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Printed in England Warners Midlands PLC; Tel: 01778 391000 Worldwide Retail Distribution Seymour Distribution Ltd, 2 East Poultry Avenue, London, EC1A 9PT



Auto Italia® is published twelve times a year by: Ginger Beer Promotions Ltd, Enterprise House, Building 52, Wrest Park, Silsoe, Bedfordshire, MK45 4HS Email: claire@gingerbeerpromotions.com ISSN 1357 - 4515

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If Auto Italia were a movie franchise, this month's issue would definitely be subtitled: The Ones That Got Away. There's a definite 'lost cause' theme running through our September issue, and our cover car is one of the biggest fish to slip through the net.

In 1993, Alfa Romeo had some very exciting plans to revive its lauded GTA badge on a road-going super-155 inspired by the fantastic success the 155 was achieving in Touring Car racing throughout Europe. Sadly, Fiat decided to squash the 155 GTA flat. Most enthusiasts had assumed that the one and only prototype had been lost, but luckily it's very much 'found' – and we've driven it. Turn to page 20 for the full story of Alfa's glorious 155 GTA.

Another lost cause this month is the Aga Khan Maserati Quattroporte that Frua built in 1974 (page 34). This elegant saloon would surely have been a far wiser choice stylistically for Maserati than Gandini's oddball Quattroporte II. Speaking of which another 'lost' example of the QPII has now been found in a barn (well, a warehouse actually), as we recount in this month's News pages.

And then we have a whole feature devoted to Italy's greatest concept cars that we reckon should have made production, but tragically didn't. Quite a few of them were definitely 'on' but had the rug unceremoniously pulled from under them. Others were just great concepts.

It all starts on page 40 and I'd be interested to hear which ones you agree about, and which ones you don't, as well as your own ideas of Italian should-have-beens. Did anyone mention the Alfa Romeo Giulia Sportwagon?

> **Chris Rees** Editor chrisrees@auto-italia.net

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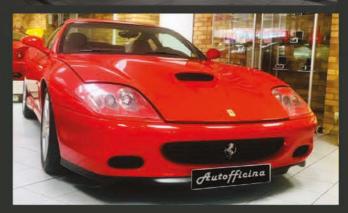
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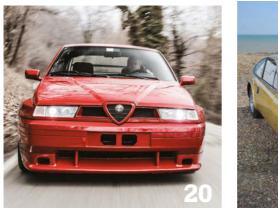
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ITALIAN CAR NEWS FERRARI 488 PISTA PILOTI



'Piloti' version of the newly launched Ferrari 488 Pista has been unveiled at the recent Le Mans race. Its livery is inspired by the Pier Guidi/Calado car that won the 2017 WEC title. Stripes in the colours of the Italian flag are embellished by a laurel, the WEC logo and the word 'Pro', indicating the winning car's racing class. The Italian flag livery is repeated along the flanks, on which the personal race number of the buyer can be added. Also new are a matt black S-Duct and natural carbonfibre 'dovetail' rear spoiler and vent surrounds.

Buyers can choose from four racinginspired colours: Rosso Corsa, Blu Tour De France, Nero Daytona and Argento Nurburgring. The cabin features a special perforated black Alcantara trim with seats incorporating the Italian flag in the centre of the backrest. Italian colours are also visible on the gearshift paddles and floormats, while all the carbonfibre cabin trim has a matt finish.

If you want one of the Tailor Made specials, however, you'll have to be an existing racer in one of Ferrari's motorsports programmes.





Since both the Nissan GT-R and design house Italdesign share a 50th anniversary in 2018, they've created a new model called the Nissan GT-R50. Based on the current Nissan GT-R Nismo, it features significantly redesigned bodywork and uprated mechanicals. Although engineered and built by Italdesign, it was actually styled by Nissan in London and the US.

The roof is 54mm lower and the rear

window line is longer. The cooling ducts behind the front wheels are reshaped and there are new LED headlights and a larger bulge in the bonnet. The tail-lights are updated and a large adjustable rear wing is fitted. Gold highlights create an unusual 'cutaway' effect, while unique new 21-inch wheels were created especially for the car.

Inside, upgrades include carbon and Alcantara trim, carbonfibre spoked steering

wheel, Italian-upholstered seats and gold accents for the instruments and switchgear.

The 3.8-litre V6 turbo has been upgraded from the GT-R Nismo's 600hp to 720hp, thanks to competition-spec turbos, larger intercoolers uprated pistons, conrods and injectors. Also uprated are the six-speed gearbox, rear transaxle, differentials and suspension. The GT-R50 is set to go on sale in a very limited edition.



ANOTHER GTO RECORD?

RM Sotheby's is to auction a 1962 Ferrari 250 GTO that could break new records. Chassis 3413 GT is the third of only 36 examples of the 250 GTO ever produced. It began its life as a Series I and was driven by Phil Hill in the 1962 Targa Florio race. It won nine of 10 races in 1962, securing the Italian National GT championship. It also won its class at the 1963 and 1964 Targa Florio. It retains its original engine, gearbox, and rear axle, and has a factory Series II body, created by Scaglietti in 1964.

Described as "wonderfully maintained in highly original condition", the GTO is estimated to achieve in excess of \$45 million (£34 million) at the 24-25 August Pebble Beach Monterey sale. If it makes that, it will be the most valuable car ever sold at auction.





he new NRING Nürburgring limited editions of the Giulia Quadrifoglio and Stelvio Quadrifoglio have been released for order, priced at £82,500 and £89,500 respectively.

Only 108 examples of each model are available for Europe and the Middle East.

Each will have 'Authenticity Certification' from FCA Heritage, giving them "instant classic status", says Alfa Romeo.

Both models have 'NRING' badging, a numbered carbonfibre dashboard insert and exclusive Circuito Grey matt paint. Standard features include carbon brakes, Sparco carbon seats with red stitching, MOPAR gearknob with carbon insert, and leather-and-Alcantara/carbon steering wheel. There's more carbon for the mirror caps and sideskirt inserts, while the Giulia has a carbon roof. Owners will be able to attend a driving course at the Nürburgring in 2019.



FIVE-YEAR WARRANTY FOR NEW ALFAS

All Alfa Romeo Giulia, Stelvio and Giulietta models from July 2018 come with a longer five-year/75,000-mile warranty, three years' free servicing and five years' free roadside assistance as standard. That's an increase of two years for the warranty and roadside assistance packages. The three-year scheduled servicing covers the cost of parts, lubricants and labour.





FIAT 500 HEADS TO THE BEACH

A new Fiat 500 Spiaggina '58 special edition has been released on the 60th anniversary of the 500 Jolly beach car. Only available as a convertible, it's painted in Volare Blue with an ivory soft-top, a white belt line and retro 16-inch alloy wheels. Other features include 500 logo side mouldings, chromed door mirrors and a 'Spiaggina '58' badge. Inside are two-tone grey-and-ivory seats and specific floor mats. It's fitted with Fiat's 1.2-litre 69hp petrol engine, and production is limited to 1958 cars.

Meanwhile Garage Italia has produced a more radical Spiaggina (pic left), with a chopped-off roof and rear seats replaced with a cork-lined deck featuring an integrated shower. There's a safety rollover hoop but the car has no weather protection, while the front seats are replaced by a single bench with waterproof leather upholstery. As an option, the windscreen can be replaced by a cut-down wind deflector. Garage Italia says it will produce cars to order in the near future.

8





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PANDA WAZE IN

Fiat's new Panda Waze special edition integrates the popular Waze sat nav app with Fiat's Uconnect system. The Waze is based on the Panda Cross and has 'Waze' logos, black-covered 15-inch wheels and a black finish for the side mouldings, mirror caps, roof bars and door handles, while inside there's new seat upholstery. The Waze is sold only with the 1.2-litre 6ghp petrol engine.

The Panda model was also recently celebrated at the second 'Panda a Pandino' international gathering of Panda owners in June. Some 365 Pandas turned up to Castle Pandino, making it the biggest Panda gathering the world has ever seen.

QUATTROPORTE II BARN FIND

A rare Maserati Quattroporte II prototype has resurfaced. Believed to have been destroyed, AM123.002 has been discovered languishing in a Spanish warehouse after 30 years.

The Quattroporte II was created under Citroën's ownership of Maserati in 1974. Originally intended to have a redesigned Maserati V8, the car appeared with a modified V6 derived from the Citroën SM and frontwheel drive. The project foundered when Citroën's interest in Maserati collapsed and the brand was relaunched under Alessandro De Tomaso's tenure.

Only 13 Quattroporte IIs were built. AM123.002 was sold to Spain and after just 34,000km, an unresolved engine problem led to the car being stored and was subsequently reported as being destroyed. It was discovered during a warehouse clearance in 2017 and obtained by a Belgian collector. It's to be restored by Mistral Classics, retaining as much of the original paintwork as possible.

* For the full story of the Aga Khan's Quattroporte, please turn to page 34.





HEIDFELD TO TEST PININFARINA HYPERCAR

Pininfarina has unveiled more about its new PFo luxury electric hypercar, adding that ex-F1 driver Nick Heidfeld is joining as a test driver. The PFo is an all-electric hypercar that targets acceleration to 62mph in under two seconds, a top speed of over 250mph and a range of over 300 miles. Nick Heidfeld will help develop the PFo's dynamics ahead of car going on sale in late 2020.

MIURA SVR REBORN

Lamborghini has restored one of the most famous Miuras ever built: the SVR. This was the race car evolution of the Miura Jota, which was lost in an accident, following which Lamborghini built a single Miura SVR to replicate its specification. Chassis number #3781 was born as an 'S' version in 1968, and was displayed at the Turin Motor Show. In 1974, its German owner, Heinz Straber, took it back to Sant'Agata to have it transformed into an SVR, a job that took 18 months to complete. In 1976 it was sold to Hiromitsu Ito in Japan. It has now been returned to its former splendour by Lamborghini's Polo Storico specialists.



BEST OF ITALY RACE

The Best Of Italy Race is lining up to be a true classic for 2018. Taking place on 14-16 September 2018, it features Italian racing cars from all categories on a closed section of road from Castell'Arquato to Morfasso in the Emilia-Romagna region of Italy.

At the time of writing, the organisers have 70 Ferraris signed up, including a 1957 250 TR, 250 LM, F40 LM, 488 GT3, 458 GT2, Daytona GTC and Enzo. Gordon Ramsay will also be taking part in his LaFerrari Aperta.

Other Italian highlights including a Pagani Huayra BC and Zonda R, Maserati MC12 GT1, Bugatti Veyron, Dallara Stradale, Alfa 8C race car, 1100hp Lamborghini Performante, ATS, Mazzanti Millecavali, Giannini 350 G4 and Emerald Enzo. Pace cars include a police Lamborghini Huracan and a Carabinieri Alfa Giulia QV. For more information, visit bestofitalyrace.com

TUNES IN A TYRE

Pirelli has joined forces with IXOOST, the car audio firm from Modena, to create a new motorsport-themed sound system. A Bluetooth speaker nestles within a scalemodel wind tunnel tyre, made by Pirelli for Formula 1 teams to conduct aerodynamic testing. The Pirelli P Zero IXOOST costs £2500.

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OVERDONE

Having just read your article on the new Ferrari 488 Pista, I was surprised to count how many Prancing Horse emblems, logos and scripts were on the car. From your photos I was able to identify a staggering 22, and there must be more because I couldn't see the dashboard, under the front bonnet and the ashtray, if there is one.

Don't you think that's slightly overdone? This seems to be the norm on most modern supercars. Is it perhaps because only 'mature' petrolheads can afford them and maybe suffering from the first signs of dementia? At least when they're sitting in the thing they know what they're driving!

Oh, and yes, I'm an Abarth enthusiast and collector. There's usually a bonnet emblem with a scorpion badge and an Abarth logo on the back. I'm getting on a bit as well but I can still remember what I'm driving! Great mag, keep up the good work. Anthony Berni



TWO-DOOR 124

I saw your Obscurati piece on Carrozzeria Touring's Fiat 124 convertible, and you say there were no other two-door 124s. I thought you might be interested in this photo of a two-door Seat 124 from Spain. I'm not sure whether this was an official project or one made by a coachbuilder, but I'm pretty sure it was never made in series. It does look nice, though, doesn't it? Sam Kielder

PORSCHE'S 124

Your story on the Touring Fiat 124 reminded me of an abortive facelift that Porsche did for Lada in 1975. As well as a quite futuristic plastic front





end, Porsche also revised the suspension and interior. Porsche was not the only one. There was also an interesting attempt by Lotus on the Lada Riva, but in that case, it was not aimed at production but just to prove how strong mechanical tuning could be, even starting from the most humble base. Alessandro Sannia

CRUSHING FIAT

Today Italy's car industry is almost totally dominated by the Fiat Group, which apparently managed to use its political influence to either hobble or crush any potential domestic rivals that could pose a threat. Yet which pre-war or postwar Italian margues could have potentially challenged Fiat's dominance in the Italian domestic market had they made the right decisions or been well capitalized? There were post-war projects from Beretta-Benelli-Castelbarco, CEMSA and Isotta Fraschini. Each individually seemed to have potential, yet were there any other littleknown advanced post-war car projects from Italian margues that were independent of Fiat? Ben M

Italy was the most protectionist market in Europe in the post-war years and successive governments were keen to see local production prosper, allowing Fiat to gobble up companies like Lancia and Alfa Romeo to keep them afloat - a bit like BLMC in the UK. Interestingly, it was the British Motor Corporation that had the greatest success in Italy by buying up Innocenti, the company that licencebuilt BMC products in Italy – the Innocenti Mini was a huge hit with Italians. When BL withdrew in 1975, Alessandro de Tomaso bought the company, and arguably he was Fiat's biggest independent threat (he also owned Maserati). Ultimately, Innocenti was swallowed by Fiat, too. - Ed





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5 SEPTEMBER 2018 . BATTERSEA EVOLUTION

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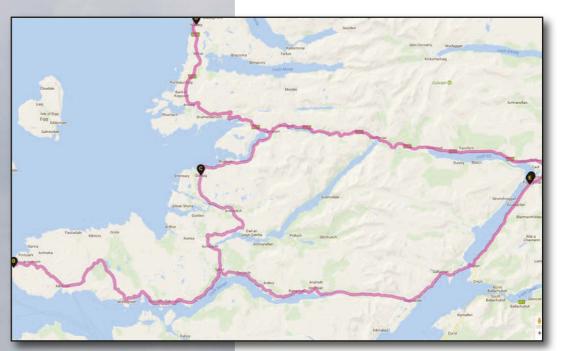
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The Road to Ardnamurchan

Our first UK drive of the GTC4Lusso T – the turbo V8 sister to the original V12 – takes us to Britain's most westerly mainland point. How does Ferrari's GT cope on some of Europe's best roads?

Story: Chris Rees Images: Michael Ward & Chris Rees







o this was the original headline for this story: Turbo to Tarbet. Our grand alliterative idea was to take Ferrari's new turbocharged GTC4Lusso T to Tarbet, the beautiful Loch Lomond-side town and the ideal place from which to launch an assault on some of the world's best driving roads.

That was until I looked on the map and spotted a peninsula sticking out into the Irish Sea with the name Ardnamurchan on it. It turns out that this is not only the (possibly apocryphal) historic measure of the angle beyond which it was not permissible to show the male member in print, but also the most westerly point on the British mainland. That was too tempting to miss. With an allotment of four days at our disposal, it was just possible to drive from Ferrari's UK HQ in Slough to Ardnamurchan Head and back – a distance of over 1300 miles.

The reasoning for this apparently foolhardy journey was twofold. First, to test how well the new V8 turbo GTC4Lusso T – lighter than the V12 model and reardrive only – would perform on a variety of low-traffic roads. And two, to test one of the vaunted attractions of the 'T' version of the GTC4Lusso: its extended touring range (Ferrari's claim is a 30 per cent increase).

