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Maserati at Passione Engadina

The high profile event in St Moritz honours the Maserati marque

Story by Andrea Cittadini
Photography by Passione Engadina





Based in St. Moritz, Passione Engadine is a prestigious event that caters exclusively for Italian cars built before 1984. The third edition was held last year and this year's event on August 22-24 is showing significant growth, both in quality and quantity. The rally is limited to 100 cars and this number is fixed and guaranteed by the organisers.

The five categories of cars that are eligible to participate are: up to 1945, from 1946 to 1950, 1961 to 1970, 1971 to 1984, and a special group for particular models of the Maserati marque or at the discretion of the organiser.

The style of the gathering is intended to be relaxed with an emphasis on driving pleasure, lifestyle, the beauty of the landscapes, the culture and the quality of the gastronomy. Every hotel, appetizer and dinner is designed with a concept of five-star quality found in St. Moritz, one of the most exclusive locations in the world.

Passione Engadine was born from an idea by Paul Spalluto, who had already organized a successful event in Switzerland during 2010 for the Alfa Romeo 100th

Anniversary. In the 2012 the event featured Maserati, while in 2013 it was Lamborghini. For 2014 the event is inevitably dedicated again to Maserati, which celebrates the 100th Anniversary.

Last year one of the regulars drivers of pre-1945 cars was Swiss Axel Marx. He is one of the most prominent Alfa Romeo collectors and a leading world expert. He usually drives an Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 Touring Superleggera or a 1932 Alfa Romeo 6C 1750 Grand Sport by Brianza. Among other regular entrants was Peter Straub with his Mistral Spyder 3.7 and a Lamborghini 350 GT. Also driving was Claudio Mosconi from Lugano, who owns many Maseratis but loves his 3500GT Vignale Spyder, and Ronnie Kessel with the Alfa Romeo GTA (owned by his father Lons former F1 driver in '76 and '77) under the colours of Kessel Classic department, Ferrari and the Maserati dealer in Lugano. Last but not least, was another 'maseratista' from Zurich, Heini Pfenninger, on board a 1968 Ghibli Spyder, and Carlo Borgonovi from Modena with his yellow Ghibli Spyder.

Yellow is significant to me because in 2012 I drove together with Lucio Lo Schiavo in a yellow Maserati





3200GT with blue interior (the colours of Modena). It was a former press car and now the property of Lo Schiavo and currently on sale. It was our first event but at the end we managed to finish 28th overall, 12th of our category and 1st in the post 2000 class.

In 2012 a Maserati Birdcage from the Panini Museum and the Birdcage 75th Anniversary of Pininfarina were featured cars. This year the Doran Racing Maserati MC12 of Fredy Lienhard, who in 2007 finished on the GT class rostrum in US at Road America and Road Atlanta for the Petit Le Mans series, will be the star of the event. Only 11 racing cars plus one spare chassis had been produced since 2004. Also this year, Paolo Spalluto will welcome more special Maseratis like the 1957 Quattroporte Fire Truck (one of five built) used by the CEA firemen during the Italian F1 Grand Prix.

From August 22st to August 24th this year. St.

Moritz is will host the third edition of Passione Engadina in collaboration with Maserati. There will be an exhibition of Maseratis in downtown of St. Moritz, including a large number of cars that will participate in the regularity competition on Saturday and Sunday morning. In addition to the regularity event there will also be a Concours d'Elégance.

Scale model manufacturer Brumm, will unveil a special limited model made for the Maserati 100th Anniversary: the 250F driven by Masten Gregory in 1957 for Scuderia Centro Sud.

Entrants for Passione Engadina will arrive from Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium and France. UK entries are invited and if you don't want to bring your own car you can even rent a Maserati in Italy or Switzerland.

www.passione-engadina.ch



MOSCONI Claudio

Da: Andrea Cittadini <acittadini@kerbgroup.com>
Inviato: lunedì, 14. luglio 2014 11:28
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Ciao, mensile inglese Auto Italia.
Tra pochi giorni ti mando KERB con Lions in Classic.
A presto

Andrea Cittadini

KERB GROUP - Communication/PR/Mktg. Consultants

KERB MOTORI - Publisher and Editor

acittadini@kerbgroup.com

www.kerbgroup.com; www.kerbmotori.com

ph. +393356647467