THE PERFECT START TO SUMMER





























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

Welcome to the twenty-second Three Castles Trial. The experienced Three Castles team once again bring you a friendly, competitive event with an imaginatively planned, scenic route and a careful eye on comments from previous years.

Each day combines touring, regularity rallying, and driving tests, with the emphasis shifting between them daily while incorporating a taste of all. Heritage and Classic category cars share the same experience. The best ingredients of previous years feature in what will be a competitive yet relaxed event overall, plus there are three exciting new ideas this year.

First, we introduce a new non-competing Category, the Three Castles Trail, running after the competing cars with a simplified roadbook and able to enjoy the whole route without the pressure of competition. If you're there for the Trail, not the Trial, it's for you. It's open to all with pre-1986 cars.

Later, we will also add a category aimed at attracting new entrants in selected later 'modern classics' made before 2000, competing for their own Three Castles Trophy. Entries for this group will open on December 1st. More details will follow - to find out if your car will be eligible, please email info@three-castles.co.uk.

Third, we are expanding the Heritage category to include all pre-1954 cars. Bring out those XK 120s and early Allards, we'd love to see you.

As ever, cars of all ages from 1923 to 1985 are welcome on the Trial. Post-1953 cars can enter the Classic categories for Expert, Intermediate and Novice experience levels while all pre-1954 cars can enter the Heritage category.

Everyone enjoys the same three-day historic road rally, with touring sections and competition carefully balanced between regularity sections and driving tests and all categories share the same route and social programme.

Our novel hybrid system of scoring once again combines the best of scratch timing and class index systems. Prologue results and Class awards will be determined using the Class Index system, while Overall awards will be based on scratch times. Based comfortably in a single town, the charming Victorian resort of Llandudno

on the North Wales coast, the Trial is fun for crews 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, the wide runway of Parc Lleweni and the fantastic, closed road thrills of the **Great Orme**. We will have tests over several stately home drives, those already confirmed including Plas yn Cefn, Hartsheath, Plas Faenol and Mostyn Hall.

We plan to enjoy lunch beside the sea at Portmeirion Hotel and in verdant surroundings at Caer Rhun Hall with its stunning marquee. We also plan a return this year to newly reborn Brookhouse Mill. Five fine coffee and tea halt venues are being lined up: Tower, Mostyn Hall, Pant Du Vineyard, Bodnant Welsh Foods and the Kinmel Arms.

A careful balance of around twenty great hard-surface tests and twenty regularity sections will offer plenty to do each day, and you'll enjoy the scenery, too. There's just as much to enjoy when you're out of the car, facilitated by our dedicated Hospitality team. Help and support are with you all the way, with safety team backup and our great Brit Assist crews backed by overnight facilities in Llandudno. Not to mention our friends at Penderyn Welsh Whisky, Brantz Rallymeters, Vintage Tyres, Magneto and Clwydian, all of whom support us again.



Our official Three Castles charity for 2026 is Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue-this vital local volunteer group has become increasingly busy every year. With your help, we hope to give them great support, and once again, several of our test venues will also

be donating the fees we pay to charity. Our social footprint remains meaningful.

Our mid-event dinner offers something for everyone, with a change of premium venue, the Imperial, and the return of 2025 hits, Da Venezia and The Goat.

Oh, and the weather next June will be glorious, of course. It almost always is... Join us in 2026. You'll enjoy every minute.



Tuesday 2nd June Warmth and Welcomes

An exhilarating 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, from 08.00 on the Promenade. The Imperial Concours d'Elegance will be sponsored again this year by Rally HQ, the Imperial Hotel, and spectators can enjoy the show from 10.00 – 12.00. Before the event, optional training webinars and an included event introduction online will have set the scene.



The optional Penderyn Prologue over a fresh route, with a practice regularity section and a driving test at **Gwrych Castle**, will warm everyone up in the afternoon, finishing with a car show back on the Prom.

Prizes for this and the morning's Imperial Concours will be awarded at a Welcome Dinner held at the Imperial, which will set things going in style.



A word on sustainablility

For Three Castles, sustainable motorsport means meeting today's needs without compromising the options of future generations. We believe there are three keys to more sustainable motorsport: environment, economy, and society, and we are aligned with Motorsport UK and FIA Action for Environment initiatives. We continue the local social and economic involvement we initiated more than 20 years ago, and we have a sustainability strategy that includes current practices and future plans.



Wednesday 3rd June

HALLS & HOUSES

A day for fabulous houses, which takes in driving tests at some, such as Plas-Yn-Cefn, Hartsheath and

Bodrhyddan Hall, and coffee at another, **Tower**. We lunch at a reborn favourite venue, **Brookhouse Mill**, and finish the day at another old favourite, the **Kinmel Arms**, a short run from town.

