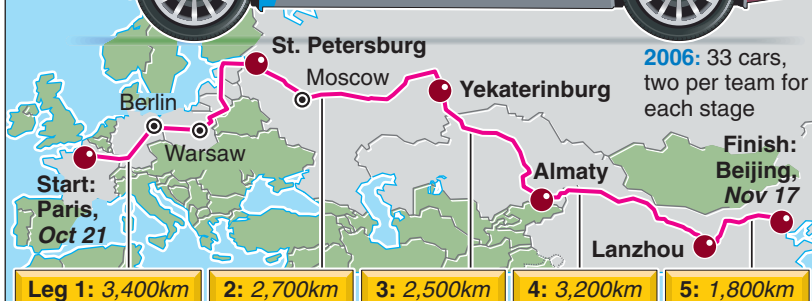


Mercedes tackles Paris to Beijing in 26 days

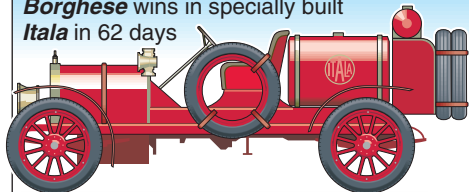
Almost a century after the first transcontinental motor race from Beijing to Paris, Mercedes aims to test the potential of its new generation E-Class by making the trip in reverse. The 13,600km race will be less a test of speed than a challenge to achieve the lowest possible fuel consumption



E-Class E 320 CDI: V6 diesel, 224 horsepower

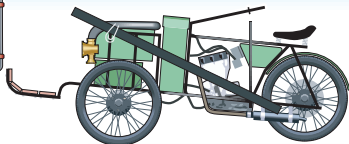


1907: Italian aristocrat **Prince Scipione Borghese** wins in specially built **Itala** in 62 days

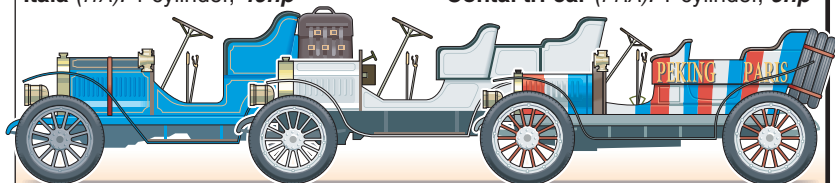


Itala (ITA): 4-cylinder, 40hp

Original race reversed to run from Beijing to Paris, to avoid monsoon rains



Contal tri-car (FRA): 1-cylinder, 6hp



2 de Dion-Boutons (FRA): 2-cylinder, 10hp

Spyker (NED): 4-cylinder, 15hp