Let's get the second test out of the way straightaway. The 91-litre tank needed filling two-and-a-half times on our 1300-mile route, equating to an average of 24.2mpg. That's really not bad at all for a car packing a 610hp turbo lump. It also turned out to be an excellent long-distance companion, absolutely munching the miles on the blast up the M6 and M74 motorways at a relaxed gait. My one caveat is the directness of the steering, which can become fidgety on the motorway.

Not long after Glasgow, the roads start to narrow. By the time the A82 reaches Loch Lomond, it's getting so tight that you have to give way to passing buses. That immediately throws up one issue we're going to have on Scottish roads: the Lusso is a big beast. At nearly two metres wide, it takes real care to keep my promise to Ferrari to avoid kerbing any wheel or scraping any hedge.

auto italia 15



I take a left on the A817 to Garelochhead, a fine stretch of fast, twisty roads where I can really extend the car. The V8 turbo engine chucks out 610hp (60hp less than the 488, and 79hp less than the V12 GTC4Lusso), and it feels every bit as fast as its o-62mph time of 3.5 seconds would indicate. Peak torque is delivered at a mere 3000 revs, so it's effortlessly fast in every gear. While the seven-speed 'box works super-smoothly in auto mode, it's a little keen to change up early in Comfort mode, so I often find myself taking control via the steering wheel paddles and enjoying the full 7500rpm rev range.

This is Scotland so it's pouring with rain. Here's another good test for the GTC4Lusso T: since it's rear-wheel drive – in contrast to its still-available V12 brother's four-wheel drive – will it struggle with traction? Ferrari has set up the 'T' to be sportier in feel than the V12. It's lighter (1865kg versus 1920kg), its weight bias has shifted more towards the rear (46/54), and it has specific damper and rear-wheel steering settings.

The *manettino* on the steering wheel has five positions (Ice, Wet, Comfort, Sport and ESC OFF) –

there's no Race mode as there is in other Ferraris. and I select Sport for this fast section of damp road (who really wants to numb everything in Wet?) and it's still extremely grippy on its 295mm rear rubber. The beautifully direct steering and rear-wheel steer really sharpen up turn-in, helping to guide the big beast through corners predictably.

But it still allows for a bit of fun. The electronic differential (E-Diff) and SSC3 Side Slip Control are calibrated to recognise when you want a bit of sideways action. It never gets as dramatic as other models in Ferrari's range, though – if you really want to go sideways, you have to switch the manettino to ESC OFF – but the oversteer is predictable. There is one moment, though, when it doesn't behave as expected. Overtaking a caravan on a straight section of road in the wet, the rear end snakes violently on the tiniest of steering angles. That certainly wakes me and my passenger up, I can tell you.

The A814 up Loch Long to Arrochar is quiet but rather narrow and bumpy; an ideal moment, then, to try the 'Bumpy Road' damper setting. The ride is always on the firm side, even in bumpy road mode, but it's never



No lack of comfort here for the long journey. Only criticism is the awkward cruise control system





V8 engine actually has more torque than V12. Surprisingly good economy keeps our wallet happy unbearable and certainly far more liveable with than the 488 GTB, for instance.

I'm tempted to take a picture at Tarbet railway station but it turns out the stop is actually called Arrochar & Tarbet. So much for the 'Turbo at Tarbet' photo opportunity... Back on the A83, the run over the Rest & Be Thankful Pass is huge fun and thankfully on our chosen day it's not too heavily trafficked. We hook a right on to the A819 at Inverary and then follow the sunshine to Oban on the A85 and a quick visit to the local distillery. Our GTC4's startling white paint – a £15,360 option, incidentally, complemented by £3552 dark-painted wheels – is attracting plenty of interest among the visitors, we can't help but notice.

From Oban we take a gentle run up the coast towards Fort William, just before which is the Corran ferry, our jumping off point on to the Ardamurchan peninsula. The ferryman admires the GTC4Lusso: "That's the nicest car we've had on here for a while." At which point, a gaggle of German classic cars turns up – including a couple of Aston DB5s – and our prize is short-lived. Still, we're first off the ferry, giving us an unbroken tilt along the superb road to



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FERRARI GTC4LUSSO T

ENGINE:	3855cc V8 twin-turbo petrol
BORE X STROKE:	86.5mm x 82mm
COMPRESSION RATIO:	9.4:1
POWER:	610hp @ 7500rpm
TORQUE:	760Nm (561lb ft) @ 3000-5250rpm
TRANSMISSION:	Seven-speed auto, rear-wheel drive
SUSPENSION:	Magnetorheological (SCM-E)
BRAKES:	Carbon ceramics all round
TYRES:	245/35 ZR20 (front)
	295/35 ZR20 (rear)
DIMENSIONS:	4922mm (L) 1980mm (W) 1383mm (H)
WEIGHT:	1865kg
0-62MPH:	3.5sec
TOP SPEED:	199mph
FUEL CONSUMPTION:	24.8mpg (official)
CO2:	265g/km
PRICE:	£200,235



Strontian. We enjoy this open, undulating section while it lasts, for what awaits beyond is a 25-mile stretch of virtual single-track road all the way to the end of the peninsula.

With each passing mile, things becomes wilder and more remote. The views across Loch Sunart to Mull are spectacular but equally breathtaking are the headland's moors and evocatively bare mountains. Much of it is a 55 million year-old volcanic area known as the Ardnamurchan caldera, and an other-worldly aura pervades the place.

We even spot what we think was an eagle, while a placard in the sole café along the route attests to recent sightings of dolphins. Civilisation gradually ebbs away, with just a tiny smattering of isolated farms remaining; you're left on your own for mile after glorious mile. There is a distillery here but it's only five years old and has yet to produce its first single malt – patience is a definite virtue in this part of the world. A local told us that the distillation tanks had to be made especially small because the regular ones simply wouldn't fit along this road.

Finally we reach Ardnamurchan Point, where a sign









tells us that the public road is at an end. You can go further, snaking around the cliff to the lighthouse (open to visitors from spring to autumn) and we even park right under it, making ours definitively the most westerly vehicle on the British mainland.

Returning on the same road, we then strike north across the peninsula to Lochailort, where we reach another of Scotland's greatest pieces of tarmac: the A830 'Road to the Isles'. It's worth driving west to Mallaig for the contrast of wide, open driving to which the GTC4Lusso is best suited. It's also a chance to test Ferrari's ceramic brakes in safety, and yes, I can report that the car stops exceedingly quickly.

The sight of the Skye ferry at Mallaig is very tempting but sadly our time is up. Returning via Fort William, we take the opportunity to follow the A82 through Glen Coe, topping off a truly memorable west coast drive. Here it's best to go calmly and appreciate the unbelievable atmosphere of this high-altitude place. It's also a chance to appreciate how comfortable the GTC4's cabin is, and how good the displays are tespecially the 10.25-inch touchscreen and optional £3360 passenger display). It's superbly spacious up front, and we try the rear seats to know that there's enough room to squeeze in a couple of kids here, plus luggage for a weekend away.

So what's our conclusion after this varied test? As a touring car, the V8 turbo does work better than the V12: you need to stop for fuel less often, it has a lighter feel on the road, and it's more relaxed because you don't need to rev the engine as high. In some ways it's more dynamic: the lighter weight, rear-drive and weight balance gives it a keener feel. It's not even that much slower (the o-62mph difference is just o.1 second), and it actually has more torgue than the V12. The £40,000 price difference is hard to ignore, too. The only ways in which the V12 is superior are traction and engine noise. There's still nothing to beat a raw naturally aspirated V12, and the V8's soundtrack is pleasantly burbly rather than spine-tingling; when the exhaust baffles open at 3000rpm, the difference isn't as dramatic as I'd like. But as an all-rounder - the Ferrari you'd choose to live with as an everyday car the Lusso T is hard to fault.

About as remote as it gets: lighthouse is way beyond civilisation but Ferrari proves extremely civilised



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The Lost GTA

Long before the 156 GTA, Alfa was set to revive its GTA badge on the 155 GTA. We've tracked down the one and only 155 GTA Stradale prototype and discover why it never made production

Story by Ruoteclassiche/Luca Gastaldi Photos by Ruoteclassiche/Wolfango



ike a unicorn, the whereabouts – and even the very existence – of the mythical Alfa Romeo 155 GTA Stradale have been shrouded in mystery for years. Built as a one-off prototype in 1992-1993, it was an "extraordinary and strange beast," to quote its creator, the legendary Lancia and Abarth engineer, Sergio Limone.

Luckily we've managed to track down this rarest of beasts and persuade its current owner, Rino Anello, to pull it out of his garage for us. This car has spent its entire lifetime in total seclusion. Initially it was tucked away in Abarth's workshops, before making its way to rally driver and dealer Tony Fassina's depot, and then sat in a corner of a car collector's dusty shed.

Now, finally, it's seen the light. Rino Anello was lucky enough to get his hands on this utterly unique machine thanks to a lot of hard work, Chinese whispers and word-of-mouth sleuthing worthy of the secret service. Very few people, in fact, knew about the existence of this unique Alfa. Even fewer knew where the car was, or what had happened to it, after Fiat's management decided not to go ahead with series production.

Fiat's reasoning was that it would too expensive to produce. With hindsight, and having had our own experience testing it on the road, we feel nothing but regret that the 155 GTA never went ahead. It would surely have become the equivalent of the Lancia integrale for Alfisti, not only for its heavily muscled stance but also because it shares a close mechanical relationship with the legendary Lancia. Above all, though, like the Delta in rally events, the 155 made history in Touring Car racing. No question, Alfa really missed a trick not cashing in on the back of it.

The prototype of the 155 GTA Stradale was born in 1992-1993, a period of great change in the racing strategy of the Fiat group. In fact, after Lancia's withdrawal from the World Rally Championship, official activities concentrated solely on the Alfa Romeo brand, which had just brought out the new 155. Work on the racing 155 began in 1991, when Turin-based Abarth was engaged to help out Alfa Romeo in Settimo Milanese, to prepare for the following year's season.

The decision was to race the Italian Championship SuperTusrimso series in 1992, as a try-out for the German DTM series in 1993. The 155 Q4 provided the starting point, being the sports model in the 155 range. In fact, it shared almost all its mechanicals with the

auto italia 21

Lancia Delta HF integrale. This venerable platform gave birth to the Fiat Tipo and Tempra, plus the Alfa GTV, Spider and, of course, the 155.

For the competition version of the 155 it was decided to rely on MacPherson struts all round. The engine derived from the 2.0-litre turbocharged fourcylinder engine of the Lancia Delta, but in the 155 SuperTurismo version the power was fully 400hp, far higher than was then allowed by rally regulations. The extra power was unleashed thanks to a new exhaust manifold, turbocharger, intercooler and intake manifold, all specifically designed for competition and without any worries about homologation (unlike the 5000 examples of the Delta HF that had to be made to homologate Lancia's Group A Delta). The four-wheel drive system was the same as the Delta's but with a cast-iron (instead of aluminium) rear differential, delivering more weight to the rear.

Born under the Abarth project name SEo51, the first racing 155 was called the GTA SuperTurismo. The 'GTA' moniker was a tribute to the glorious Giulia GTA 'Alleggerita' that enjoyed such success on Europe's race circuits in the 1960s and 1970s. The 155 GTA's racing career began in the 1992 season of the Italian SuperTurismo Championship. Two official cars were fielded in full Martini Racing livery at Monza, driven by Nicola Larini and Alessandro Nannini. At the their side were two other examples in Jolly Club livery, driven by Giorgio Francia (the Alfa Corse test driver) and Antonio Tamburini. Larini won that year's championship, with Francia, Nannini and Tamburini following his achievements, leaving no hope for BMW drivers Tarquini, Pirro and Ravaglia, who could do little to tackle their rivals.

ENTER THE GTA STRADALE

Following this racing success, it was decided to prepare a road-going 155 GTA with many of the features of the competition car. Born under the Abarth project code SE053, the idea was an obvious one because the racing 155 had originally been born as a tuned version of Alfa's existing 155 Q4 road car. The engine underwent slight preparation (to Group N level) and developed 190hp. On the engine spec sheet were a Garrett T3 turbocharger, air-to-air intercooler and Marelli IAW multipoint electronic injection.

The rear suspension featured the Delta's independent system, with trailing arms and telescopic dampers. The original shape of the 155 was enhanced by integrale-type fat wings to cover the wider front track of 1517mm and rear track of 1506mm. The huge rear spoiler certainly looked impressive, while the front had the same aggressively shaped bumper as the racing 155. The cockpit did not differ from that of the series 155 Q4, which was no bad thing, as it was a perfect mix of luxurious leather upholstery and bolstered sports seats. Once completed, the 155 GTA prototype was

Pumped-up bodywork made the GTA look like a racer. Underneath it shared much of its spec with the 155 Q4



submitted for review to Fiat's technical management. Two issues were immediately raised, a philosophical one and a commercial one. It was thought that Alfa 155 GTA needed a more powerful engine – perhaps derived from the Busso V6 – but unfortunately the V6 was not compatible with the Delta's suspension. The commercial nail in the coffin was this: the for Monaco to obtain approval to make it roadworthy. In 1999, a former Alfa engine tuner bought it and took it back to Italy. He jealously guarded the car until its recent purchase by Mr Anello. In all those years, it has been carefully kept intact, except for the rear wing, which has recently undergone restoration.

Although it is a prototype, the 155 GTA Stradale is

It needed more power but the V6 wasn't compatible

manufacturing costs would have been too high because Fiat thought the GTA would need its own dedicated assembly line. As a result, Fiat cruelly walked out on Alfa's Cinderella.

Apart from being displayed at the 1994 Bologna Motor Show, the 155 GTA's only other public outing was on track – at the 1994 Formula 1 Grand Prix at Monza, where it served as the race medical team car, driven by Fabrizio Barbazza.

Right after the GP, the GTA was shipped out of Abarth's shop to its new owner: the former rally driver and Milanese Fiat dealer, Tony Fassina, who also bought up some DTM left-overs (such as chassis and engines). The 155 GTA remained tucked away in his garage for four years, until one of Tony's friends bought it after a short negotiation. The GTA left for Germany, and then complete and fully operational. We had a short experience in it and its four-wheel drive, relatively long wheelbase and wide track give it very incisive road behaviour, especially on twisty roads. From the raised driver seat however, it is not always easy to know where to place the car as the road twists and turns. You're kept very well in place in heavily bolstered leather seats; in fact, even rear passengers won't slide around, as the seats are shaped to hold bodies around corners.

The final word should go to engineer Sergio Limone, the father of the Lancia 037 among many other jewels, to whom Fiat's management entrusted the 155 GTA Stradale project in 1992. "Yes, I remember the '155 on steroids' well," he tells us. "The preparation work in itself was not too challenging, because we decided to

FAR RIGHT: Driver Fabrizio Barbazza in the 155 GTA with F1's doctor, Sid Watkins, at Monza in 1994





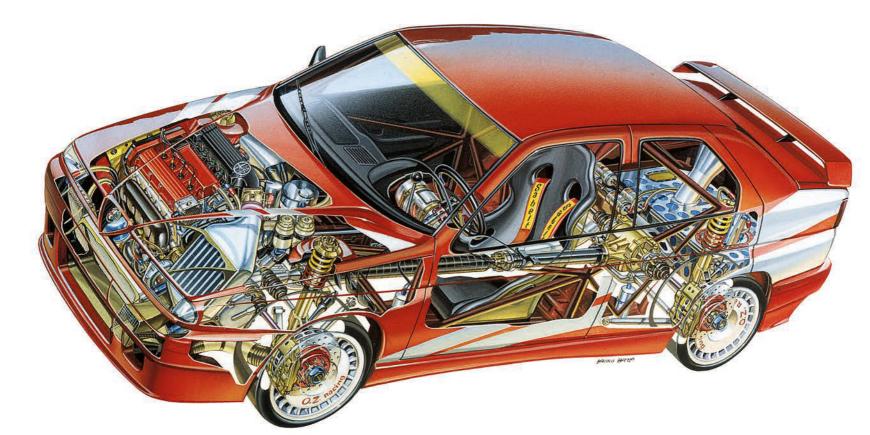








ALFA ROMEO 155 GTA STRADALE



ABOVE: Cutaway of the 155 GTA SuperTurismo showing its transverse engine and four-wheel drive with two differentials start from the production 155 Q4. The car was designed by Carlo Gaino of Synthesis Group, which would soon create the look of the Maserati Barchetta. We really had fun assembling it around the mechanicals of the Deltona ('big' racing Delta).

