

Q. What is a Targa Rally?

A. The full name for a Targa Rally is a Targa Road Rally as it runs under Road Rally Regulations. This means an average speed of 30mph hence the reason for Controls, Code Boards, Chicanes and other features to keep average speeds low. These low speeds mean that a great deal of safety equipment isn't required for many events, keeping costs down and Targas accessible to a wide range of people. However the likes of roll cages, harnesses, seats and extinguishers can be fitted if desired and can be required on some events.

Targa Rallies can be single venue or multi venue events. Some single venue events enable both members of the crew to drive and navigate, providing great value sport. Multi venue events usually use the public road in between Tests and are generally "bigger" events in all respects. Double driving/navigating is not normally possible on multi venue events.

Targas are a great first step for those looking to start in loose surface Motorsport, building experience and making sure they enjoy the sport at low cost before progressing. Others may want to "downsize" from the likes of Stage Rallying for various reasons to take part in lower speed Targa Rallies.

Q. Can I use a standard car for Targa Rallies?

A. Yes. On smooth Targas you can use a standard car as long as it is road legal (MOT, Tax and Insurance), has no dangerous parts, has internal trim, solidly fastened battery (standard mounting is usually sufficient) and the seats don't move around (apart from standard fold/tilt). You'll need some yellow insulation tape wrapped round the earth lead from the battery (to identify the cable if it needs to be cut). You'll also need such things as a warning triangle, spill kit, first aid kit and OK/SOS board. A tow rope could also be useful, as well as strong towing points (standard is normally fine).

Rougher Targas will need a sump guard and tank guard.

Some events, normally due to the nature of the terrain require at least a rear roll cage and at least four point harnesses.

One of the beauties of Targa Rallies is their differences, many bringing new challenges, surfaces, venues, etc. Each event needs to be considered in their own right, so check event Supplementary Regulations carefully. If in doubt, add more safety equipment and guarding, within reason.

Q. Can I use a modified car for Targa Rallies?

A. Road Rally Regulations enable some modifications to cars. Always refer to the Motorsport UK Yearbook for definitive information on the latest Regulations. Safety equipment can be installed in most cases. Trim can be cut to enable the fitting of safety equipment. Try to keep trim where possible, but headlining, carpets, rear seats (can be folded) and original door cards MUST be fitted. Parcel shelves are not required.

Q. What are the engine and transmission regulations?

A. These are all documented under Section R 18.2 of the Motorsport UK Yearbook. The highlights are – maximum of four cylinders, only two carburettor chokes or standard injection, single cam unless multi-cam standard with standard induction, no turbos over 1500cc, adequate silencing, only H pattern gearboxes. Read R 18.2 to be absolutely sure regarding compliance.

Q. What about Historic Cars?

A. Some events run a Historic class and waivers can be applied for to cover some areas such as number of carburettors and engine size if proven to be used in period or homologated. Event Regulations will cover this area, however there are few Targas which enable waivers to be used as a Historic Eligibility Scrutineer is also required.

Q. How do I prepare my car for Targa Scrutineering?

A. A video covering Scrutineering requirements can be found at:

[https://youtu.be/tq8OLUc2S_w]([https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2Ftq8OLUc2S_w%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2Ttq64ZGjock9f75n9virxr91QWGf9Gdp66qNAw5M_dBoEulP87BwPlco&h=AT0OBZHa5pKI0xcs28fiEXDZDMKAe6HpHckRcAtLG84YeQfhtcuwB7LnxPjAxMXxO4Ixe0CgN-XFC10fdDJU6Yycej2cvRd25JnHjxLNvoJhu_BR0QINI9dp9jeu97opTw&__tn__=-UK-R&c\[0\]=AT2L3RrngQEi2s3QOTaQXeX32OTm3hr8nsujWDT6u3ADTM5QsrPC8IbRHUUePDW4jZJc7oy5CHe1C_EpsTTF-Qlx6qpw0YDeAI-2VFucAdR3Y7QJ9a-iWbHTYPCUCGoAzVDHomoCjSVQLHCUjE14K9oHZQH1rzjlhMQ](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2Ftq8OLUc2S_w%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2Ttq64ZGjock9f75n9virxr91QWGf9Gdp66qNAw5M_dBoEulP87BwPlco&h=AT0OBZHa5pKI0xcs28fiEXDZDMKAe6HpHckRcAtLG84YeQfhtcuwB7LnxPjAxMXxO4Ixe0CgN-XFC10fdDJU6Yycej2cvRd25JnHjxLNvoJhu_BR0QINI9dp9jeu97opTw&__tn__=-UK-R&c[0]=AT2L3RrngQEi2s3QOTaQXeX32OTm3hr8nsujWDT6u3ADTM5QsrPC8IbRHUUePDW4jZJc7oy5CHe1C_EpsTTF-Qlx6qpw0YDeAI-2VFucAdR3Y7QJ9a-iWbHTYPCUCGoAzVDHomoCjSVQLHCUjE14K9oHZQH1rzjlhMQ))

Q. What is the best Targa tyre.

A. Targas vary considerably in surface. Standard road tyres are suitable for many events, and are required on some. Winter tyres can be appropriate for some events. Rougher events require a gravel tyre, but many events prevent the use of gravel tyres to protect surfaces.

