three days plus Prologue 2019 Three Castles Trial costs:

- **£2,145 until 14th November 2018**
- **£2,445 until 31st January 2019**
- **£2,645 until 31st March 2019**
- **£2,845 thereafter until entries close**

## EACH ENTRANT RECEIVES:

- Quality lunch, tea and coffee halts for 2 throughout.
- Three included evening meals comprising:
  - Gala Welcome Dinner.
  - An evening in a classic bistro rally HQ (premium option at additional cost)
  - Awards Dinner
- Event bulletins, results and website gallery
- A Three Castles gift
- Roadbooks, Timecards and Documentation
- Entry to Concours d'Elegance if accepted (Heritage Trial entries automatically qualify)
- Entry to all venues, test venue fees and road tolls
- Rally plates, door numbers
- An award for every finisher
- Prologue Day including seminar, practice route, practice test
- Customer Service, including Event Hospitality and Safety teams
- Two fully equipped Brit Assist breakdown teams supported by an evening garage service in Llandudno.

**THREE CASTLES MOTOR CLUB LIMITED**  
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## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is entirely at your discretion. You choose and book your accommodation yourself. A 'rally deal' is available at Rally HQ, the Imperial Hotel, where we have rooms reserved. Expect to pay from £125 per night for two sharing a twin or double room with breakfast at this AA \*\*\*\* hotel. Single rooms from £102.50 per night. Full details and booking instructions (rooms are released in strict order of entry; for the best choice book early) will be sent with our confirmation when you enter. We suggest you then book right away to avoid disappointment. The hotel will take a deposit on booking, and the remainder on departure. We recommend you take five nights, arriving Monday 3rd, but it is possible to arrive on Tuesday 4th too.

- **Osborne House**  
<https://www.osbornehouse.co.uk>
- **The Empire**  
<http://www.empirehotel.co.uk>
- **St George's**  
<https://stgeorgeswales.co.uk>
- **Bodysgallen Hall**  
<https://www.bodysgallen.com>

These hotels all know the rally well and we're sure they'll look after guests as well as they always do.

## FURTHER OPTIONS

Please tick those options you wish to take on the Entry Form, when entering:

- Covered, secure, locked overnight parking in Llandudno (Five nights 3rd – 7th June: £25 supplement)
- Secluded trailer parking in Llandudno (five nights 3rd - 7th June - £25 supplement)

*NOTE: Please do not include money for these options with your entry payment; any you select will be invoiced for payment before the event, as will supplements for the premium dinner on June 5th if selected; full details later.*

## ABOUT THE CLASSIC TRIAL

The Three Castles Trial is designed for all cars first registered after 1923. Surfaces are non-damaging throughout and great care is taken to offer only smooth, hard surface tests. The enthusiastic may prefer to fit a sump-guard but with a little care such things are not needed and it is perfectly possible to enjoy the event, as many do, in a standard car fitted only with a trip-meter to enable you to follow the roadbook easily. Simply tell us on the entry form which Category you want to enter, Classic or Heritage.

## ABOUT THE CLASSIC CATEGORIES

The three Classic categories are designed for cars of a make and model first introduced after 31st December 1951 and not after 31st December 1985, which must appear "in period".

They travel the same route but with an earlier start time each day than the older cars in the Heritage category. This allows us to separate drivers of different experience, to vary the starting order, to seed the entry on the last day, and to match the test challenges to the cars. Both categories enjoy the same halts and travel the same route.

You'll have your own Awards and may apply for Concours d'Elegance entry – a Classic entry won the Concours in 2018. Forming your own team of three cars adds to the spirit of fun and competition.

## ABOUT THE HERITAGE CATEGORY

The Heritage category is designed for cars of a make and model first introduced before 1st January 1955. You'll always travel together, over the same route but with a later start time each day than the Classic category cars. This gives us the opportunity to ease the manoeuvres a little for you in one or two places. You'll travel the same route and stop at the same excellent venues as the Classic category.

You'll have your own Awards and an automatic Concours d'Elegance entry. Friends can enjoy either category and socialise together in the evenings.