"The 155 GTA was a lost opportunity, like many such projects in those years," concludes Limone. "Fiat was keen to make niche products but at no additional cost. Basically, the 155 GTA should have been manufactured in Pomigliano d'Arco and then completed with its mechanicals in Turin. It had one insurmountable problem: Fiat judged that a separate assembly line was needed because preparation and painting could not be made on the standard line. Luckily, the prototype belongs to a real enthusiast today."

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS ALFA ROMEO 155 GTA STRADALE

ENGINE: CAPACITY:	4-cyl 16-valve DOHC 1995cc
BORE X STROKE:	84mm x 90mm
COMPRESSION RATIO:	8.0:1
POWER:	190hp at 6000rpm
TRANSMISSION:	5-speed manual,
	permanent four-wheel drive
SUSPENSION:	MacPherson struts, coil springs, electronic dampers
BRAKES:	Vented front discs,
	solid rear discs, ABS
TYRES:	205/50 ZR15
DIMENSIONS:	4445mm (L) 1800mm (W) 1440mm (H)
WEIGHT:	1465kg
MAX SPEED:	140mph



THE 155'S RACING STORY 1992-95

The Alfa Romeo 155 was a true Touring Car great, undoubtedly one of the finest Alfa Romeo racing cars of all time. Its official racing career went from 1992 to 1996, and its technical evolution was truly impressive. After the Italian SuperTurismo 155 GTA came the V6 TI, developed for the German DTM, in which it scored a tremendous victory in 1993. The V6 TI was equipped with a 6o-degree 2498cc V6 engine with 420hp, mated to four-wheel drive. The sequential gearbox was mounted in the middle of the car to move the weight as far backwards as possible. The frame also underwent a radical change: the subframes carrying the suspension remained, but the front one was completely revised and the rear one 'wrapped' around the differential. The body shape was also significantly modified compared to the road-going car. The front end was a single piece including the bonnet, grille and wings. Parallel to DTM, the 155 was also involved in the 1993 Italian championship in a less aggressive D2 version, realised in part by Albatech.

For the 1994 DTM, the 155 underwent many changes.

The car's body was lowered by around 80mm, the aerodynamics were fully revamped, the engine was upgraded (although the main features were kept) and new electronics were added, including an ABS braking system and electronically-controlled active suspension. The 155 D2 (born out of the 155 Silverstone special edition) raced in the British Touring Car Championship and was famously won by Gabriele Tarquini. The D2 again won the Italian championship in 1994.

The 155 V6 TI for the 1995 DTM saw aerodynamic improvements, especially in the lower half of the car, as well as new front suspension, electronic sequential transmission with steering wheel controls, and electronic differentials. The engine now featured pneumatically operated valves, as well as new intake and exhaust ducts.

Finally, 1996 saw the birth of the FIA-ITC championship for Touring Cars in the FIA Class 1 category. Alfa Romeo raced the 155 again, equipped with a new XTrac transmission and a structural fuel tank in composite material located in the middle of the car. The engine was a go-degree V6 version derived from the Lancia Thema powerplant.





Senior Junior

Zagato's two-seat Junior Z coupe was supposed to inject some raciness into the Alfa 105 family. Misunderstood and overlooked, its reputation is changing rapidly – here's why

Story by Martin Buckley Images by Michael Ward

ost great cars are more than the sum of their parts. And there is no doubt that the allure of Alfa's 105 series cars is what they achieved on so little, be they factory saloons, Bertone coupes or Pininfarina Spiders. All have a uniquely satisfying combination of sparkling urge and intimate communication – through smoothly responsive control – that has earned legions of devotees.

So you would have thought that Zagato's 105 variant, the Junior Z, would have represented a 105 peak. Here, after all, was a pared-down driving machine cast in the mould of the Alfa SZ and TZ; a strictly twoseat, no-frills mini-GT for the well-heeled gentleman driver, who would drive to the office in the week, then sprint and hillclimb at the weekends, just for fun. Trouble was, the raffish idea of the gentleman driver really no longer existed by the late 1960s. The Junior Z never earned itself a significant reputation as a competition machine; only a handful were privately campaigned (without great success) and there was never any factory race support for the car.

And while the Junior Z was evidently slippery (probably the fastest 1300/1600cc car on the market at the time), it was not especially light. Zagato was noted for its alloy body work but for a true production car, steel made more sense. The Junior Z ended up being only 25lb lighter than the Bertone 1300.

So you can see the dilemma of the Junior Z: exotic and desirable for sure, but not as light as you might expect. And nor are they quite as rare as you may think (some 1500 were made in all).



Classic car dealer Clive Winston of Mr Speedlux agrees, having just sold this lovely Junior Z 1600 to Australia. "There is a bit of a premium over one of the better Bertone 105 models, but not a great deal. The Bertone coupe is such a timeless shape, while the Zagato is love-it-or-hate-it; also not that many people are even aware Alfa made it."

First seen at the 1969 Turin Salon, the Junior Z resulted from an almost casual approach by Alfa's CEO, Giovanni Luraghi, to Zagato at the same show two years earlier. No doubt impressed by the success of the Lancia Fulvia Zagato, Alfa was looking for a way to expand the appeal of its 1300 Junior range with a strict two-seater coupe that traded on the fame of the racewinning TZ and SZ but was purely meant for street use. That it would be more slippery and lighter than the regular 105 coupe was a given, but it also had to look more modern than the four-year old Bertone car, and at the same time use as many parts as possible that were common to mainstream production Alfas.

The task of creating it fell to Zagato's chief designer, Ercole Spada. Having started working for the Zagato brothers in 1960, he had proved himself to be adept at creating aerodynamic designs that seamlessly incorporated as many production components as possible.

Still in his twenties, Spada had become central to the success of the business in many ways and the Junior Z would be both his final production design for Zagato (he would soon move to Ford) and the firm's last major commercial collaboration as a body maker.

In fact, the Junior Z enjoyed nothing like the success of the Lancia Fulvia Zagato. It slotted in as an expensive oddity in the Alfa range of the early 1970s – in fact, the third most expensive offering after the Montreal and 1300 GTA.





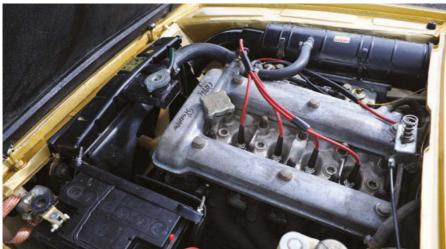
















As Alfa Romeo grappled with getting the Sud and Alfetta into production, the Junior Z became even more of an orphan, rarely road tested by the motoring press and hardly ever advertised, although Alfa did go to the trouble of issuing sales brochures and special owners' handbooks.

Spada's wedge-profiled design, although evidently evolved from one-offs like the Rover TCZ and Fiat 125 GTZ, was – according to Spada's biography – in fact inspired the Lotus 56 Turbine car.

Spada's draft pencil drawings show that the need for a short wheelbase was causing problems with spare wheel storage: his sketch has it mounted up right at the rear, between the corner bumpers, with the back panel glazed, Espada-style. There were also issues accommodating the fuel tank, which ended up being shared with the Montreal.

The Plexiglas nose, with the Alfa shield cut-out doubling as an air intake, seems to have been there from the beginning, although Spada's plan to do without a front bumper was scuppered by the need to protect the Plexiglas. In fact the 'bumper' is really a device to carry the number plate holder. Alfa supplied a Spider floorpan, shortened behind the rear wheels, upon which Zagato welded a subframe of inner panels. The roof supports were extraordinarily slender and there was a rugged-looking brace between the inner wheel arches to aid rigidity. The bonnet and doors were alloy but everything else was in mild steel.

Junior Z shells were assembled by Maggiora at its plant in Turin on purpose-made jigs and then sent to Alfa for priming; only at the painting/trimming stage did Zagato at Terrazzano di Rho get involved.

The completed shells then went back to Alfa for the fitment of engines – the standard 89hp 1300 Junior twin-cam, healthy enough to take this 950kg (2026lb) car to 108mph – as well as the highly effective 105 series suspension, steering and brakes.

The first prototype (which was alloy-panelled) was delivered to Alfa for testing in the summer of 1968. By the end of 1969, some 208 cars had been built for the official launch in February 1970. A total of 1108 examples of the 1300 Junior Z, all left-hand drive, were sold through to the end of 1972, with sales peaking at 566 cars in the first year but running down to a dribble of 185 in the last 12 months.

Taking over seamlessly from the 1300 in November 1972 was the 109hp 1600 Junior Zagato, badged 1600 Z. This was produced for about a year, although it seems that the last of the 402 examples built were not sold until 1975-76. The top speed was 118mph – very much in the 2000 GTV class, despite a 60lb increase in weight that can be attributed to a 10cm longer rear overhang and opening panels now in steel.

The opportunity was also taken to rationalise the car with Alfa's mainstream range, so 1600 Zs had the latest pendant foot pedals, Spider fuel tank (mounted on the left-hand side), 2000 Berlina tail-lights and the same three-spoke wood-rimmed steering wheel as the 1600 Coupe. Apart the from the longer tail, the quick way to tell the 1300 and 1600 apart was the latter's one-piece front bumper, while there was also a bulge in the rear bumper to accommodate the spare wheel.

Our feature car is 29th of the 402 examples of the 1600 Z built, supplied new in Milan in June 1973 to a lawyer called Falbo Pierino, who also owned a silver 1.3

ALFA ROMEO JUNIOR ZAGATO



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS ALFA ROMEO 1600 JUNIOR ZAGATO

ENGINE:	1570cc 4-cyl twin-cam
BORE/STROKE:	78mm x 82mm
COMPRESSION RATIO:	9.0:1
CARBURETTORS:	2 x Weber 40DCOE
POWER:	110hp @ 6000rpm
TORQUE:	139Nm (103lb ft) @ 2800rpm
WEIGHT:	950kg (dry)
MAX SPEED:	118mph
0-62MPH:	9.3sec

Junior Z. He would own this car for the rest of his life, until Clive Winston imported it into the UK in 2017.

It's a tough-looking little car, almost a piece of functional industrial design compared to the more sensual shapes of the early 1960s. There is virtually no chrome and not a bit of flab in it anywhere, the glasshouse floating above the body on pencil-thin pillars, as it sweeps down to the cropped Kamm tail. The prominently flared wheelarches give it muscle, as does the wide bonnet bulge that flows down into the Perspex nose.

There is a lot of overhang projecting beyond front arches, a device to allow the bonnet to plot a smooth, shallow curve towards the screen and give enough depth for the tall twin-cam engine. The big arches give a lean look to the car's profile, as do the sills which narrow dramatically as they flow towards the rear wheels.

Pull the ugly square door handles and you enter a cabin than swaps the flashy detailing of the Bertone coupes for driver-focused utility. The leatherette-trimmed dash is shaped almost like a section through an aircraft wing and the stout Alfa gear lever sticks out near horizontally from the centre console. You sit low, adopting the customary arms stretched/knees up posture in bucket seats, with built in-headrests, that are unique to the model. There is superb 360-degree vision and plenty of luggage room, loaded via the rear hatch which also doubles as a vent for airflow from the cabin. As in the Fulvia and Flavia Zagatos, you open the

rear hatch a couple of inches - by way of a dashoperated electric switch - and let the airflow behind the Kamm tail do the rest.

With dimensions nearer to square than Alfa's 2.o-litre engine, the 157occ motor revs even more willingly and smoothly through five perfectly spaced ratios. The lever has such a sweet action – sprung towards the centre – so you can change gear as quickly and effortlessly as merely thinking about it. The light, positive steering is similarly instinctive and you soon feel you are wearing the Junior Z rather than performing actions with hands and feet.

It will glide along in fifth gear on a crack of throttle, suggesting that the shape is as slippery as it looks, and has all low and mid-range torque you need to carve smoothly through traffic or boost you along twisty roads.

This is a car that proves both tolerant of the novice and rewarding to the expert; those in between will love the way it changes direction with such willingness, and yet feels solid and settled in medium and long highspeed curves. It is not a blisteringly quick thing but one of those cars that remind you deep driving pleasure does not necessarily lie in the realm of raw urge.

So, I suppose you want one now? Around 250 Junior Zs have been accounted for but I feel there are surely more to be discovered. There are plenty on sale, albeit at increasingly high prices. Clive Winston doesn't think the 1600 Zs are worth the £60k plus that they're being touted at currently. The more numerous (but some say more attractive) 1300 Zs come in at about £35-40k. "In a way, even this is arse-about-face," reckons Clive, whose son, Theo, runs a re-engined 2.0-litre JZ, "because the shorter 1300 JZ model is nicer to drive."

Regarding perceptions of Zagato fragility, Clive thinks the Junior Z is a marginally better quality product than Bertone's coupe, which is surprising to hear. "Certainly things like panel closure seem to be more substantial and they are an improvement on previous Zagato products such as the Flavia Sport. Not that that says a lot!"

Later 1600 JZ has a longer rear end than the 1300. Tailgate opens electrically to let air escape the cabin









Built for a prince, this 1974 Maserati Quattroporte was one of just two bodied by Frua. We tell the story of a car that was very much favoured by the Aga Khan

> Story by Andy Heywood Images by Michael Ward

robably best known for his ill-fated foray into racing with the Group 4 Maserati Bora, the French Maserati importer, ETS Thepenier, had a long association with the Trident. Based in the Parisian suburb of Saint-Cloud, Jean Thepenier was the sole concessionaire for France from 1957 to 1985. He sold some of Maserati's most exotic cars and to some of its most exotic clients, none more so than His Royal Highness, Prince Karim Aga Khan, who lived in Paris at that time.

AVS 798N

The Aga Khan bought a number of Maseratis over the years, including a 5000GT, 3500GT Spyder and no fewer than four Series 1 Quattroportes, all ordered through Thepenier. The last of these was delivered in in 1970 but was subsequently modified to take the new, larger 4.9-litre Maserati V8 engine and also the 'new' Citroen LHM brakes that Maserati was adopting for the Bora. It was while this work was taking place that the Prince visited the 1972 Paris Salon and had his head turned by another Maserati, this time on the stand of the coachbuilder, Pietro Frua.

Frua was the coachbuilder for the Series 1 Quattroporte, and was hoping to get the commission for its replacement. To this end, he built a prototype as his suggestion for Maserati, which had been constructed and first presented a year earlier at the Paris Salon in 1971. At the time, *Automobil Revue* magazine praised it for its "modern, elongated line and strict elegance with emphasis on the horizontal stroke" and concluded that "this Frua creation's sportiness cannot be denied". It sounded like a perfect match for the Maserati brand, but times were changing in Modena.



Now owned by Citroen, and with French managers running the company, Maserati was busy exploring other options. It favoured a Bertone-bodied Quattroporte II designed by Marcello Gandini, no doubt at least partly because that car used Citroen SM running gear.

A year later, a decision had yet to be made so Frua exhibited the car once again at the Paris Salon. While it still didn't have the desired effect on the Maserati management, the Aga Khan was so taken with it that he offered to buy it on the spot. This raised a few eyebrows in Modena as the basis of the prototype was an old Indy chassis and running gear that was distinctly second-hand. To save any embarrassment later, Thepenier respectfully suggested that His Highness wouldn't want to buy this prototype but that Signor Frua was more than happy to build him a brand new example, for which Maserati would provide a new chassis and running gear.