Tyres on List 1B and 1C cannot be used. Again, check the Motorsport UK Yearbook for the latest tyre Regulations.

Tyre requirements can vary a great deal dependant on the event/surface. Also check Event Regulations to make sure that your tyres comply with the event. If in doubt then ask the Event Organisers.

Q. Do I need E marked tyres?

A. Only in Wales or if Event Regulations require them. Non-E marked tyres can be used legally on the public highway. However they cannot be sold specifically for day to day road use.

Be aware that some Events/Championships may require E-marked tyres, be sure to check all Event and Championship Regulations.

Q. Can I use 4WD?

A. There is nothing in the Motorsport UK Yearbook which restricts the use of 4WD. However many events do not allow 4WD.

Q. Can I use forced induction?

A. Forced induction can only be used for vehicles up to 1500cc.

Q. What additional lights can I use.

A. You are limited to 4 forward facing beams. These are usually the standard headlamps and 2 additional lights up to a diameter of 222mm.

LED and HID lights can only be used if fitted as standard. No LED light bars.

Q. How long is a Targa?

A. Most Targas are usually day time events, but there is no fixed format. Venues can open around 7am and events usually run to 5 or 6pm.

However Targas can run in the dark, overnight and on multiple days, there is no set format.

Q. Where do I find the Regulations for Targa Road Rallies?

A. Regulations for most forms of Motor Sport can be found in the Motorsport UK Year Book (the Blue Book). This can be viewed and downloaded from the Motorsport UK web. Specific Regulations are under the Road Rally section in Section R (Rally), starting at paragraph 18.

The latest Year Book can be found by searching in the Resource Centre at:

<https://www.motorsportuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/BB-2022-low-res-complete-FINAL-2.pdf>

Event Regulations can add and change some of these Regulations, so be sure to read the specific Regulations for the event you're doing.

Q. Do I need a Competition Licence?

A. Yes, but the entry level RS Clubman Licence is free. Today, most Targa Rallies run as Clubman events, meaning that you will require the 'RS Clubman' Licence (free) from Motorsport UK, as well as your Motor Club card.

Championships will require at least an Interclub Licence.

<https://www.motorsportuk.org/competitors/competition-licences/>

Q. What Colour can my car be?

A. For events between 07:00 and 22:00 the car can be any colour(s). Outside these hours the car must be one colour or the manufacturers original paint scheme.

Advertising/stickers are limited to 1250 cm², so the size of a sheet of A4 paper on each side of the car.

Q. Do I need a Tripmeter?

A. A Tripmeter can be useful, but not essential. Many events provide a map handout for Road Sections and Test diagrams, so a Trip is of little use except for estimating mileage. A Trip can be useful on Tests where Tulip diagrams with distances are supplied. Similar on Road Sections, but there are usually other indications to identify the correct route. Of course if you miss/overshoot a junction then the following intermediate mileages will all be wrong! Make sure you know how to make the trip work backwards in this situation. Set up your trip on the Organiser's Measured Mile on the same tyres you'll be using at the same pressures. For accuracy, fit sensors to non-driven wheels to avoid the effects of wheel spin.

You don't need to invest in expensive trip meters, there are apps available for smart phones which are accurate enough for most Targas. Just make sure that the phone is mounted firmly so it can't fall out of the holder.

Q. What clothes should I wear?

A. There are no Regulations for clothing worn (some is always recommended 😊). Fire retardant clothing is not required. Practical clothing should be worn to keep you warm and safe. You may be changing wheels/working on the car so leave your best clothes at home! Drivers should use shoes comfortable for driving, but also resistant to the weather and conditions. Robust shoes with tread may be preferred for Navigators, especially as they may have to push 😊

Q. Can my Navigator drive as well?

A. Some events allow double driving, usually with the driver/navigator swapping roles. Car sharing is possible, or the use of two cars – one driving one car, one driving the other.

Q. What age do I need to be to take part?

A. As a Targa Rally is a Road Rally, drivers must hold a full driving licence.

Navigators can compete from the age of 12.

Q. Where can I find a calendar of events?

A. The British Road Rallying Facebook Group contains calendars for all types of Road Rallies. Also pinned to this Group as an announcement.