



Ufficio Stampa
Press Office



wrc.com



SARDEGNA

press@rallyitaliasardegna.com

LOEB TAKES EARLY LEAD AT RALLY ITALIA SARDEGNA

Nine-times World Rally Champion Sébastien Loeb (Citroen DS3), leads Rally Italia Sardegna after the first day of competition with a 1.1 second advantage over team-mate Mikko Hirvonen. The two Citroen drivers won the first two stages of the event, confirming that they chose the best starting position for the first section of the rally. Ford World Rally Team driver Petter Solberg lays third overall, 13.9 seconds adrift rising star and Qatar World Rally Team representative Thierry Neuville (Citroen) who's finishes the day in fourth at 26.2 seconds. Young Norwegian Mads Ostberg (Ford) lays in fifth, 33.5 seconds off the lead, despite hitting a stone and having a spin which left him with a bent steering. Qualifying Stage winner Jari-Matti Latvala, who chose to be first on the road, lost 15.3 seconds when cleaning the roads to other drivers on SS1. The Finn dropped 27 seconds on SS2, the second passage through the Terranova stage, due to a puncture he picked 10km into the stage.

Rally Italia Sardegna restarts tomorrow at 7:00 and the itinerary includes six special stages, totaling 117km competitive kilometers. The rally will kick off from Olbia's Service Park which the drivers will visit again only tomorrow night as the rally will visit Sassari for a mid day Remote Service.

Classification after SS2:

1. Loeb-Elena (Citroen DS3 Wrc) 37'59"1
2. Hirvonen-Lehtinen (Citroen DS3 Wrc) +1"1
3. P Solberg-Patterson (Ford Fiesta Wrc) +13"9
4. Neuville-Gilsoul (Citroen DS3 Wrc) +26"2
5. Østberg-Andersson (Ford Fiesta Wrc) +33"5
6. Latvala-Anttila (Ford Fiesta Wrc) +42"1
7. Novikov-Minor (Ford Fiesta Wrc) +51"2
8. Atkinson-Prévot (Mini John Cooper Wrc) +1'28"9
9. Tänak-Sikk (Ford Fiesta Wrc) +1'31"4
10. Prokop-Hrůza (Ford Fiesta Wrc) +1'48"2



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Comune di Olbia



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