The Aga Khan agreed and Thepenier placed an order with Maserati in January 1973. The floorpan of this new car would also be the same as an Indy, which meant steel box sections throughout with a separate removable front subframe, onto which fitted the engine, gearbox and front suspension. The only difference was an extension in the wheelbase of approximately 20cm. The Indy by that time was nearing the end of its production life (having been introduced in 1968) and Maserati was in the process of launching the final version, with a 4.9-litre engine, later ZF dog-leg gearbox and Citroen LHM brakes, a specification similar in fact to the Aga Khan's current, modified Quattroporte Series 1. Naturally, therefore, this all met with Royal approval.

The plan was for Maserati to build the rolling chassis and then deliver it to Frua for the body, which neatly removed the need to homologate what was effectively a one-off. This represented a change in attitude for Maserati and a move towards the modern world. In the previous, Orsi era, one-offs and modifications to satisfy particular client's peccadilloes were all taken in the company's stride and it would have been proud to offer a bespoke service. Now, the liability of sanctioning a one-off was too much and so the finished vehicle became a product of Frua, not Maserati.

Perhaps because of this reluctance and almost certainly because Maserati and Citroen were in a state of constant turmoil during this period, it took until September of 1973 for work to commence on the chassis and therefore it wasn't until November that it was delivered to Frua.

Throughout this period, the Aga Khan became somewhat impatient and applied considerable pressure on Thepenier, who in turn pressed Maserati and Frua to complete the project. The car today still has a comprehensive file of correspondence which reveals how much pressure an Aga Khan can apply -Thepenier certainly earnt his commission! But these things take time and, correctly, Frua couldn't rush to complete the car. Were it not for the traditional August holidays, it might have been ready before, but having returned from the Costa Smeralda, the Aga Elegant Frua design should surely have become the official Quattroporte II, but just two were made

MASERATI QUATTROPORTE FRUA



Based on an Indy, this is a superb car to drive – among the best of the 'classic era' Maseratis, in fact Khan agreed to an official handover of the car at the beginning of September 1974.

Even then, the paperwork required to export the car to France was not completed until November. It had now been two years since the Aga Khan first saw the prototype. But it was certainly worth waiting for. The Aga Khan covered many miles in the car, and he was an enthusiastic driver. In an interview with *Sports Cars* in 1989 at a Poulain Le Fur auction, still in Paris, where it was bought by the Geneva International Motor Museum. While on display there a few attempts were made to sell the car, but none was successful, until in 1998 it was bought by the American collector Alfredo Brener from Houston.

During the 1990s, Brener had assembled one of the most important collections of Maserati cars in the

The prince admitted to habitually driving at between 80mph and 145mph ¹¹

Illustrated, the Prince admitted to habitually driving at between 80 and 145mph, although the car was more often driven by his chauffeur Lucien Lemouss. He went on to recount a story that one day, the chauffeur slowed to 80mph as they fell in behind a slower-moving Ferrari. The young Prince had the chauffeur pull over, took over the driver's seat, and swiftly passed the Ferrari.

However, it wasn't too long before his head was turned again by the next new thing and the car was passed on to its second owner. One of the Aga Khan's other great passions was horse racing and he gave the car to the jockey, Yves St Martin, who had raced the Prince's horses with great success. He owned the car for a few years in the late 1970s and then it disappeared from view for a while, emerging world, including no fewer than five 5000GTs. He bought not only this Frua Quattroporte but also the prototype that had so enchanted the Aga Khan. I went to view the Brener collection in 2003 on behalf of *Auto Italia* and we photographed both cars together.

They make an interesting comparison as the first car, known retrospectively by its chassis number as AM121.002 (as opposed to the car in these photographs, which is 004) has earlier Indy wheels, a 4.7-litre engine, a Ghibli gearbox and a less accomplished dashboard layout. But the body is identical, and it even has the Citroen LHM brakes. It seems today that there are fewer differences than everyone thought at the time and it does seem odd that they didn't just sell the first car to the Aga Khan. At the end of the day, after its Motor Show career, the

"I Owned It"

Enthusiast and Auto Italia contributor, Martin Buckley, actually owned this Aga Khan QP for a short while. He tells us: "I bought the car off Bruce Milner in Los Angeles in 2015 – a fabulous car, and for me the most beautiful of the QPs. In theory it was the fastest four-door car in the world at the time. I drove it much



tour-door car in the world at the time. I drove it much more extensively in LA than I did in the UK. It was an odd car in that it had Citroen-type high-pressure brakes but conventional steering. It was a fairly discreet car and it was difficult to get people to understand how special it was compared with a normal QP. The interior was glorious and very original, as was the rest of the car. But I couldn't afford to keep it. At one point there was an approach from the Aga Khan but he said I wanted silly money for it! While I'm pleased I owned such a special car, it was a daunting responsibility at times, which pretty much cured me of Italian exotica."

first prototype was sold to King Juan Carlos of Spain, whom one assumes wouldn't have been too keen on a second-hand motor either.

Alas, the Brener collection was dispersed at auction later in 2003 and the Fruas parted company once more. They were briefly reunited once again in the collection of Bruce Milner in California before the Aga Khan car was sold to the British motoring journalist and *Auto Italia* contributor, Martin Buckley (see panel to left).

After Martin, the car was bought by the current owner, who commissioned McGrath Maserati to undertake a complete mechanical overhaul and interior retrim before pressing it into action for a tour of Norway last year. The car had actually covered 80,000km and considering how much time it has spent unused in museums and private collections, it must have done most of this mileage in its first few years with the Aga Khan. It proves that this is no hastily conceived prototype but a fully developed and sophisticated car.

Certainly, the Indy 4900 was one of the bestdeveloped of the Maserati road cars. The combination of the extra torque from the larger engine with the ZF dog-leg gearbox gave effortless performance. Power steering was standard with a ZF system that gave better feel than non-assisted cars and the brakes used the Citroen system, which while being universally criticised for being excessively sharp and difficult to moderate, were more powerful than any other 1970s supercar. The extra wheelbase of the Quattroporte does affect the handling in that the car is slightly more reluctant to change lanes than an Indy but it does make for a very civilised ride and is rock solid in a straight line at any speed.

Although rumours persist that a third car was bodied in this style by Frua, officially there were only two. Looking at the car today, it is very difficult to see why Maserati didn't give Frua the contract for the Series 2 Quattroporte. It is a stately, luxurious machine with an enormous glass area and spacious interior, yet it still looks lithe and sexy in the way that a Rolls-Royce Phantom never could.

The Aga Khan Quattroporte Frua is part of the Stephen Dowling collection, being auctioned by RM Sotheby's in London on 5 September 2018. For more information, visit rmsothebys.com







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What Might Have Been

Italy has produced most of the world's great concept cars. So many of them deserved to reach production, but very few ever did. Here are our most tragic lost causes

Story by Chris Rees

C MATTERNA



hey say in life that it's the things you don't do that you regret, never the things that you do. And for us, the biggest regrets are always about cars that we could never buy: ones that came

tantalisingly close to production but never made it for one reason or another.

Italy's design heritage means it has a golden treasure chest full of such jewels. From imaginative concept cars to in-house dead certs, there are dozens of cars that should have made production, but whose potential was never realised. The reasons could be financial, personal or just plain bad luck, but the result was always the same: a tragic lost cause.

No doubt you will be able to nominate many more 'might have been' cars, but here's our selection of the greatest ever losses to the Italian car industry – and to classic car enthusiasts, who have been denied the opportunity to own one of these would-be greats.

ALFA ROMEO 2000 SPORTIVA (1954)



Franco Scaglione's 1954 Alfa Romeo design for Bertone might well have made production as a rival for Mercedes-Benz's 300SL gullwing. The 2000 Sportiva was based on a Disco Volante chassis and essentially used Alfa Romeo 1900 mechanicals, with its 1.9-litre four-cylinder engine bored out to 2.0 litres so that it developed 140hp at 6500rpm. Since the Sportiva's 'superleggera' construction resulted in a featherweight 915kg, it was good for 140mph.

Scaglione also created an open Spider version, and perhaps two examples of each body style were built before Alfa's management decided it was too expensive to produce in series. That's a crying shame: an Alfa coupe of the Sportiva's elegance would be an A1 classic today, and undoubtedly worth an absolute mint.











ALFA ROMEO CANGURO (1964)

The Canguro which appeared on Bertone's stand at the 1964 Paris Show was an absolute design classic. Giugiaro's shape was certainly more harmonious than Zagato's more aggressive TZ, with which it shared its mechanical basis. The Canguro was a symphony of lithesome shapes, including cut-in curved windows and a superbly elegant rear. It was also very compact: just 3900mm long and 1060mm tall.

The Edo Manzoni-designed TZ tubular chassis weighed a mere 40kg. Together with the TZ's triangulated all-independent suspension, inboard rear disc brakes and 112hp Giulia SS 1570cc engine, this was a lively, lovely car to drive. Sadly a production run never materialised; had it done so, I suspect this would be in many people's top 10 Alfas of all time. The one and only Canguro was sold to a German and abandoned, before being resurrected by Gallery Abarth in Japan.

PININFARINA ALFA TIPO 33/2 (1969)

This is the car that could have seen Alfa Romeo enter the supercar race alongside Ferrari and Lamborghini. Leonardo Fioravanti of Pininfarina designed this incredible coupe, which was first show at the Paris Show in 1969. It was based on an Alfa 33 Stradale chassis, itself one of the rarest Alfas of all time.

With its gullwing doors and pop-up headlights, the 33/2 looked very much like Pininfarina's Ferrari P5 concept of the previous year. While Ferrari would go its own mid-engined way with the Dino and Berlinetta Boxer, Alfa could have so easily have chased it. The sole 33/2 built currently resides in Alfa's museum at Arese.

ITALDESIGN TAPIRO (1970)

Giugiaro's folded paper school arguably reached its zenith with the 1970 Tapiro. This was the first occasion on which Giugiaro experimented with wedge design. Concept car aesthetics crept in with the doors and rear glass, which were all gullwing-style, required a complex central structure to support the hinges.

It's almost impossible to tell what car the Tapiro was based on from the outside: the Volkswagen Porsche g14/6. Had Porsche made its g14 look like this, it would surely have been much more popular – a kind of proto-Porsche Cayman, perhaps. As it is, the one and only Tapiro was bought privately and ended its days burnt to a crisp in an accident. If you like the Tapiro, the closest you'll get in a production car is the De Tomaso Mangusta.

PININFARINA PEUGETTE (1976)

With the 1976 Peugette, Pininfarina came close to achieving production with Peugeot (with whom it enjoyed an excellent relationship at the time). This was an extremely clever design, built with ease of manufacturing a top priority. Its bodywork was exactly symmetrical front and rear, and the wings and opening panels were all interchangeable. The dashboard housed innovative modular instrument 'pods', a bit like the later Fiat Panda.

The Peugette was based on the Peugeot 104 ZS, but with extra bracing and a rollover bar. It was a fully functional prototype, which some magazines even

ITALIAN CARS THEY SHOULD HAVE BUILT



road tested in period, reporting it to be fun to drive, despite a lack of power.

In 1977, Pininfarina revamped the design as a 'Corsa' model with a cut-down windscreen and a covered-over passenger area. Sadly Peugeot declined to productionise what would have been a futuristic and stylish budget sports car – a great shame, as it's stood the test of time extremely well.

FERRARI PININ (1980)

Enzo Ferrari famously decreed that no model bearing his name would ever have four doors. He reportedly considered revising his views when he saw what Pininfarina did to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1980, for the Pinin was not only the first four-door Ferrari ever built but a real beauty, too.

It was based on a stretched 400 GT chassis and was intended to have a BB flat-12 engine mated to a fivespeed manual gearbox, allowing for a very low front end. In fact, the show car merely had a mock-up engine and was a non-runner (although a running engine was later fitted). An elegantly simple design, it featured flush windows and 'multi-parabolic' lights that seemed to melt into the bodywork. There was even enough rear legroom for plutocrats to stretch out.

Enzo stuck to his guns in the end, and we're still waiting for a four-door Ferrari. The Pinin prototype was sold to the Belgian racing driver, Jacques Swaters, and still exists today.

GHIA BARCHETTA (1983)

Over a decade before the Fiat Barchetta, Ghia;s little sports car could have become Italy's Mazda MX-5 beater. Designed by Ghia, the Barchetta looked good and would have made a very cheap two-seat roadster, had it entered production.

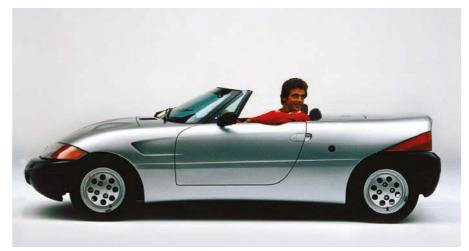
It was based on the Ford Fiesta XR2, including its 1.6-litre, 82hp, 16-valve engine and front-wheel drive platform. Stylistically it was said to draw inspiration from sports barchettas of the 1950s, with minimal front and rear overhangs, and it looked cool with its steel bodywork painted silver with dark grey bumpers.

Such was the clamour from the buying public that a pressure group was formed, consisting of over 10,000 members, to persuade Ford to make it. It declined, perhaps wisely since the market for sports cars was in



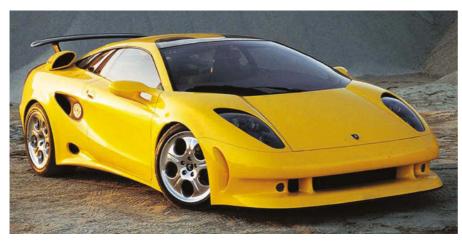














free-fall at the time. The Barchetta's shape did provide the inspiration for Ford of Australia's Capri sports car but this wasn't a patch on Ghia's original. Instead, Mazda was left to clean up with its MX-5.

PININFARINA ALFA VIVACE (1986)

For the 1986 Turin Show, Pininfarina wheeled out a pair of concept cars called Vivace: one a coupe, the other a spider. With the Alfetta GTV and Alfasud Sprint on their last legs at the time, the Vivace could have been a real coup, had Alfa put it into production.

The Vivace twins boasted an elegantly simple design that was so well received that demands were made for Alfa Romeo to productionise the cars. However, Pininfarina's new head of design, Enrico Fumia, was making big waves at the time. His 164 saloon was in preparation and he is said to have penned his first proposal for the Tipo 916 GTV and Spider (which finally emerged in 1994) as early as 1987 – just in time to squash the Vivace's hopes.

BERTONE LANCIA KAYAK (1995)

On Bertone's stand at the 1995 Geneva Motor Show was a real beauty: a Lancia-badged coupe intended to evoke the aura of classics like the Lancia Aurelia B20. Its elegant, tautly sculpted shape was formed over the Lancia K, which had been in production since 1994.

Fiat boss Gianni Agnelli was said to have been very appreciative of the car, and Bertone built a running prototype in 1996 hoping that it might spark a commercial future. However, in 1996 Lancia instead went ahead with its own Kappa Coupe, which was, by common consensus, a stylistic runt.

LAMBORGHINI CALA (1995)

Giorgetto Giugiaro's Calà might just have become the new Lamborghini Jalpa. Its strikingly curvaceous design was controversial in some areas, like the wibbly-wobbly roof/windscreen interface, big air vents everywhere you looked and prominent rear spoiler, but it was certainly striking.

Built over the previous P140 prototype, the Calà had an aluminium chassis and a carbonfibre body. It used a mid-mounted 3.9-litre V10 engine with 400hp and rear-wheel drive, and its top speed was as high as 181mph. But when Megatech sold Lamborghini to Volkswagen in 1998, the Calà was squashed to make way for a new design – the Gallardo – which finally emerged in 2003.

ZAGATO LAMBORGHINI RAPTOR (1996)

Of all Zagato's designs of the modern era that 'got away', the Raptor remains the most poignant – especially as it was a fully functional machine, not a mere mock-up. Launched at the 1996 Geneva Show, it looked sensational. The one-piece front-hinged section (including the doors, windscreen and doublebubble roof) was not only dramatic but highly adaptable. The idea was that you could change it from a coupe to an open-topped 'barchetta' in an instant, or even create a single-seater by fitting a metal tonneau over the passenger's seat.

