

News release
April 20, 2017
World RX of Montalegre preview

Whatever you do, don't change the record...

There are good records and there are great records. For Petter Solberg, Johan Kristoffersson and PSRX Volkswagen World RX Team Sweden, Montalegre is a place where they have their absolute best record.

If PSRX Volkswagen Sweden was Bing Crosby, this weekend would be *White Christmas* – World RX of Portugal is that good for Petter and Johan.

Since Portugal joined the FIA World Rallycross Championship in 2014, Petter and/or Johan have won their semi-final and, of course, the final. In 2014 and 2016, it was our Norwegian triple world champion who dominated. In 2015, his Swedish team-mate Johan took great memories from the Montalegre track, scoring his first ever World RX win.

This weekend, Petter and Johan will be looking to further their special relationship with the championship's westernmost race in Europe and build on the solid start the Polo GTI Supercar made in Barcelona earlier this month.

PSRX Volkswagen Sweden was the only team to make the final with both cars and it was that kind of consistent approach to the season opener that helped the Torsby-based team to the top of the table as they left the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya.

Since round one, PSRX Volkswagen Sweden has been working hard on the development of the Polo GTI Supercar, a race car born both in and with indecent haste.

Petter said: "We have made a fantastic start to the season. Everything came together so late for the team, to come away from Spain with points on the board was a great result – to be leading the teams' [championship] is brilliant. The teams' title is one we're really in the hunt for this season with a strong driver like Johan alongside me.

"But this weekend is special. Portugal is a track I really enjoy and have a great success with in the last three years, let's hope that carries on this time. Certainly, we come in good shape after a test ahead of the race."

Johan was similarly happy with the venue for round two, adding: "For me, Montalegre has really good memories from the last two years I have competed there. Winning in 2015 was an amazing way to start the season and, like Petter says, it's a place he and I seem to have a real feeling for. It's a good track, a place you can attack and make the difference; that's what I want to do this weekend."

What? When?

Qualifying 1/2: Saturday April 22 1330/1500

Qualifying 3/4: Sunday April 23 1030/1200

Semi-finals/Final: Sunday April 23 1500

Bompiso World RX of Portugal April 21-23

1.52km

60% asphalt/40% tarmac

PSRX likes Portugal. Actually scratch that. PSRX *loves* Portugal. Petter says: "The feeling of winning in front of that Portuguese crowd is unbelievable! This is a fantastic track and one where we have won twice in three years, but it can be tricky with the changeable weather." The Montalegre circuit sits close to the Spanish border in the Vila Real and is World RX's westernmost mainland European race.

Previous winners:

Petter Solberg (2014/2016)

Johan Kristoffersson (2015)

Closest international airport:

Vila Real 57km

Currency:

Euro

Capital city:

Lisbon

Language:

Portuguese

Seriously... if you're cymophobic probably worth steering clear of Portugal's coast, which regularly gets battered by the biggest waves in Europe. Who you gonna call? Garrett McNamara of course. He's the Hawaiian surfer who caught a world record 30-metre roller just off the coast of Portugal.

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