



## EXTREME E CONFIRMS DESERT LOCATION IN SAUDI ARABIA



**31 October, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia:** Extreme E has today named the third of its five race locations, confirming that the Desert leg of the new electric rally series will take place in Saudi Arabia, with a number of potential routes currently being examined.

Alejandro Agag, Founder and CEO of Extreme E, made the announcement alongside His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki AlFaisal Al Saud, Chairman of the Saudi Arabia General Sports Authority and His Royal Highness Prince Khaled Bin Sultan Bin Abdullah AlFaisal, President of the Saudi Arabian Motor Federation, at the King Abdul Aziz Conference Centre, Riyadh, during the Future Investment Initiative forum.

“One of the major cornerstones of this revolutionary championship is that we will race across terrains and environments that will push the world’s top drivers, teams and engineers to their absolute limits,” said Agag.

“For our Desert location, we are taking a real leap into uncharted territory. Heading to Saudi Arabia, home of the world’s largest continuous sand desert among a multitude of extraordinary environments in which to race, gives us unbelievable scope to create an unprecedented challenge for our competitors without creating a negative impact.

“The Kingdom’s terrain is stunning and unforgiving, while the heat and conditions will be intense. There is no question that the winning combination of driver and machine will be a deserving one.”

Extreme E’s five-race global voyage aims to highlight the impact of climate change and human interference on some of the most remarkable, remote locations in the world, as well as serving to promote the adoption of electric vehicles in the fight to help preserve the environment and protect the planet.

The exact desert location in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be determined in the coming months. The main priority is to race in an extreme desert environment, where electric SUVs can show their capacities to race under the harshest conditions.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has committed itself to world-leading investment in sustainable technologies and the protection of its unique natural resources. Vision 2030 focuses on reducing the dependence on fossil fuels, and includes an extremely ambitious deployment plan of renewable energies, particularly solar and wind.

His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki AlFaisal Al Saud, Chairman of the Saudi Arabia General Sports Authority, said: “Welcoming Extreme E to Saudi Arabia is the perfect opportunity for the country to strengthen

the sporting pillar of its Vision 2030 – delivering world-class electric motorsport to the desert. I am a racing driver myself, so the notion of contributing to the growth of the sport – and its electric future – is a source of great pride.

“Of equal importance is the benefit we will reap from this partnership in creating a lasting legacy, not only for motorsport in the Kingdom but for the protection of our unique ecosystems. Extreme E is a revolutionary global spectacle and one that everyone in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be able to enjoy, with benefits that transcend beyond the sporting appeal to generate a positive impact in wider society. The championship is a unique prospect and, combined with the natural beauty and backdrop of Saudi Arabia, we are sure that fans all around the world will enjoy the result.”

His Royal Highness Prince Khaled Bin Sultan Bin Abdullah AlFaisal, President of the Saudi Arabian Motor Federation, commented: “Extreme E is a pioneering new series and we are proud to host the championship in the country – and the Middle East region for its inaugural 2021 campaign. There is a rich and passionate motorsport audience within the Kingdom, and being able to welcome a new world-leading series with renowned drivers, manufacturers and cutting-edge technology into the fold will only serve to bolster that passion and heighten awareness of sustainable technologies and behaviours as we seek to protect Saudi Arabia’s outstanding natural beauty and our planet at large.”

Saudi Arabia is the third confirmed Extreme E location, with Greenland set to host the Arctic stage and the Amazon Rainforest in Para, Brazil the Rainforest round. An Ocean location and a route in the Himalayas are currently being scouted, with Season 1 to get underway in February 2021.

Extreme E events will take place over three days, within an area no larger than 10 km<sup>2</sup>. Track designers have been tasked with carefully selecting course options, which provide the most challenging, exciting racing action whilst crucially generating no negative impact from either environmental or social perspectives. Routes will be designed to incorporate existing obstacles and features with elevation changes and jumps, without the need to adapt the environment.

Carlo Boutagy, CEO of CBX, which is the Official Promoter of the FIA Formula E Diriyah E-Prix, will also be the Official Race Promoter of the inaugural Saudi Arabian Extreme E event.

Another unique feature of Extreme E is its floating paddock, the RMS St. Helena. The former Royal Mail cargo-passenger vessel is undergoing a modernisation and refit in order to lower its emissions. It will be used to transport the championship’s freight and infrastructure, including vehicles, to the nearest port, minimising Extreme E’s footprint as well as being used to facilitate scientific research through an on-board laboratory.

Additionally, organisers are in the early stages of development for plans to track and monitor teams’ emission levels in each location, with sporting and financial incentives being considered for those that achieve the lowest overall outputs.

Further announcements on teams, locations and drivers will be made over the coming weeks and months.

**To learn more about Extreme E, visit - [www.Extreme-E.com](http://www.Extreme-E.com)**  
**ENDS**

For more information on Extreme E, please contact:

**Extreme E Communications:**

**Julia Fry, Communications Manager**

E: [media@extreme-e.com](mailto:media@extreme-e.com) / +44 7778 108754

**Russell Atkins, MPA Creative**

E: [russell.atkins@mpacreative.com](mailto:russell.atkins@mpacreative.com) / +44 7725 223288

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### About Extreme E:

Extreme E is a radical new racing series, which will see electric SUVs competing in extreme environments around the world which have already been damaged or affected by climate and environmental issues. The five-race global voyage highlights the impact of climate change and human interference in some of the world's most remote locations and promotes the adoption of electric vehicles to help preserve the environment and protect the planet.

Another unique feature of Extreme E is its floating garage, the RMS St. Helena. The former Royal Mail cargo-passenger vessel is undergoing a modernisation and refit in order to lower its emissions. It will be used to transport the championship's freight and infrastructure, including vehicles, to the nearest port, minimising Extreme E's footprint as well as being used to facilitate scientific research through an on-board laboratory.

Extreme E is operated in association with Formula E - the organiser of the ABB FIA Formula E Championship. Extreme E is committed to sustainability and minimising environmental impact - as well as playing its part in re-building and restoring areas already impacted by climate change.