



Westport Gears Up for Mayo Stages Rally

A substantial level of preparation has already taken place for the 2026 Mayo Stages Rally which returns to the county on Sunday March 1st as part of the Motorsport Ireland biennial Motorsport calendar.

The organising committee are delighted to announce WEST TYRE and Westport Woods Hotel & Spa as title Sponsors for the event.

WEST TYRE is your go-to destination for all your tyre needs. Whether you're looking to replace worn tyres, improve your vehicle's handling, or simply need expert advice, their team of skilled technicians are dedicated to providing fast, reliable, and affordable tyre services, making sure your vehicle is safe and road-ready. The family run business carries one of the largest tyre stocks in Co Mayo. While the WEST TYRE name has only been around Westport for a decade, its owners have been in the tyre business since 1990's when M&R Motors was established in Shrulue, which also specialises in auto repairs and car sales. Following on from that, the Murphy family established the first WEST TYRE depot on the Castlebar Road in Ballinrobe in 2006 and then, 10 years later in 2016, they brought the same friendly and affordable sales and service to the Westport depot which is located on the Fairgreen, adjacent to Hoban's Centra.

No strangers to motorsport the Murphy family have picked up many accolades over the years, Matthew is a former Mayo Young driver Champion while Ronan has over 20 years experience competing in many championships from Tarmac, to Autograss and Autocross, their younger brother Noel is also a former Mayo Young Driver Champion and regular on the Irish rally lanes, while Ronan's eldest son Jason was the inaugural J1000 Irish Forest Champion and younger brother Niall has a Irish National Autograss title to his name.

The four-star Westport Woods Hotel & Spa is nestled in its own 300 year old woodland, conveniently located between the town of Westport and the Quay and specialises in family holidays, theme weekends, and midweek breaks.

The hotel offers a state of the art Leisure Centre including swimming pool, jacuzzi, steam room, brand-new sauna and the Beech Spa for guests who want to; unwind and relax, go explore Croagh Patrick, visit Achill Island, wander around the town of Westport with its unique shops and wide range of cafes and restaurants, cycle the entire length of the Great Western Greenway, or just drive along the winding coastal road of the Wild Atlantic Way, Westport Woods Hotel is an excellent choice!

Westport Woods Hotel & Spa also offers eco-friendly playgrounds for the younger guests, the Go trekking! equestrian centre for horse riding enthusiasts and the complimentary go kids club during school holidays.

There are a variety of rooms to choose from, to try and suit everyone's needs, such as inter-connecting family rooms, deluxe rooms and triple rooms. All rooms are well-appointed and equipped with en-suite bathroom, TV and tea and coffee making facilities and complimentary WiFi, so you can easily stay in touch with the outside world.

The stylish and elegant Lakeview Restaurant at Westport Woods Hotel & Spa offers the perfect setting for a memorable dining experience. Overlooking the beautiful woodlands and the tranquil lake, it's the ideal place to relax, unwind, and enjoy exceptional food. While the Bench Bar at Westport Woods Hotel & Spa is the perfect place to sit back, relax, and enjoy great food with a drink in hand. With its warm, traditional setting, it's ideal for casual dining with family and friends, both restaurants provide the perfect setting for special occasions such as christenings, birthdays, and anniversaries.

A great atmosphere, friendly people and excellent facilities – that's what you'll find at the 122 bedroom Westport Woods Hotel & Spa.

Clerk of the Course for this year's event, Stephen McGing has selected a loop of classic stages which have not been used for a number of years that will without doubt be captivating and challenging to the competitor. Stephen as a competitor himself is very conscious of laying on a competitor focused event which will see minimal road mileage and all logistics, scrutiny, sign-on and service based in the heart of Westport.

The event will be Opening Round 1 of not only the Triton Showers National Rally Championships, the Sligo Pallets Border Rally Championship, and the Top Part West Coast Championships. It is also the opening 2026 round of the Dacia Sandero Challenge Cup, a production class which enters its second year, this championship which receives direct support from Dacia via Cedar Motors Ltd is designed to give new entrants into the sport and existing competitors an affordable and practical way to participate in the National Championship.

Full WEST TYRE | Westport Woods Hotel & Spa event details will be available shortly on Mayo Stages Rally Sportivity App [MAYO26], Mayo Motorsport Facebook and Mayo Stages Rally Instagram account, also by emailing the dedicated **mayostagesrally2026@gmail.com** address. Regulations will be available online shortly and Entries will open thereafter.

