



# EDITORIAL

## The TransAfricaine on motorcycle

A year after enchanting the new Quad participants, this race is now opening up to the original category of motor vehicles that initially forged the legends surrounding our beloved Rally Raids, following in the tracks and in keeping with the concept launched some thirty years ago by Thierry Sabine: we welcome the incomparable motorcycle to our ranks!

The **TransAfricaine Classic**, the last Rally Raid to ride through to Dakar, was designed for those who still want to participate in a genuine adventure along the legendary route between Paris and Dakar. Now, all types of vehicles can join in the excitement and challenge: Motorcycles, Quads, Cars and Trucks.

Joining the **TransAfricaine** on motorcycle is the guarantee you'll explore the land and expand your expertise with the significant advantages of a flawless organization, an extremely precise road book and top-notch motor sport specialists' supervision. But the **TransAfricaine** is also unique thanks to the bivouacs set up in the most amazing locations, exquisite cuisine and professional medical assistance provided by Fidelia.

Add to that a terrific ambiance, helpful camaraderie and a sense of true solidarity throughout the event and among all participants, and you'll immediately understand that nothing has been left out to make sure you experience this totally unique adventure under optimal conditions in every respect.

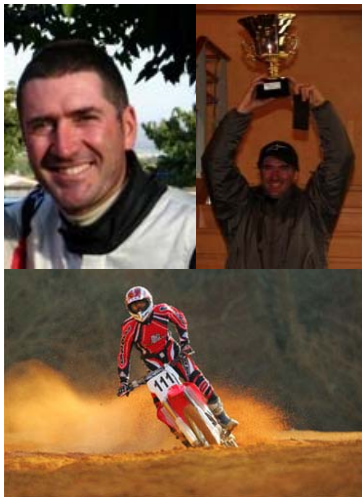
### Have fun at your own pace ...

Very few of today's motorcyclists know what a Regularity Rally is all about. It is indeed an authentic motor sport event, designed to be accessible for amateurs, yet far from a simple Sunday drive!

Regularity does not mean there's never a chance to hit the high-speeds so dear to motorcyclists the world-over. However, the focus is on pacing during a few 100 km circuits where drivers must give it their all to stay on target. Then, they can let it rip on the connecting legs where each competitor rides at the rate they like best or see fit at that time. On the clocked sectors, participants must maintain the average speed set forth based on the vehicle's capabilities.

Unlike traditional Rally Raids, the **TransAfricaine** is not based on a process of elimination; everything is taken into account so the race remains a challenge throughout, for everyone, without being 'impossible'. The ultimate goal is for everyone's dreams to come true: reach the shores of Rose Lake. So even if you encounter mechanical difficulties or are picked up by the sweeper truck, the regulations allow you to get back into the race at any time.

### An exceptional godfather ...



He's not an expert on Africa, but his performance records shine with pure excellence: three-time Super Cross World Champ, **Jean-Michel Bayle** will be the proud sponsor of the motorcycle category in this 3<sup>rd</sup> **TransAfricaine Classic**. And here's how he explains his reasoning:

*"Now, when most of today's African rallies seem unable to meet the needs of our time, **the TransAfricaine** offers a uniquely refreshing 'back to basics', the rebirth of true pleasure. This event welcomes motorcyclists with open arms, offering them the opportunity to embrace an incomparable adventure, in what I consider the ideal context for discovering or rediscovering the magic of driving in Africa.*

***It's a challenge I, of course, dare you to take up right today. See you in Dakar on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 where I'll be waiting to hear your tales!" JMB***