We're off from the Promenade at 08.00 today, and a gentle run out to enjoy tests at **Parc Lleweni** and a new secret first-time test venue, separated by the event's first regularity. Two hours in, we take coffee at **Tower**, a stunning house we last saw in 2023. Now we head east to enjoy a test at **Hartsheath** before another two regularities take us on to where we plan to lunch at a reborn favourite currently being restored by new owners. **Brookhouse Mill** was one of our most popular venues in the hands of the founding family, and we remember them fondly.



The day's fifth regularity section leads us away, towards two driving tests at **Plas-yn-Cefn** and a sixth regularity brings us to **Bodrhyddan Hall**, historic home of Lord Langford and family. Time now to visit another old favourite, the **Kinmel Arms**, where we take tea and finish the day. A short run back to Llandudno leads us back to the evening's festivities, with a choice of four dinner options awaiting you. More news on those later in the year.





THURSDAY 4TH JUNE SEAS & VIEWS

Long views and a wide-ranging day with quite a few regularity sections

and five test venues planned, taking coffee at picturesquely sited Pant Du Vineyard and beside the sea at the historic Portmeirion Hotel before turning south via Barmouth to reach Bodnant and the finish of the day.

Starting at 07:45 from Llandudno Promenade, we begin today with a run west to reach a couple of driving tests, including **Parc Faenol**, which are separated by the first short regularity of many today. Stopping for coffee at the delightful **Pant Du Vineyard**, you should be warming up nicely for the pleasures to come.

Moving onto the remote, Welsh-speaking Llŷn peninsula, we now enjoy a test at **Parc Glasfryn** kart circuit and a regularity with long views before soon find ourselves at **Portmeirion** in good time for a stroll down through the village to our private lunch at **Portmeirion Hotel** beside the sea. (The hotel bus will take you down and/or back up to the car if you prefer). Over the years, this has been a Three Castles favourite, both the location and the lunch never failing to captivate.

Today is the longest afternoon of the event, and it enables us to return to a place that was the graveyard of a few hopes and the birthplace of others when it was last in use. The plan is to return to **Llanbedr Airfield**, this time for a test to remember and an off-road regularity never to forget, with a few vital changes to aid route finding in this vast space.

After this, we loop south through Barmouth to enjoy some excellent scenery, including more mountain roads and a test at the **Ranges Motorsport Centre**, all of which takes us to the famous tea, cake and finish of the day at **Bodnant Welsh Foods**, on Lord Aberconwy's renowned estate in the Conwy Valley. Now it's just a short run back to town and a chance to refuel. Back in Llandudno, you can enjoy an evening off after a long day. Time to try some local seafood or gather with friends old or new?





Friday 5th June Hills & Valleys

An exciting final day, including seven trickier regularity sections, coffee

at fabulous Mostyn Hall, great driving tests, lunch deep in the Conwy valley amid bucolic surroundings at Caer Rhun Hall, and a sting in the tail that just begins with Glan y Gors kart circuit and Llyn Brenig.

Starting at 07.30 from Llandudno Promenade, we begin today with driving tests over the **Great Orme**; then, we enjoy a short regularity or two on our way to visit Tudor estate **Golden Grove** for a test before arriving at **Mostyn Hall**, the home of Lord Mostyn, whose family built Llandudno. Lord Mostyn, our Club President, may well be on hand to welcome crews here as we enjoy tests before and after taking coffee in the lovely surroundings of his home.

We hope to include another test used just once before, then enjoy a regularity over ancient roads leading to a historic venue in the Conwy Valley, **Caer Rhun Hall**, a manor house with an unusual history that is fast becoming a stunning boutique country house hotel. As we enjoy lunch in the extensive gardens in their superb marquee, the talk will still be of what is to come. The event is far from over. There are still three regularities and three fine tests to come.



This year more stunning, scenic roads lead us away from lunch on another regularity. Then, we head over to **Glan y Gors** for a test or two at the FIA kart circuit followed by a longer test at **Llyn Brenig** and two regularities to finish things off. The last of these should prove a worthy sting in the tail and takes us back to the Grand Finish on Llandudno Promenade. Relax at last, ready for the Gala Awards Dinner from eight 'til late.

Around five hundred and fifty miles across all four days, including the Prologue. Open roads and genuine hospitality at every turn. Your feedback tells us that the Three Castles Trial is unbeatable fun. And in 2026, with many fresh ideas and venues to our familiar high standards, we aim to prove it again.