It was powered by a Lamborghini Diablo powertrain (5.7-litre V12 and 4x4) and by using carbon bodywork, it was lighter than the Diablo, and therefore quicker.

ITALIAN CARS THEY SHOULD HAVE BUILT

Zagato developed the Raptor to be made in limited series and despite 550 expressions of interest being taken at Geneva, Lamborghini shunned it. Zagato considered building the model itself, but in the end it remained a one-off.

ALFA ROMEO NUVOLA (1996)

I distinctly remember being bowled over by the Nuvola at its launch in Paris in 1996. It was not only me crying for it to be made in series, but hundreds of other Alfisti. Sadly, its design hasn't stood the test of time as well as other cars featured on these pages, so perhaps it's not such a tragedy that it never made production.

The Nuvola was, at one stage, a firm candidate to make it to the showroom. In fact, it might actually have revived the coachbuilt era, since it used a spaceframe chassis and separate body, and Alfa Romeo countenanced offering chassis to independent design houses.

The shape was a well proportioned mix of curves created by Walter de Silva's team at Centro Stile. It used a front-mounted 2.5-litre twin-turbo V6 engine with 300hp and four-wheel drive, and was good for 174mph and 0-62mph in 5.0 seconds. Instead, we would have to wait for the 8C Competizione for an Alfa coupe of this class to arrive; the Nuvola prototype ended its days at the Alfa Romeo Museum in Arese.

LANCIA FULVIA HF (2003)

On display at the 2003 Frankfurt Show was something rather special from Lancia: a brilliantly reimagined Fulvia HF coupe. With retro styling so fashionable at the time, it was bang on trend.

The mechanical basis was unromantic – the Fiat Punto Mk2 – but as the Fiat Barchetta had proved, you could make a very good sports car out of the frontwheel drive Punto. The 1.8-litre 140hp engine would have been plenty enough for some fun, especially as the HF weighed only 990kg: 132mph and 0-62 in 8.6 seconds were claimed.

It would have been a cinch to put this into production – and the intention was certainly there. What wasn't there, however, was cash, and the HF was tragically canned.

FIAT 500 COUPE ZAGATO (2011)

While Fiat expanded its 500 line-up into ever-lardier versions like the 500L, Zagato's 2011 concept went in the opposite direction: shrinking the 500 into a coupe. It looked fantastic, with a low roofline and double-bubble top. The fact that it was displayed on Fiat's own stand at Geneva led to strong speculation that it could make production. Of course, it didn't. Something to consider for the second-generation 500, Fiat...?











BULLSEYE

WHEN HORACIO PAGANI CAME TO ITALY FROM ARGENTINA IN 1982, IT WAS ON LAMBORGHINI'S DOOR THAT HE KNOCKED. WE TALK TO HIM ABOUT HIS YEARS AT SANT'AGATA AND SAMPLE THE CAR WHOSE DEVELOPMENT HE OVERSAW - THE ANNIVERSARY COUNTACH

> Story by Ruoteclassiche/Marco Pascali Photos by Ruoteclassiche/Alberto Cervetti



oracio Pagani's name may be best known today for his own supercar brand, but he cut his teeth down the road at Lamborghini's Sant'Agata factory. Pagani started off sweeping the floors literally - before his engineering skills were appreciated by Lamborghini's management. He ended up being a key figure in the development of the 1988 Countach Anniversary, a model built to celebrate Lamborghini's 25th anniversary. So when we found out that - after two successful decades

life. And by force of will, his dream actually came true. He had the vision and the skills to become a master craftsman, and within a few years, he would achieve legendary status with his own supercar company.

Horacio Pagani was born in Argentina on 10 November 1955 as the son of Italian immigrants. On arriving in Italy in 1982, he beat a path to Lamborghini, home of the Countach. "I already knew the Countach by heart because it was the dream car of my generation," Pagani told us. "I had a poster of that car in my bedroom. It was black – I still remember it."

His mission came full circle in 1988 when, having

"The makeover of the Countach was an interesting challenge," says Pagani. "The model was, at the time, ageing badly and it was proving hard to sell. Apart from the aesthetics, there was also the issue of United States homologation rules. I immediately realised it would not be an easy task. The first prototype was ready in three months. I had the opportunity to show it to Juan Manuel Fangio, as well as Paul Frère, who happened to be in Sant'Agata at the time. As soon as he saw it, he was particularly impressed by it. Ultimately, Lamborghini sold over 650 units in

as were both bumpers, and the side skirts were also 'treated' to strakes. The Anniversary proved to be the swansong of the Countach line: made from 1988 to 1990, some 657 were built in total.

Pagani continued to work on Lamborghini projects, including the LMoo2 and the 1987 Countach Evoluzione, the very the first supercar to use a carbonfibre monocoque. He left the home of the Raging Bull in 1991 to set up his own company, Pagani Automobili Modena, as had always been his intention.

"I was in the heart of Modena's 'Motor Valley'. At the time, the Modena area was not yet known

I already knew my dream car, the Countach, by heart ""

making Pagani supercars – Horacio had recently bought himself a Countach Anniversary, this felt like the ideal moment to visit the Pagani works and quiz him about his days at Sant'Agata.

It's a now-familiar chapter in motoring history that, when the Argentinean-born Horacio Pagani decided to move to Italy, he was buying a one-way ticket to a dream been at Lamborghini for five years, he was asked to update the Countach for the company's 25th anniversary. This was not an easy task, because Marcello Gandini's masterpiece was very much a creature of the 1970s. Now, some 15 years on, we were in the brave new world of VHS, floppy discs, Miami Vice and, crucially, the headline-grabbing Ferrari Testarossa.

just a few months – it was a real success."

Compared to the outgoing Countach QV, it was the Anniversary's air ducts that were most striking, with the shadow of Ferrari's Testarossa looming large. New rear intake ducts gained prominent strakes, which gave a better airflow but looked like the stylistic equivalent of 1980s shoulder pads. The engine lid was also redesigned, by that accolade, but my goal had always been to move to Modena to build my own cars." Having gained experience and skills by learning from some of Italy's greatest craftsmen and engineers, he was fully qualified to create his own car.

The Pagani Zonda finally emerged in 1999, and its many evolutions – together with the new Huayra – qualify Pagani as a serious and innovative



player, high on the slopes of the supercar Olympus. The secret of his success? The clear understanding that supercar customers were about his experiences at Lamborghini.

How did you get to Sant'Agata? "I knocked on

today when they apply for a job with me at Pagani. 'Allow me to wipe the floor. Remember I've come here to make the most beautiful car on assigned to the bodywork department, using metal sheet, glassfibre, whatever: I would process any material. There were 170 of there us at the

I said to Alfieri: please allow me to wipe the floor II

seeking not only performance, but also uniqueness, personalisation and a different way of thinking.

In 2017, Horacio Pagani bought himself a 25th Anniversary Countach – a superb silver example with a red leather interior, with just 2000km on the odometer. We caught up with him where the car currently resides – at his own museum – to ask him Lamborghini's door in 1983, carrying with me five endorsement letters written by Juan Manuel Fangio. One of these was addressed to Giulio Alfieri (who had been, from 1982, general manager of Lamborghini). Alfieri told me that there were no opportunities at the company because it was in very bad shape.

"I told him the words that everybody refers to earth.' Alfieri laughed and felt guilty enough to give me a job. The situation was really critical at Lamborghini in those years but Alfieri was an extraordinary person. 'You must be willing to start as a third-level factory worker,' he said, which was the very lowest position in Italy's engineering industry. That's how I started at Sant'Agata. Soon I was time, a few more than the current staff at Pagani."

How was your welcome?

"I showed up very early to work, I recall. I went to see Lamborghini's 'babies' as they were being built. Then it was the aluminium modellers' turn to arrive: they assembled the cars, polished them and got them ready for painting. Before leaving, in the evening, I would



PAGANI AT LAMBORGHINI

check every single example, look at them, caress them. In August one year, a cat gave birth to kittens inside a Countach. I kept one of the kittens for myself [he laughs]. Why am I telling you this? To explain that it was different then. Those were romantic years.

"I liked to get to work at around 5.00 or 5.30 in the morning. But I was forced to stick to the official working hours: the unions kicked me out at 5.00 pm. They would yell 'Argenten' and signed me out. I longed for freedom and independence in my working hours. I wanted to come and go as I wished. I wanted to organise my day without the union getting in the way. Why not also make extra money? Alfieri found a way to employ me in a different way, and I took a job as a craftsman. In fact, I was the first Lamborghini in-house craftsman. The unions couldn't complain; they were tied to old habits."

What project was key to your success?

"No question, it was the Anniversary Countach. We had orders for 170 cars and we ended up making over 650 in all. Also buying a bodywork autoclave brought real change. Lamborghini had refused to buy one, so I





ENGINE:	5167cc longitudinal 60-degree V12, 48-valve DOHC
BORE X STROKE:	85.5mm x 75mm
COMPRESSION RATIO:	9.5:1
POWER:	455hp at 7000rpm
TORQUE:	500Nm (369lb ft) at 5200rpm
INDUCTION:	6 x Weber 44 DCNF carbs
TRANSMISSION:	5-speed gearbox, rear-wheel drive
SUSPENSION:	Transverse arms/coil springs (front), triangular arms/coil springs (rear), anti-roll bars front and rear
TYRES:	225/50 VR15 front, 345/35 VR15 rear
DIMENSIONS:	4140mm (L), 2000mm (W), 1070mm (H)
WEIGHT:	1490kg
MAX SPEED:	183mph
FUEL CONSUMPTION:	12.7mpg
VALUE TODAY:	£350,000









decided to make the investment on my own. I founded Modena Design. eventually leaving Lamborghini behind. The research work on composite materials from that investment was impressive. At the time, even I didn't realise what I was doing. We were still in virgin territory. The Eurofighter manufacturer would give me materials to review; I would do the testing for them and try



new composite options. That autoclave equipment now forms part of our exhibition in the Pagani museum."

Horacio's flow of memories and anecdotes comes thick and fast. For instance, how he developed a full carbon Lamborghini that sadly didn't reach production. "The L30 dated from 1990-1991. Had Lamborghini been cleverer, the carbontype chassis, similar to



that of the Aventador, would have been developed 15 years earlier." Then there's his relationship with Dieter Zetsche's Mercedes-Benz. "He always stood up for me against those in the company who were reluctant to supply V12 engines. He said Pagani is a small company that makes an Italian product what damage can it do to us? Better let Pagani have our engine than the

competition's powerplants."

Of all these stories, however, the most fascinating is about the Anniversary Countach. This supercar marked the changeover from Marcello Gandini to Pagani. In many ways, they are polar opposites although both made their own supercar visions a reality and both men certainly know how to make dreams become true.

DRIVING THE COUNTACH ANNIVERSARY

he Anniversary is easily the most refined of all the Countach models, but that's not saying much. It's still the same concept carturned-raging-bull with its heart from the 1970s.

The V12 engine, with its four valves per cylinder and two overhead camshafts on each bank of cylinders, delivers 455hp – pretty monstrous by the standards of the 1980s. It means this Countach is a very fast car but it's not the speed that stays with you: it's the sound that makes the biggest impression. All 12 cylinders chattering away; six vertically-mounted twin-choke carburettors sucking in air; and a quite extraordinary exhaust. Stamping on the throttle pedal – which is awkwardly offset – makes the meaty Webers sound like Jack and the Beanstalk's giant breathing in, while the four exhaust pipes bellow with a ferocious intensity.

There's no ABS, no power assistance for the steering, no traction control. The clutch is heavy, the gearchange is awkward and no human being on the planet could find the offset pedals comfortable. Horacio Pagani even demonstrates how he has to reverse the Countach. From the inside, rearward visibility is virtually zero, so you plonk your posterior on the sill and manoeuvre the car from there. But you quickly forget about such petty, mundane considerations: this is an untamed beast of a car. One that, after all, you really expect to put up a fight.



HORACIO PAGANI MUSEUM Recently finished after careful preparation, the Pagani Museum houses Horacio's first ever supercar, the Zonda, the Nürburgring Zonda R prototype record car and the latest Huayra. You'll find it at San Cesario sul Panaro. Modena



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DIARY DATES 2018



August 3-5 Lancia Motor Club National & AGM Kenilworth Warkwickshire www.lanciamotorlcub.co.uk August 4-5 Beaulieu Supercar Weekend National Motor Museum, Hampshire www.beaulieu.co.uk August 5 Italian Car Day by Abarth East Midlands Heage Windmill, Derbyshire August 19 Festival Italia Brands Hatch Circuit, Kent www.festivalitalia.com August 25-26 Spettacolo Sportivo

Zandvoort, The Netherlands Huge Alfa Romeo club event www.spettacolosportivo.eu

September 1-2 Beaulieu International Autojumble National Motor Museum Hampshire www.beaulieu.co.uk September 7-9 Goodwood Revival Chichester Sussex www.goodwood.com September 14-16 Best Of Italy Race

Castell'Arquato to Morfasso www.bestofitalvrace.com September 23

AROC Southern Alfa Day Winkworth Arboretum, Surrey www.aroc-uk.com/events-diary October 14 Autumn Motorsport Festival Brooklands, www.auto-italia.net





August 26 MITCAR Midlands Italian Car Day Arbury Hall Nuneaton CV10 7PX www.MITCAR.co.uk August 30 - September 1

Salon Privé Blenheim Palace, Oxon salonpriveconcours.com

I October 25-28 Auto e Moto d'Epoca 2018 Padova, Italy autoemotodepoca.com November 9-11 NEC Classic Motor Show Birmingham www.necclassicmotorshow.com



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BUYERS' GUIDE

ABARTH 500/595/695

If you believe that the best things in life come in small packages, one of the Abarth 500 family could be just for you. Here's all you need to know about Abarth's popular pocket rocket

Story by Richard Dredge Images by Michael Ward







elieve it or not, 2018 marks a full decade since the reborn Fiat 500 went on sale. It still accounts for most of Fiat's sales in the UK and it's easy to see why; fun to drive, brilliantly designed inside and out and with a surprisingly wide model range, there's a lot to love about the retro-styled pint-sized hatch – and convertible too, of course.

One of the best things about the reintroduction of the 500 is that Fiat also used it as an opportunity to breathe new life into the Abarth brand, which returned in spring 2009, one year after the regular 500 was launched. At first, there was just an Abarth 500 hatchback, but the range soon mushroomed. By summer 2010 there was also a 500C with a full-length folding cloth roof, which initially came only with Abarth's Competizione paddle-shift gearbox, but a year later a five-speed manual transmission became available.

The 500 was fitted with a turbocharged 1.4-litre fourcylinder engine rated at 135hp and 132lb ft in Normal mode, but a Sport setting allowed the peak torque to be boosted to 152lb ft. For those who wanted even more urge, an Esseesse kit (deliciously delivered in a wooden crate) could be bought for £2500. Available only from the factory, the kit was classed as an aftermarket package that had to be fitted by an official dealer within 12 months or 12,500 miles of the vehicle being registered. The Esseesse featured an ECU upgrade along with an improved air filter, pushing peak power up to 160hp. To help rein in those extra horses the brakes were beefed up with drilled and ventilated discs up front, while larger drilled discs were fitted at the back. Unique springs were fitted front and rear and to complete the more aggressive stance, the regular 16-inch wheels were swapped for 17-inch items with a white or titanium finish.

auto italia 55

In August 2012 the 500 was relegated to entry-level status with the introduction of the new 595 Turismo and Competizione in hatchback and cabriolet forms. Both got 160hp engines as standard (the 500 retained its 135hp unit). The Turismo focused on luxury, with

In spring 2014 695 Biposto was unleashed. This 997kg two-seater was the most powerful derivative yet (190hp), and had an Akrapovic exhaust, adjustable dampers, digital data logger and Abarth Corsa seats with four-point harnesses. While the Biposto wasn't a

Along the way there have been a few rarities that occasionally crop up for sale

leather trim, xenon headlights and climate control. Both editions also got 17-inch wheels, privacy glass, upgraded suspension and red brake callipers. The sportier Competizione was fitted with a Monza sports exhaust and cloth-trimmed sports seats.