If your car is of a make or model introduced between 1952 and 1954 you'll see you can enter either category. That's because some models in this period are still quite pre-war in concept whereas others are more modern.

## COMMENTS ON THE 2018 THREE CASTLES TRIAL

*"Thanks so much to you and your wonderful team! It was a fun and enjoyable experience. Will certainly recommend the event to everyone.... Please stay in touch and once again pass on our sincere thanks and praise to all involved in the 2018 3 Castles. Congratulations on a well-run event..."*

**Pat Coram and Peter Bartholomew, Australia (Classic, 2018)**

*".. (we) thoroughly enjoyed this year's event. It was organised superbly, the routes were absolutely fabulous, the marshals and helpers were all incredibly helpful and friendly, the Brit Assist team were brilliant... and finally the weather could not have been better."*

**Andrew Scott and Drummond Shaw, England (Classic, 2018)**

*"We had a great time at the Three Castles Trial last week! A perfect organization, helpful team and marshals, beautiful roads, scenery and venues, good atmosphere amongst the participants and ... beautiful weather! Congratulations to you and the whole team!"*

**Jos de Nijs and Nadine Decoster, Belgium (Classic, 2018)**



*"You can always see indirectly the time and thought that goes into an event, when it's well run... Great event - anyone could get around the route, making it accessible, but it also had the Master navigators on their toes and caught me out with minor things more than once."*

**Andrew Fish, England (Classic, 2018)**

*"Just a note to say how much Jon and I enjoyed the Three Castles Trial last week. As you know this was our first experience of such an event and we found it totally absorbing. You and the team have done an unbelievable job in planning and making the Trial work so well. We can easily see why so many get hooked - for us it's a case of must do better next time!"*

**Chris Dixon, England (Classic, 2018)**



*"I would be most grateful if you would pass my thanks to the whole team for such a stupendous effort, and not forgetting special thanks to the team who sorted out all those amazing venues. And who organized the sunshine???? Made glorious Wales come alive again. Please, put us on the list for next year!"*

**Bronwyn Burrell, England (Classic, 2018)**

*"What a great first ever rally to attend – I may not have anything to compare the Three Castles Trial to but I was certainly aware of the amazing attention to detail. What a fantastic course, and of course due to stunning weather we could truly enjoy it – well I could - Rob was concentrating on maps and clocks. An amazing team of wonderful marshals, organisers and entertainments sorters. Thank you all – I had an absolute ball."*

**Louise and Robert Lumley, England (Classic, 2018)**



*"...thanks again for a very well organised, challenging event with an exceptional scenic route and a special thanks for organising such fantastic weather! Great seeing old friends and meeting new ones"*

**Malcolm and Martin Davies, Wales (Heritage Winners, 2018)**

*"Best yet, is the popular view...the route was superb and all the coffee/lunch/tea stops were great. Fun competitors as always. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves in spite of our breakdown expertly and quickly fixed by Brit Assist. They did a fantastic job. I know the amount of work that goes into the little morning out that I organise so I can appreciate the task undertaken in running the Three Castles. Thank you for a great job well done."*

**Tony Covill, England (Classic, 2018)**

#### **OFFICIALS:**

Club Steward:	Fred Bent
Route & Clerk of the Course:	Barry Green
Deputy Clerk of the Course:	Robbie Jones
Regularity Planner:	Matthew Vokes
Secretary of the Meeting:	Kerry Bate
Chief Marshal:	Ifor Davies
Chief Timekeeper:	Lee Vincent
Chief Scrutineer:	Peter Elliot
Competitor Liaison:	Graham Raeburn



**THREE CASTLES TRIAL**

**4-7 JUNE 2019**

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LLANDUDNO

PENRHYN PARK

PLAS FAENOL

PORTMEIRION

CRICCIETH CASTLE

KINMEL PARK

PALÉ HALL

BODELWYDDAN CASTLE

PLAS YN CEFN

BODRHYDDAN HALL

RUTHIN CASTLE

MOSTYN HALL

GREAT ORME

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