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**Cross Egypt Challenge**<sup>®</sup>  
a cross-country rally throughout Egypt

## Cross Egypt Challenge is back after its absence last year to celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season.

August 1, 2021 – Alexandria, Egypt



After last year's cancellation of "**Cross Egypt Challenge**" due to COVID-19 concerns and as more vaccine roll out, and more people around the world are getting vaccinated, travel restrictions have started to ease out and we could not be happier to announce that "**Cross Egypt Challenge**" will be held again this October.

The 2021 season of Cross Egypt Challenge will mark its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will run between October 7 and 16, 2021. The new season will witness the return of Cross Egypt Challenge to the Egyptian Western Desert with a new modified route totaling 2,440 km that spans over 8 stages and one rest day planned in Egypt's famous Luxor.

The new route will start from the Mediterranean's largest seaport city; Alexandria then heads south to the capital Cairo before heading towards the Western Desert to make stops at 3 of Egypt's 5 oases, Bahariya, Dakhla and Kharga. This portion of the route through the Western Desert will include visits to the Black Desert, White Desert, the Ruins of Al Qasr and some of the ancient sites closer to Kharga Oasis.

From Kharga Oasis, the challenge will head east towards the Nile Valley to reach Luxor, the capital of ancient Egypt and the largest open-air museum in the world where the riders will enjoy a rest day for sightseeing in this magnificent destination.

From Luxor the challenge will then head further east to cross the Egyptian Eastern desert - one of the most challenging deserts on the face of the planet due to its rock formation and high mountain range – to reach the beautiful red sea resort city, Hurghada. From there, the riders will start their north ascend as they head back north along the Red Sea Riviera to make one final stop at Sokhna. The final leg of the season will then take place between Sokhna and Cairo to end the challenge under the most sacred place in Egypt, under the great pyramids of Giza.

The last time Cross Egypt Challenge went through the Western Desert was during the 2013 season (3<sup>rd</sup> season of the rally).

Cross Egypt Challenge has been officially recognized as an official FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme) adventure touring rally. The FIM is the global governing/sanctioning body of motorcycle sports worldwide and is the supreme and sole international authority empowered to control international motorcycling events organized under its jurisdiction throughout the world.

Ahmad Elzoghby, the official spokesperson of the challenge said: "Cross Egypt Challenge was created to prove that Egypt is safe for tourism and for the past 10 years we have been sending assurance messages globally that it is safe to visit Egypt. Our efforts combined with those of other NGOs and the Egyptian Government resulted in Egypt topping the world's tourist destinations in recent years. However, COVID-19 changed everything, and Egypt as well as many other tourist destinations lost their tourism revenues.

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As more people are getting vaccinated, global travel started to pick up again, and once again we are doing our part to promote Egypt. In order to do this safely, we at CEC have implemented a strict COVID-19 policy to ensure a safer experience for all participants this year.

To access the challenge website, please visit: [www.crossegyptchallenge.com](http://www.crossegyptchallenge.com) or our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/CrossEgyptChallenge](https://www.facebook.com/CrossEgyptChallenge)

### **ABOUT CROSS EGYPT CHALLENGE**

Cross Egypt Challenge is an international series of endurance motorcycles and scooter rallies conducted throughout the most challenging roads and tracks of Egypt, a breathtaking experience that is equally fascinating for spectators and riders alike. The challenge is organized by Cross World Challenges, and the Rotary Club of Alexandria Cosmopolitan in partnership with both the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and the Automobile and Touring Club of Egypt.

Cross Egypt Challenge is the only organized cross-country rally of its kind in the entire region and combines the best of adventure travel and extreme sport. Each season of the endurance rally introduces a new route throughout the most famous spots of Egypt, a track that nobody ever thought could be done on motorcycles or scooters.

The series started in 2011 as an initiative to promote Egyptian Tourism and the first season was a 9-days rally from the shores of the Mediterranean Sea in the north of Egypt to the temple of Abu Simbel, on the southern borders of Egypt with a total distance of over 1,700 km. The following seasons witnessed different challenging routes that varied in length. One thing that was common in all these routes that they combined the best Egypt has to offer.

Riders from the four corners of the globe fly yearly to Egypt to take part in Cross Egypt Challenge. The number of participants in the famous rally has increased over the years from 14 brave participants back in 2011 to a record breaking 75 participants from 14 different countries in 2015. To date, riders from over 50 countries participated in the previous seasons of the challenge.

### **ABOUT THE FIM**

Founded in 1904, The Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM) is the global governing/sanctioning body of motorcycle sports worldwide and is the supreme and sole international authority empowered to control international motorcycling events organized under its jurisdiction throughout the world.

### **NOTE TO EDITORS:**

**For more information, editorial contents or to request high quality photos, please contact:**

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