Along the way, there have also been a few rarities that occasionally crop up for sale. First to arrive, in August 2010, was the 695 Tributo Ferrari with 180hp. Just 152 right-hand drive examples were made, each priced at a hefty £29,600 and featuring a Competizione gearbox, xenon headlights, 17-inch alloys and Abarth Corsa seats by Sabelt.

Next came the Maserati Edition, which arrived in December 2012 and was priced at £32,000. The same 180hp powerplant was fitted, with each of the 499 cars also featuring a leather luggage set and upgrades for the brakes, suspension and exhaust. All cars came with maroon paint and tan leather trim.

The 18ohp 595 5oth Anniversary of January 2014 was limited to 299 examples, all with matt white paint and a scorpion logo on the bonnet; inside there were red leather seats.



special edition, sales were limited by its reduced practicality and hefty £33k price tag. The Biposto Record that arrived in November *was* a limited-run model, with 133 available at an even heftier £36,610. This time there were 18-inch OZ alloys and all cars featured Modena Yellow paint.

One further special was the 595 Yamaha Racing Factory Edition of autumn 2014, with a choice of seven colours, lowered suspension, a 160hp engine, adjustable suspension and a Monza sports exhaust. Other specials have included the 135hp 500 Bi-Colore of spring 2015 (50 made), the 140hp 595 Trofeo of September 2015



BUYERS' GUIDE: ABARTH 500, 595 & 695





(250 made), the 140hp 595 Tricolore of spring 2016 (300 made) and the 695 Rivale (launched in 2017 and still on sale new).

ON THE ROAD

There are essentially three levels of spec: the 135/145hp 500, the 160/180hp 595 and the 180hp 695. An Essesse kit (available on earlier models) more or less takes the 500 up to 595 spec, but the suspension of the latter is better resolved as the pepped-up 500's ride is too harsh with the big wheels and over-firm damping. With a raft of specialists able to offer upgrades for the exhaust, ECU, brakes and suspension, you could be better off buying a standard 500 and fitting whatever upgrades you fancy, so you can tailor the car to suit your needs. Although the Abarth shares its bodyshell with the regular 500, it had a comprehensive makeover

> something that's

resulting in



far more fun to drive and with a much more aggressive look – but in a subtle way. The nose is extended by 111mm to accommodate the turbocharger, a diffuser with twin exhausts is fitted at the rear and the bigger wheels (either 16- or 17-inch) give the Abarth a much more planted stance.

The least powerful Abarth has 135hp, but pressing the Sport button increases the turbo's boost from 0.7 to 1.0 bar, pushing peak torque up to 152lb ft in the process. There's no need to explore the red line because staying within the mid-range is far more rewarding; there's plenty of shove at this point and the engine sounds its best here too, the cabin permeating with a concoction of whistles and gurgles as you enjoy your favourite B-road. The biggest problem with the 500 is the steering, which is too light and devoid of feel. Pressing the Sport button increases the weighting but doesn't add any feel – what it does do is to increase the amount of self-centring so it sometimes feels like you're fighting it.

ENGINE / TRANSMISSION

The 1368cc engine fitted to all of these cars is strong and doesn't tend to give problems. The most common issue is with coolant weeping from the water pump outlet pipe which can suffer from poor sealing, but this is easily fixed so it's a cheap job. The retaining bolt for the air inlet pipe can also come loose, leading to some strange noises from under the bonnet. Again, this is easily fixed for peanuts.

The gearboxes are similarly tough, both manual and sequential auto. The most likely glitch is a minor fluid leak from the joints, but not enough to worry about. Some early manual-gearbox 500s could suffer from the clutch pedal breaking but any such cars should have been fixed by now. More likely are problems with the gear linkage cable bushes which can wear and break, leaving the car with just a couple of gears. The cables and bushes have to be bought together but a specialist should charge only £250 or so to get it all back to normal.

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CHASSIS / BODY

There should be no signs of corrosion anywhere, while the panel fit should be tight and even. If not, the car may have been damaged then badly repaired. Many Abarths are bought by middle-aged enthusiasts rather than young and inexperienced drivers, so they tend not to be thrashed or abused very much – many are bought as second cars so they don't do a huge annual mileage. You do need to check all of the decals though, as they can peel off and look unsightly – especially where newer cars are concerned.

The suspension can suffer from a few maladies, especially on hard-driven cars. The wishbone and damper bushes don't seem to last very long – they can be worn out in 10,000 miles if the car is regularly driven hard. Budget £280-£360 per side to fix this. The same goes for the front suspension top mounts, for which you'll need to budget £190 per side to get fixed. Rear wheel bearings are another weak spot, given away by whining from one side as the car corners. Expect to pay £260 per side to have a fresh set of bearings fitted.





INTERIOR

The interior is perhaps one of the biggest disappointments as it wasn't upgraded much over the regular Fiat 500. It feels a bit plasticky but tends to last well. Unfortunately the same can't always be said of the wiring loom where it goes into the tailgate on hatchback models. The wiring can fray (although it's unusual) so the rear lights, wiper and boot lock don't work. Depending on whether you're replacing or repairing the harness, expect to pay £400-£800 to get it fixed.

In 2014 a recall was issued for more than 3000 Abarth 500s, which could suffer from the exterior and dashboard lighting being lost, because of wiring damage caused by the loom under the dash chafing against the steering column. It affected cars built between September 2011 and May 2014, so check that the work has been done.

RUNNING COSTS

Abarth sets the service interval at 18,000 miles or two years (expect to pay around £275 for this), with an



Not everything feels of the highest quality but this is mostly a straightforward and easy car to run

BUYERS' GUIDE: ABARTH 500, 595 & 695





TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS ABARTH 595

ENGINE:	1368cc 4-cyl 16-valve turbo
POWER:	165hp at 5500rpm
TORQUE:	170lb ft at 2000rpm
TRANSMISSION:	5-speed manual or sequential auto
WEIGHT:	1035kg
MAX SPEED:	136mph
0-62MPH:	7.3sec (auto 7.4)

annual oil and filter change every year or 9,000 miles for around £120. Esseesse editions cut this latter interval to just 6,000 miles or 12 months.

All Abarth 500 derivatives need a replacement cambelt every six years or 72,000 miles; budget £220 to get the work done, while a 36,000-mile service is pegged at £330 or so; this includes fresh brake fluid along with new pollen and air filters.

There's a raft of independent specialists who can cut the cost of servicing while sticking with genuine parts, but make sure you get recommendations before entrusting your car to anyone. When it comes to online forums, one of the most popular is the Modified Abarths Facebook group.

PRICES

The good news is that because these Abarths only really appeal to enthusiast owners, they tend to be cherished. Find a car that's been neglected and you'll be really unlucky.

Shop around and you might find an early highmileage 500 for around £5000, but realistically you need to budget at least £6000 if you want any choice. Equivalent 500Cs start at £8000; these are more costly than the hatchbacks because they're rarer and more sought after and also because the earliest cars are also a year newer.

The most numerous of the various Abarth 500 derivatives is the 595, which starts at £9000 for a 13-plate hatchback; once again the cabriolet edition is much rarer which is why these start at £10,500, also for a 2013 example.

Rarest of the Abarths is the 695C. We found just four of them for sale with prices beginning at £25,000 or so; buy a 695 hatch instead and you'll need to find at least £20,000.

Typical prices:

- 2009 Abarth 500. 112,000 miles, red: £4695
- 2012 Abarth 500. 54,000 miles, white: £6750
- 2013 Abarth 500C. 30,000 miles, blue: £9750
- 2013 Abarth 595 Turismo. 26,000 miles, red: £9240
- 2015 Abarth 595C Turismo. 14,740 miles, white: £11,495
- 2015 Abarth 695 Biposto. 11,400 miles, gunmetal; £21,995

THANKS

Our expert for this article is Mike Stebbings of MS Racing (www.ms-r.co.uk), which sells parts and accessories for Abarth owners. Mike bought one of the very first Abarth 500s in the UK in 2009 and he still owns it, having worked with a variety of Italian cars including Ferraris and Maseratis for well over a decade.











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+96BHP

CLUB ITALIA REPORTS ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND ITALIAN CAR CLUBS

MODENA 100 ORE

Incredible quality and hard-fought competition help make Modena 100 Ore probably the best road event in Italy

Story & images by Matteo Grazia





ithout a doubt, Modena 100 Ore has always been one of the most important classic car events in Italy. Everything is perfectly set up: beautiful cars, amazing culture, awesome landscapes and a palpable spirit of friendship among the participants. No wonder Modena 100 Ore has been recognised in independent awards ceremonies for collector car events.

In our view, it's risen to pole position among road-based events, the flagship weekend of Italy's 'Motor Valley'. Why? It's a combination of perfect organisation and the extraordinary standards of the cars. In truth, it's the result of years of hard work by Luigi Orlandini, the Canossa Events staff and Scuderia Tricolore, who have breathed life into an idea born and developed over 20 years ago by Mauro Bompani.

The recipe for success is simple: an international competition for high-profile classic cars for drivers from all over the world. Participants take five days to cover about 830km of roads through beautiful places in central and northern Italy, as well as

competing on racetracks such as Monza, Mugello, Varano, Modena, and doing 11 special stages closed to traffic.

The 2018 edition, held in June, covered the regions of Lombardy, Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany. At the Monza circuit, some 101 cars took the track, divided into two groups, 72 cars for the competition and 29 for the regularity rally. In addition to the traditional racetrack, a wonderful special stage saw the cars run on the famous historic banked sections of track, a tribute to what is the third-oldest permanent racetrack in the











world, after Brooklands (sadly no longer in use) and Indianapolis.

This year, many Italian brands were represented by undisputed masterpieces. There were 21 Ferraris, 14 Alfa Romeos, four Lancias, two Maseratis and one apiece from Iso Rivolta and Osca. British teams were easily the most numerous, at 64, with many more from Germany, Switzerland, Italy, the USA and others.

To give an idea of the incredible quality and rarity of the models, we should mention the 1954 Ferrari 375 MM Pininfarina Spider (driven by Luigino Barp from Italy and Thomas Shaughnessy from the USA), the 1965 Ferrari 250 LM (Alexander and Shirley Van der Lof) and two 1957 Maserati 150s (Marc Devis/ Sonia Maveau, and Britain's Richard and Anna Wilson). In addition to many Alfa Romeo Giulia GTA and GTAm cars was a superb 1960 Giulietta Sprint Zagato. Lancias present included a 1955 Aurelia B20 (Terrance Hefty/Dean Meiling), a 1975 Stratos Gr4 rally car (Max Girardo/Elio Baldi) and two from the UK: Andrew McAlpine and Alex Lee's 1971 Fulvia HF and a rare 1982 037 Stradale driven by Robert Wadsworth and Alistair Oxley.

After Monza, the convoy arrived in Emilia-Romagna for special stages in the hills near Parma, followed by a parade in Salsomaggiore Terme, the famous tourist town. Then there were competitive races at





the Varano de Melegari circuit, whose 2350metre length allows cars to shine even with less power. The competition was intense, with frequent contacts between cars and some full-on driving.

The mechanics were called on to do gruelling work, day and night, only occasionally failing to keep cars working. After all, withdrawals are expected when the competition is so hard-fought. This is no polite parade of vintage cars!

Tuscany welcomed the classics on the third and fourth days in beautiful places such as the seafront of Forte dei Marmi, the green Apennine landscapes, the Circuit of Mugello and of course Florence, which saw



MODENA 100 ORE



the arrival of the cars in the historic centre at Piazza Ognissanti.

Roads full of history, like the Futa and Raticosa passes (scenes of epic battles during the Mille Miglia) were crossed by the colourful caravan, a real travelling museum. Their destination was Modena and the nearby racetrack at Marzaglia. When the first cars reached the city, its beautiful Piazza Grande was filled with fans celebrating the winners.

The podium ceremony in the shade of Ghirlandina saw the British crew of Philip Walker and Miles Griffiths aboard their 1964 Jaguar E-Type take the win. Among the ladies, Daniela Ellerbrock and Jackie Rohwer in a 1965 Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GTA took the top step of the podium. In the regularity event, a Porsche 356 B was the winner but in the women's competition it was an Italian car: Joelle Housseau and Aude Moreau's 1972 Ferrari Dino 246 GT. One of the most beautiful cars, a 1952 Ferrari 212 Export Berlinetta Touring, placed incredibly in third place due to a classification that takes into account the Index of Performance.

The atmosphere, strong sense of fair play and friendship make this event unique in the international scene. And we shouldn't forget that in 2018, as in previous years, the organisers took a 'CarbonZero' approach, offsetting the CO2 emissions generated by the cars by planting new trees in the Tosco-Emiliano Apennines – we think this makes it the world's only 'zero emissions' car event.







BOOK SHELF

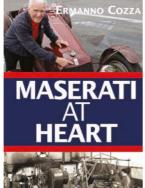


ALFA ROMEO & FORMULA 1: From the First World Championship to the Long-Awaited Return By Enrico Mapelli Giorgio Nada Editore ISBN: 978-88-7911-717-3 £44.00

As regular readers will know from our August 2018 issue – when we gathered together seven Alfa Romeo F1 cars over the decades – Alfa is back in Formula 1 (albeit merely as a sponsor of Sauber). That seems like a good moment, then, to publish a book celebrating the full story of Alfa's participation in F1, both as a manufacturer and an engine supplier.

That starts right back in the earliest days of the 1950 and 1951 seasons (although only 18 of its 192 pages are devoted to the Alfa 158/159 era). The book spends more time in the eras of Chiti, Autodelta and Brabham, as well as early 1970s flurries with McLaren and March, plus Ligier. Names like Fangio, Taruffi, Giacomelli, Andretti, De Cesaris, Patrese, Cheever, Reutemann, Watson, Piquet and Lauda light up a fascinating story. There's also a full listing of all Alfa Romeo's Formula 1 results.

The text is in both English and Italian, and the book is very well illustrated with hundreds of images, most of which are period (there are just a few modern photo shoots of the historic 1950s cars). Many of these photos have never been seen before.



MASERATI AT HEART By Ermanno Cozza Giorgio Nada Editore ISBN: 978-8879117166 £39.00

Anyone who is even remotely into Maserati will find Ermanno Cozza's new autobiography utterly entrancing. Here is a story of Maserati, told from the inside, by a man who was central to the marque from 1951 up until 1987 – and even beyond, as someone who helped create Maserati's archive and museum.

Cozza was born in 1933 and joined Officine Alfieri Maserati as a mechanic aged just 19. He spent his years in the Research Department, then the Technical Office and finally the Commercial Department. Cozza comments: "Today, many people consider me to be the living memory of Maserati" – and that's exactly why this book is so good.

Here is an engineer's view of the Maserati story, rich in detail on the development of both racing and road cars. But it's the people who truly enliven the story; you get a real sense of who they were, from rabble-rousing union representatives to the overbearing Alejandro De Tomaso, the despot who reigned at Maserati from 1975 to 1993.

2007, is now out of

relaunched as part of

Veloce's 'Classic Reprint' series – although it's

actually more than that,

updated to make it more

having been modestly

Starting with the

charts Fiat's hugely

Topolino of the 1930s, it

successful satisfaction of

Italy's desire for cheap

mobility. It moves on to

the 600 and 500, which

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The book's definition of

'small' also slightly larger

Millecento, the 128 (Fiat's

Fiats such as the 1950s

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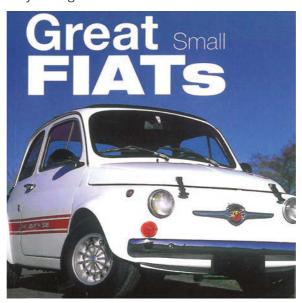
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relevant to 2018.

stock, so it's been

This is a traditionallooking and feeling book written by a man who clearly respects traditions. Over some 500plus pages, Cozza's crystal clear memories and anecdotes provide some amazing insights, many of which have never before been published. Yet it's also a very personal story.