GREAT VALUE

Entry to the three days plus Prologue 2026 Three Castles Trial costs:

- £3,345 until 30th November 2025*
- £3,495 until 31st January 2026
- £3,645 until 31st March 2026
- £3,845 thereafter until entries close
- * Previous entrants loyalty saving £100 in October

EACH ENTRANT RECEIVES:

- Eight quality lunch, tea and coffee halts covering all rally days.
- Three included evening meals comprising:
 - Seated 3 course Gala Welcome Dinner.
 - Seated 3 course bistro meal
 - Seated 4 course Awards Dinner
- Event bulletins, results and website gallery
- An image of your car in action, post-event
- A high quality Three Castles gift
- Free team entry for further interest
- A bespoke souvenir map book
- Roadbooks, Timecards and Documentation
- Option to enter the Imperial Concours d'Elegance (Heritage entries automatically qualify)
- Entry to all venues, test venue fees and road tolls
- Rally plates, door squares
- An award for every finisher
- Quality glass overall, category, class and team awards
- Prologue Day including 50 mile practice route, practice test
- Customer Service, including Event Hospitality team.
- Fully equipped Brit Assist breakdown teams supported by an evening garage service in central Llandudno.
- Safety team following the event

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 £170 per night for two sharing a twin or double room with breakfast at this AA * * * hotel. Single rooms from £145 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 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 the 1st, but it is possible to arrive on Tuesday the 2nd too.

Other good four star hotels in Llandudno include:
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 rally car parking in central Llandudno (Five nights 1st– 5th June: £30 supplement)
- Secure trailer and tow car parking in Llandudno (five nights 1st June – 5th June, £60 supplement)

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

ABOUT THE 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 bit of 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 basic tripmeter, which is necessary to enable you to follow the roadbook.



ABOUT THE CLASSIC CATEGORIES

The Classic categories are designed for cars of a make and precise model first registered on or before 31st December 1985, which must appear "in period".

We separate drivers of different experience and vary the starting order for different groups until the whole rally is seeded in order of overall positions before the final day.

This year we introduce a noncompeting group, Category T, for those who wish to enjoy the *Trail*, not the Trial - travelling the route and halts just after the competing cars.

Whichever category you enter, you'll have your own Awards and may enjoy a Concours d'Elegance entry. Forming a team with others, carefully balanced by us between the different experience categories, adds to the spirit of fun and competition. This just happens; you don't have to do a thing.

ABOUT THE HERITAGE CATEGORY

The Heritage category is designed for cars of a make and model first introduced before 1st January 1954. You'll always travel together over the same route as the Classic category cars. You'll travel the same route and stop at the same excellent venues.

You'll have your own Awards and an automatic Concours d'Elegance entry. Friends in the Classic and Heritage groups can socialise together in the evenings.

COMMENTS ON THE 2025 THREE CASTLES TRIAL

"...my thanks to you and all the team for a truly great few days in North Wales. The welcome you give us all is outstanding, and the event certainly lives up to its great reputation... those exceptional venues such warm welcomes, delicious food and glorious surroundings. And Portmeirion kept up its tradition of the most delicious food - we just love going there."

Bronwen Burrell, England Classic, returning entrant, 2025

"...Just wanted to thank you both for another amazing rally. The organisation is phenomenal and such hard work by all the team and the marshals is very much appreciated. We met most of them after our engine flooded, and what a lovely bunch they are."

Ali and Toby Sleeman, England Classic, returning entrants, 2025

"...although we didn't trouble the leader board (I blame the driver obviously) I want to say a big thank you and congratulations for organising such an enjoyable and varied Trial. My mind boggles at the amount of hard work, coordination and good luck needed to run such an event over four days."

Tom Barry, England Classic, returning entrant 2025



Martin Davies & Malcolm Davies Heritage, returning entrants 2025

"What a fabulous event you and your army of helpers put on for us drivers and navigators, with a brilliant route and varied test venues, keeping everyone on their toes. We enjoyed catching up with old friends (and) making new acquaintances, whom we hope to see at the event next year. I must also mention the superb choice of venues for our coffee, lunch and tea stops, providing some excellent food that others can only dream of providing!"

James Holt, England Classic, returning entrant 2025



"....just a quick note to thank you and all your team for a great event in every element, hospitality, test, roads, prizes...As a first-timer with you on only my second classic regularity event ... chuffed to find that we were 12th overall on the regs. As a fairly recent convert from special stages, I can say it is just as challenging and more fun, perhaps like when I rallied in the 70s"

Mike Bayliss, England Classic, first-time entrant, 2025



"Vicky and I just wanted to say thank you very much for organising such a splendid rally last week. We had a great time. It was pretty full on (which is good!)...The route was excellent, the tests were great and some of the regularities were testing. Best of all was the organisation, which was faultless and seamless!"

Vincent Fairclough, England Heritage, first-time entrant, 2025 "...let me say a BIG thank you to you all for last week. Although I've been there for a number of years, it never fails to impress in both the quality of the event, the location and scenery, but most importantly of all, the people that this event brings together. That is so impressive."

John Gearing, England Classic, returning entrant, 2025



OFFICIALS

Club Stewards: Peter Keel, Myf Owen

Richard Watton

Clerk of the Course: Baz Green
Deputy Clerk of the Course: Robbie Jones
Assistant Clerk of the Course: Matthew Vokes
Secretary of the Meeting: Kerry Bate

Joint Chief Marshals: Ifor Davies

Peredur Davies

Chief Timekeeper: Lee Vincent

Competitor Liaison: Graham Raeburn

Ronnie Sandham

Results: Tony Michael



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