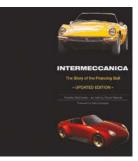
The book's traditional feel even extends to the separate 'photo plate' sections, with black-andwhite and colour images that are redolent of the age. No, this is not an especially cheap book but its excellent value is all too clear to appreciate. One small criticism: it would benefit immeasurably from an index, which is sadly lacking.



GREAT SMALL FIATS By Phil Ward Veloce ISBN: 978-1-787113-23-7 £27.50

If you like small Fiats, this book lives up to its name: it's great. Written by the erstwhile editor of – and current contributor to – *Auto Italia*, Phil Ward, it's a true classic for Italian car fans. The original title, published back in Autobianchi, Polski-Fiat, Neckar, Zastava and Seat. It's the rare coachbuilt stuff that excites us, like Savio, Siata, Giannini and – in particular – Moretti, with which Mr Ward has a special affinity.

The price is keen, too, for a chunky 176-page book, although the paper finish doesn't do justice to the excellent photos, of which there are no fewer than 853 to enjoy.



INTERMECCANICA: The Story of the Prancing Bull (Second Edition) By Andrew McCredie & Paula Reisner Veloce ISBN: 978-1-787112-53-7 £45.00

Intermeccanica is one of Italy's least well known car makers, and this book sheds some welcome light on what is a fascinating story. Founded by Frank Reisner (a Hungarian-born Canadian), the Intermeccanica company started off in Turin in the early 1960s. The glory period was undoubtedly the sixties, when the company made such fabulous sports and GT cars as the Apollo, Italia and Indra (a superb example of the latter was featured in Auto Italia's June 2018 issue).

Reisner emigrated to North America in 1975, after which the story gets a little less interesting (there are a lot of pages devoted to plastic Porsche Speedster and VW Kubelwagen replicas). But the new second edition of the book has a kick in the tail, bringing the Intermeccanica story up to date with the new 'Electra Meccanica' project (dabbling in electric cars), plus details of a forthcoming new Intermeccanica sports car. The 192-page hardback features 200 pictures, including some cars you'll never have seen before - and that's always what we want from books on obscure subjects.



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TEAM CARS

CHRIS REES

ALFA ROMEO SZ ALSO OWNS: FIAT PANDA 100HP, MASERATI QUATTROPORTE SPORT GT

t was going to be so simple. Out of hibernation this spring, the job I decided to treat the Alfa SZ to this year was its drooping doors. Zagato's design and construction methods for the SZ certainly left something to be desired did you know that it built up SZs fully, then took them apart again to paint them? Often the 'wrong' opening panels were then put back on the cars. No surprise that SZs tend to suffer from dropping doors over time...

Mine were needing a good thwack to close, drooping so much that some of the paint was rubbing off the front wings. So off the SZ went to Alfa Aid in Maidenhead, where Adrian Jardine's team set about the twoday process of removing the doors and fixing them to sit straight. The hinges



had warped over time, so new hinges (the very last ones in stock) were fitted. There were also no shims at all, as there should be, so Alfa Aid made up a total of 17 new ones to get the doors to sit properly. Great news: they now swing supersmoothly and with a satisfying clunk.

The SZ was ready just in time for its first outing of the year, a run around Castle Combe with some classic cars (and, as it turned out, Nick Mason's LaFerrari). But on my very first series of laps, I started feeling a vibration through the gear lever, followed by a sharp noise and then a much louder vibration that made the car sound like a World War 2 bomber. Track session over! I guessed that a propshaft doughnut had perished and, sure enough, when the SZ returned to Adrian for diagnosis, that's exactly what he found: the middle of the three rubber doughnuts had spat a piece out. No problem: just fit a new doughnut.

Yes, it was going to be so simple. Then Adrian sent me a pic of the dismantled propshaft showing the centre spline severely worn - the result of one of the doughnuts having been fitted incorrectly, allowing the shaft to shimmy around. Could it be fixed? After a long investigation by a propshaft specialist, the answer was 'no'. So it's a new one, then? Adrian looked at me: "I gave the



propshaft people my last remaining SZ shaft to use as a template – and they've lost it..."

After days of extremely anxious waiting – during which time Adrian discovered that no propshafts remain for SZs at all (or, for that matter, Alfa 75 V6s) – he finally said they'd found his last one. On it went and – hey presto – the SZ is back in action! Adrian also cured an annoying rattling sound that's been plaguing my exhaust ever since I bought the car five years ago. I've got used to it, but Adrian says he had to fix it to keep him sane!









STEFANO COMPRIMOZZO

FIAT PANDA SELECTA ALSO OWNS: FIAT PANDA 4X4 MK2

eing something of a 'Pandaholic', I was delighted to receive an email in May 2016 from an old friend, James Wheeler, who had spotted an advertisement for a 1992 Panda Selecta with only g680 miles and in time-warp condition. An appointment was rapidly made with Spinning Wheel Classics in Chesterfield to inspect and try the little machine, after which a deal was struck. The only items needing attention were a failed door lock and the thermostat, which was stuck open, possibly

because of lengthy periods of inactivity.

The 220-mile journey on a hot day back to the New Forest, possibly the car's longest trip, passed without incident, although I noticed that the engine seemed to run a bit hotter than I would like. Since then, about 2500 miles have been added to the odometer, but on the return trip from the Auto Italia day at Brooklands in May this year, the tickover became very lumpy with frequent stalling. Suspecting dirt, it was the perfect excuse to treat the car to a good 'service with belts' and she was booked in at Italia Speed near Newbury. Darren Marshall and Phil

Lawrence are predominantly Alfa Romeo specialists but both have worked on Fiat before, which was useful as Phil immediately suspected the stalling problem to be a leak in the vacuum control in between carburettor and distributor. He was right hooray for technical expertise rather than computers. The cambelt, tensioner, alternator belt and water pump were changed, the carburettor was cleaned and the quite complex throttle linkages (which also control the CVT automatic) were reset.

The transformation is remarkable. The engine now runs noticeably cooler (with a genuine Fiat thermostat rather than a



replica of debatable origin), the idling is akin to a contented kitten (or panda?) and the whole smoother experience now evokes an even bigger grin. Forza Panda.

PETER COLLINS

ALFA ROMEO GIULIETTA SPECIALE ALSO OWNS: ALFA GIULIETTA TI & ALFA 155

Solution is a set of the set of t

changing every two to three years as there are so many good value examples around out there – or so I thought.

I tasked my local dealer, Ancasters, with finding me one but after a month or so they rang to admit failure: the national cupboard of recent 170hp petrol cars with telephone dial wheels was bare.

The phone rang again a couple of hours later and the dealer asked, "Have you thought about a new one?" No, I hadn't, was the immediate reply, except that I then definitely heard myself say "I'll come and talk to you about it". The sales staff at Ancaster were excellent and good-humouredly bent over backwards to





auto italia 69

ensure I wouldn't escape their clutches. The deal they offered was just too good to resist.

So now I am running around in a new Giulietta. I still don't like the modernised badge but the rest is fab. Interestingly, the top of the range is now described as only having 150hp at its disposal, which rather disappointed me, until studying the technical specifications seemed to suggest that 170hp is available via the DNA system. Maybe, post VW/Audi scandal, there has been an outbreak of honesty in automobile advertising?

MICHAEL WARD

FIAT DOBLO DYNAMIC ALSO OWNS: ALFA ROMEO MITO CLOVERLEAF, FIAT 124 SPECIAL T

ow do you break reverse gear on a Fiat Doblo? I have no idea but somehow I managed it.

As you might imagine, the trusty Doblo camera car covers a fair few miles and is driven by a variety of people with differing levels of mechanical sympathy, so the clutch gets a bit of a battering. Still, having covered

94,000 miles and



approaching it 12th year, the old workhorse is doing well.

The gearchange has always been a bit irksome which was never going to improve with time.

Jamie Porter's Alfa Workshop was entrusted with the gearbox rebuild, as well as a few other small jobs.

By the time I got the Doblo over to Royston in Hertfordshire, the clutch had actually gone. The benefit of learning to drive in old cars is that you get to drive in worstcase scenarios. It just so happens that I've had clutches and slave cylinders fail before so I'm unfazed by not having a clutch. The tricky bit is joining roundabouts and trying not to stop.

OE clutch kit, slave cylinder, reverse gear (from an Alfa 147) and a broken wire in the tailgate were all fixed and the Doblo was soon out covering more miles.

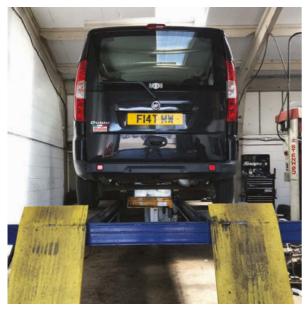
After a particularly busy week which involved a trip to Wales, Dorset and Norfolk on the hottest week of the year so far, the front brakes finally cried: enough! Marco at Torque Automotive in Bedford is another one of my go-to guys. You're always treated to a decent coffee and chat when watching him work.

I suspected the pads were shot, but on closer inspection the discs were done too. All were replaced swiftly and the car was given a full inspection as the MoT was imminent.

A week or so later, the Doblo passed with only one minor advisory on a worn suspension bush.









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COLLECTORS' GUIDE

Your First Ferrari

Affordable Ferraris? No Ferrari is cheap, that's for sure. But if you've got £50,000 to spend, there's a surprisingly wide selection out there. Which of these entry-level Ferraris should be your first choice?

very Italian car enthusiast has, at some point, asked the question: what would be my first Ferrari? Presuming you're not a lottery winner with the odd million to splash about, that means starting at the affordable end, with a modern classic.

Below the £50,000 mark, there's an alluringly wide choice of ways into Ferrari ownership. From iconic 1970s classics to relatively modern cars, there's an entry point for all sorts of tastes and budgets.

At £50k, we're talking perfectly roadworthy, usable Ferraris, not restoration projects or basket cases. And believe us, you really want to spend more initially to buy a good example than skimp on purchase price, because repair and restoration costs Story by Chris Rees & Peter Collins Images by Michael Ward & Peter Collins

can be cripplingly expensive.

So what Ferraris are out there at budget prices? Which ones should you avoid, and which ones are the peaches? And what should you be looking for? Here are all the answers, from the cheapest upwards...

FERRARI 365, 400 & 412 SVELTE BUT WALLET-SAPPING Price: £20,000-£85,000

The 1972-1976 365 GT4, the 1976-1985 400 and 1985-1989 412 are classic frontengined Ferraris: tubular chassis, allindependent suspension and Colombo's legendary V12 in 4823cc guise by 1976 (good for 340hp). In 1979, Bosch fuel injection in the new 400i saw power fall to 311hp but by 1985, the 412 had grown to 4943cc and went back up to 340hp. Shock horror: GM automatic transmission arrived in 1976 – the first-ever self-shifter in a Ferrari – but five-speed manual was always available. The 412 is sometimes viewed as less desirable than the 400, but it's quicker, more refined and has more boot space.

The 365/400/412 lasted 17 years (the longest-running Ferrari of all time), during which time 2904 examples were built, roughly half with automatic transmission.

THE GOOD BITS

SPECIALISI

ORMANCE

Pininfarina's shape still looks fantastic. And the driving experience is dominated by the wonderfully luscious V12 engine, especially in early carb-fed guise.



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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FERRARI 412

ENGINE: MAX POWER: MAX TORQUE:

o-62MPH:

MAX SPEED:

4942cc V12 340hp at 6000rpm 333lb ft (450Nm) at 4200rpm 6.7sec (auto 8.3) 155mph





THE BAD BITS

It weighs almost two tons so it's not fast (8.3 seconds o-62mph for the automatic) and this is a 'soft' GT car with lolloping, ponderous suspension, and an over-light steering feel.

GTs are cheap to buy but running costs are eye-watering. An engine rebuild is £15k minimum, an auto 'box overhaul is £3000, a set of discs and pads £2500 and it's £2500 for each 12,000-mile service. Check for head gasket problems, fluid leaks, rattling timing chain, leaking Koni rear suspension and rusty bodywork (new panels are impossible to find). Oh, the electrics are notoriously weak, too.

PRICES

You can still find £20,000 cars but realistically an investable car will cost from £60,000. At

auction, Historics recently sold a 400i Automatic for £22k, whilst a rare converted 400 Cabriolet went for £42,800 at Silverstone Auctions (pictured above), but that is very much a wild card.

There's little price disparity between manual and auto cars, but manuals tend to sell more quickly. LHD is rare in the UK, but expect to pay 25% less than RHD. Colours tend to be dark or light metallic; dark blue metallic works best, as does bronze, but red makes it look too large and the jury is out on white.

For future investment, of the three versions, we'd go for a low-mileage (say 30k) 365 with RHD, a good colour and history, as 365s have an essential purity about them. For the 400, RHD and manual would be our preference.



PARTS

SPECIALIS

GE

RMAN

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FERRARI MONDIAL PRACTICAL BUT IMPERFECT Price: £25,000-£65,000

Stylistically challenged and dynamically wanting, or a practical classic like no other? Perhaps a bit of both; whatever, the Mondial is one of most accessible Ferraris of all.

The Mondial 8 was a Pininfarina-designed mid-engined four-seater that replaced the 308 GT4 in 1980. The mid-engined, fourseat layout meant a long wheelbase and a forward-positioned passenger cabin – not an entirely happy look. Its 214hp transverse-mounted 2927cc quad-cam V8 engine was upped to 240hp in 1982 with the Mondial QV, which also boasted a meatier steering feel.

One year later came the convertible, then in 1985 a facelifted Mondial 3.2 upped the power to 270hp and a better cabin was thrown in. In 1989 came a significant change: the Mondial T with its 3.4-litre 300hp engine (from the 348) mounted longitudinally to sharpen the handling. A small number of Valeo semiautomatic versions were also made. By the time Mondial production ended in 1993, a total of 6100 Mondials had been built.

THE GOOD BITS

The clutch is light by Ferrari standards and the ride is exemplary. The handling is sharper than the 308 GTB's and is especially good in 'T' form. The newer the generation of Mondial, the more power and drivability you get. Reliability-wise, the engines are pretty robust.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS **FERRARI MONDIAL** 3.2 3.4T 8 ENGINE: 2927cc 3186cc 3405cc V8 300hp at 7200rpm 239lb ft at 4200rpm MAX POWER: 214hp at 6600rpm 270hp at 7000rpm MAX TORQUE: 179lb ft at 4600rpm 224lb ft at 5500rpm

6.3sec

155mph

7.0sec

143mph

THE BAD BITS

MAX SPEED:

0-62MPH

Not everyone likes how the Mondial drives. The pedals are offset, the gear lever is long, and the steering wheel is large and the feel heavy at low speeds (alleviated in the 'T' with its power assistance). Despite being high-revving, early V8 engines feel sluggish by modern standards.

Mondials rust. You need to check the front wings, door bottoms, wheelarches, boot, bonnet, floor and bulkhead. Look out for awkward-to-engage gears, faded paintwork, fusebox problems, jammed headlights and electrical issues.

PRICES

Prices are hugely dependent on model. The Mondial 3.0-litre ducks under £30,000, the QV £35,000, the 3.2-litre £40,000 and 3.4-litre 'T' £50,000 in Coupe guise and as much as £65,000 for a Spider. At auction, a 1988 Mondial changed hands for £27,300 at Pandolfini in Florence, whilst Silverstone Auctions brought the hammer down at £52,900 on a nice 1991 Mondial T.

In general expect to pay £10k more for a Spider than a Coupe. RHD will always be worth up to 30% more than LHD, with ex-USA market cars being the least popular. As far as colour is concerned, red is great (and helps to sell when the time comes); otherwise, all factory colours look good, especially dark metallic blue.

5.6sec

158mph

Mondials have no particular investment value, frankly: prices have remained constant for a long time. Your best bet? A 3.4 T Spider.



FERRARI 308 GT4 SEVENTIES COOL Price: £30.000-£70.000

For so many years, the 308 GT4 was the unloved Ferrari. Today, the ugly duckling has turned into a swan: buyers are finally recognising the beauty of the beast, and that it's actually super-sweet to drive.

The 308 GT4 predated the GTB by two years, arriving in 1973. It was Ferrari's first ever production V8; its first mid-engined 2+2; and its first designed by Bertone. Launched as a Dino, it used a 246 chassis stretched by 21cm.

The 3.0-litre V8 all-alloy engine was all-new, mounted transversely with the five-speed manual gearbox. With four carbs, its power output was 255hp, good for 155mph and 0-60mph in 6.4 seconds.

There's a groundswell of opinion now that the wedgy GT4 looks pretty good, in a retro '70s kind of way. Unlike some mid-engined rivals, the GT4 can genuinely seat four people, too. It sold well: when production ended in 1980, it was the third most popular Ferrari ever. 2826 were made, 547 of which were RHD.

THE GOOD BITS

The aluminium-and-chrome interior looks great. When the carbs are on song, there's so much pep and rev-happiness, with a fabulously guttural sound. Mid-range pull (3500-5500rpm) is excellent. The GT4 is the sweetest handling and best balanced of all the 308s and steering feedback is excellent. And it enjoys the best visibility of virtually any mid-engined coupe. Spare parts supplies are surprisingly good, too.



THE BAD BITS

The driving position is offset and the steering wheel is quite low-set (don't discount a lefthooker, which is ergonomically better). Refurbishment costs are high. Most bodywork is steel and rust can be a big problem – check the A-posts, wheelarches, front wings, sills and valances. Rusty fuel tanks (two of them) are pricey to replace, while the chassis is also prone to corrosion. Fuseboxes cause problems and are commonly replaced with an upgraded item.

PRICES

It's possible to find GT4s for £30,000 but it's wisest to spend around £50,000. Cars at low prices need great care: to do a full restoration can cost £100k. At auction, Historics sold a 208 GT4 with LHD for £33,400 in May whilst Brightwells achieved £30,600 for an RHD 308. The price disparity between RHD and LHD is only 10-15%, with the occasional 208 popping up with LHD. Colours tend to work well across the spectrum, but dark colours are rare.

For the future, the model benefits from being superb to drive, practical and endearingly quirky. Spencer at Barkaways reckons that, of all the cars in this feature, an early 308 GT4 in yellow with a black interior would be the standout car, both for pleasure and investment.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FERRARI 308 GT4

ENGINE:	2927cc V8
MAX POWER:	255hp at 7600rpm
MAX TORQUE:	210lb ft (285Nm) at
	5000rpm
0-62MPH:	6.4sec
MAX SPEED:	155mph



YOUR FIRST FERRARI



FERRARI 308/328 GTB/GTS BEAUTY DOESN'T HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE Price: £35,000-£80,000

Graceful lines and a glorious V8 engine: the 308 and 328 are all-time classics. These are superb entry-level Ferraris that are easy to own, inexpensive to run and richly rewarding to drive.

The Pininfarina-designed 308 GTB followed the 308 GT4 as the two-seater of the family, with a 21cm shorter wheelbase. The 3.0-litre V8 engine, shared with the GT4, had up to 255hp in carb-fed form. In 1977 came the targa-roofed 308 GTS. In 1980, both 308 GTB and GTS switched from carbs to fuel injection (GTBi and GTSi), but power dropped to 214hp – addressed in 1982 with the QV's 240hp output.

The 328 succeeded the 308 in 1985. It drives better, is easier to live with and doesn't suffer the 308's rust issues. It used a bored and stroked version of the V8 engine, taking it up to 3185cc and 270hp. As ever, there were GTB coupe and GTS targa versions. Around 12,000 308s and 328s were built between 1975 and 1989.

THE GOOD BITS

The robust V8 revs to 8000rpm and sounds superb, with carb-fed models having more character than later injected V8s. The clutch and brake pedals are light. The ride is surprisingly comfortable. The 308 is well balanced, with mild understeer, and the steering is direct and responsive.

THE BAD BITS

The performance is hardly stellar, while handling turn-in is a little hesitant. Rust is a big worry: check the sills, bulkheads, A-posts, doors, lower panels, wheelarches, headlamp nacelles, spare wheel well and chassis outriggers. The later 328 has galvanised panels, so is better on rust. An array of electrical issues includes headlamps that won't pop up. If the engine hasn't been looked after, a full rebuild could set you back £10,000 plus. Check for good oil pressure, blue smoke, oil leaks and hesitant Marelli ignition. Overheating can be an issue, too. If the gears crunch, a rebuild is up to £5000, and the clutch can takes up to two days to change. Check for worn hub bearings, too (a £2000 fix).

PRICES

Price vary widely, starting as low as £35,000. At the upper end, early dry sump and carb cars are now £100k and Vetroresina examples are up to £135k. With the 308 QV, GTSi and GTBi, £70,000 is top of the market. Recent auction prices include a US 308 GTSi Spider for £37,100, a 1981 308 GTS at £40, 500 and a 328 at £46,100, while a concours 308 GTS QV made £76,500.

308 QVs are worth more than 'i' versions;

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS			
FERRARI	308 (CARB)	328	
ENGINE:	2927cc	3185cc V8	
MAX POWER:	255hp at 7700rpm	270hp at 7800rpm	
MAX TORQUE:	210lb ft (285Nm) at 5000rpm	213lb ft (289Nm) at 5500rpm	
0-62MPH:	7.3sec	5.6sec	
MAX SPEED:	145mph	153mph	

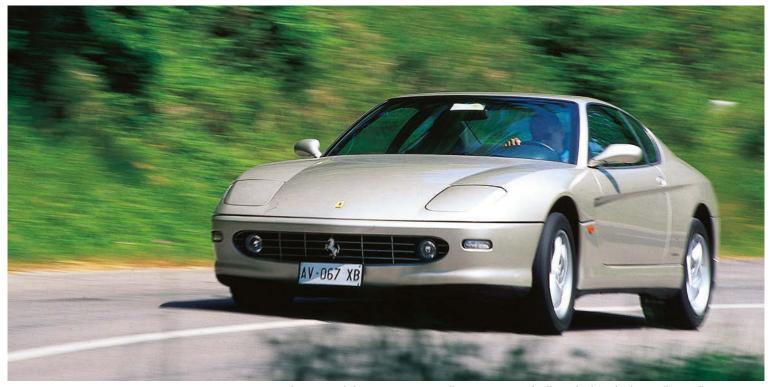




GTBs are worth more than GTS. European LHD is worth 20% less, USA LHD 40% less. The rarer 328 GTB carries a 20% premium – you're unlikely to find a good one under £70k unless it's an ex-track car.

Most colours work well, with dark blue metallic achieving perhaps a 10 per cent premium. For future values, go for an RHD QV GTB, the very best being a 328 GTB in metallic blue with RHD (which have nearly tripled in value over the last 10 years).





FERRARI 456 GT V12 BRUISER CRUISER Price: £40,000-£85,000

Svelte, potent, luxurious and elegant, Ferrari's 456 GT is perhaps the perfect all-rounder but it's still relatively affordable because four-seater Ferraris have not yet found favour in the 'investment' market. But things could be changing as demand increases for the Daytona-esque Pininfarina-styled GT.

The 456 GT is a four-seater of the highest calibre. It cost £180k new and can reach nearly 190mph. As the belated 1992 replacement for the 412, it had an all-new 5474cc V12 engine, making it the world's fastest production four-seater at the time.

Initially the 456 GT was offered only with a six-speed manual but in 1996 came the 456 GTA (Automatic) with a four-speed auto. In 1998 came the 456M (Modificata), with changes to the aerodynamics, cooling and interior. Some 3289 examples of the 456 were made, of which fewer than 400 came to the UK: 141 GT manuals, 68 GTAs, 33 456Ms and 139 'M' autos.

THE GOOD BITS

The fabulous 442hp 5.5-litre V12 engine is utterly smooth, refined and flexible, and it will gleefully reach its 7250rpm rev limit, and

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FERRARI 456 GT

ENGINE:	5474cc V12
MAX POWER:	442hp at 6250rpm
MAX TORQUE:	405lb ft (449Nm) at 4500rpm
0-62MPH:	5.4sec (auto 5.6)
MAX SPEED:	188mph

can do o-62mph in 5.4sec. It's a wellbalanced, neutral handler with electronic dampers providing plenty of adjustability.

The engine is one of the best things about the 456: being relatively unstressed it's durable – as long as it's been meticulously serviced. The six-speed manual transaxle gearbox is also robust, as is the auto 'box. Most of the body panels are aluminium, so rust isn't too problematic.

THE BAD BITS

IN ASSOCIATION with

Check for oil leaks and failed lambda sensors. Engine warning lights indicate a likely fault in the ECU. If you need a new gearbox, you'll pay £2500 for a recon manual and £7000 for an auto. The self-levelling rear Bilstein dampers are notorious for leaking. It's heavy on brakes, too.

Check the nearside floor for rust, and damage to the composite bonnet (£7000 to replace), as well the pop-up headlights. The facia often suffers from bubbling, while the frameless windows easily become misaligned. Electrical gremlins strike regularly. Parts can be very expensive (£1600 for a radiator, £5000 for a full factory exhaust). Oh, and 12mpg is the norm.

PRICES

Most cars are in the £40,000-£70,000 range for a manual car, or up to £85,000 for a top-rate 'M'. Most of the good ones are above the £50k mark. At RM Sotheby's in May, an LHD example sold for £74,500, whilst £47,300 was paid for a 2000 M GTA at Silverstone Auctions.

Manuals carry a 10-15% premium over automatics and are actively sought by buyers and collectors, as they drive so much better. LHD cars are selling for 20% less than RHD ones in the UK so LHD can make sense, although they're harder to sell on.

Ferrari's colours are all excellent, except perhaps for bright red. A late right-hook GTA in Swaters Blue with a manual gearbox would make a very desirable buy.



FERRARI PARTS SPECIALIST

UPERFORMANCE



FERRARI 348 MISUNDERSTOOD MAESTRO Price: £48,000-£70,000

With a reputation for unresolved handling, the 348 has been unloved but views are changing: with correct fettling, the 348 can be a great car.

The 328's successor was launched in 1989 with a new semi-monocoque pressed steel chassis some four inches longer than the 328's. It was offered in tb coupe and ts targatopped guises. The 't' stood for 'transverse': Ferrari had learnt its lesson from the Mondial and rotated the V8 so that the gearbox sat transversely in the chassis.

But it was clearly lacking in dynamic cohesion and the 348 quickly gained a reputation for snap oversteer, which Ferrari eventually sorted with suspension and weight distribution changes. The familiar allalloy V8 was bored out to make 3405cc, making a healthy 300hp.

In 1993 a new Spider model arrived with a fully convertible roof, while the coupe and targa were renamed GTB and GTS. At the same time, the V8 received an extra 20hp, the interior was revised and the suspension was tweaked with a wider rear track, revised geometry and extra chassis rigidity, sharpening the handling.

Out of a production run of 8654, fewer than 500 were imported to the UK in RHD. Spiders are rare: 1090, of which 68 came to the UK.

THE GOOD BITS

The V8 engine is an absolute cracker, revving to 8000rpm, and there's plenty of low-down torque. It's quite possible to make



the 348 handle well, later cars being better. Thankfully, rust isn't common.

THE BAD BITS

The 348 isn't super-fast on today's roads, the gearchange is notchy and it can suffer from a wooden steering feel, nervous handling, choppy ride and (when roofless) scuttle shake.

The engine must be taken out for certain jobs, with associated costs. The gearbox has weak internals and rebuild costs exceed £4000. The cable linkage often needs adjustment and clutch life can be short.

Suspension platforms are prone to cracking, and the whole suspension system is sensitive to set-up. Rear tyre wear can be severe. The tubular steel rear subframe can corrode, and you should check the sills, wheelarches and lower doors. The air con ECU suffers issues and the cabin plastics tend to deteriorate with age.

PRICES

It's possible to find 348s below £40,000, even Spiders, but the realistic entry point is £48k.

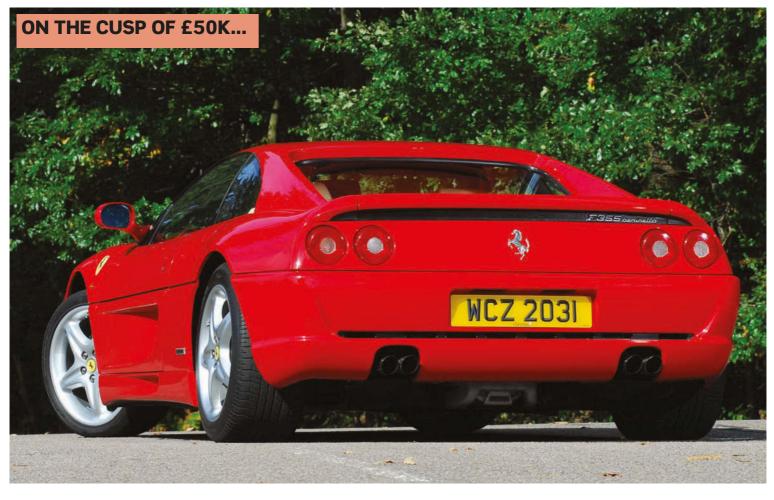
A 1992 348 TS recently reached £60k at Silverstone Auctions but it had covered only 5500 miles from new.

The Spider carries at least a 20 per cent premium. LHD averages at least 20 per cent less than RHD due to the fact it's much easier to check RHD history and provenance. Not everyone likes white paint, otherwise there's very little difference in price among colours.

There is little prospect for much growth in value, as prices have remained stable for six years or so. The best choice is an RHD Spider in red with Crema interior.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FERRARI 348

ENGINE:	3405cc V8
MAX POWER:	300hp at 7200rpm
	(320hp from 1993)
MAX TORQUE:	239lb ft (324Nm)
	at 4200rpm
0-62MPH:	5.4sec
MAX SPEED:	171mph



FERRARI 355

Fantastic to drive, fabulous to look at and finally being appreciated for what it is, the 1994-1999 Ferrari 355 is a true modern classic. Compared to the 348, its expanded 3496cc V8 engine had a much livelier 380hp, and you could choose between manual or, from 1997, F1 semi-automatic. Three body styles were offered: coupe (Berlinetta), targa (GTS) and full convertible (Spider).

We've seen EU LHD imports as low as $\pounds_{44,000}$, but \pounds_{60k} should see you in a nice example, either a manual LHD car or an F1 RHD car. The most desirable is the Berlinetta with manual and RHD, which is the best to drive and actually quite rare.

FERRARI 360

The 360 Modena of 1999 was much bigger than the 355 but its chassis, body, engine and suspension were all aluminium, reducing weight. The 3.6-litre V8 has 400hp and there's manual or F1 automated manual transmission. Production ended in 2005, by which time 8800 Modenas and 7565 Spiders had been made.

Great to drive and an accessible entry-level Ferrari, it's now possible to find LHD cars as low as £50,000 but we think it's wiser to spend more – at least £60k.

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AND YOUR BEST FIRST FERRARI IS...

So which of our selection makes your ideal first Ferrari? The idea of a £25,000 Ferrari 400 may be seductive but, like a classical siren, it could end up wrecking you on financial rocks. Likewise any apparently 'cheap' Ferrari that's in imminent need of restoration – our advice: avoid! The best option is to spend more to start off with: buy a good, solid car and keep on top of its maintenance. With the right spec and colour, it could even appreciate in value.

The 308/328 GTB/GTS is hard to ignore, as it's excellent value for such an iconic design. If you're set on a V12, the 456 GT is easily the most affordable on a long-term basis and a great choice. But top billing has to go to the 308 GT4. It's great to drive, excellent value and is perhaps the most likely to appreciate in the future. Happy Ferrari ownership!



Thanks to Spencer Herbert at Barkaways (www.barkaways.com) for invaluable help in preparing this feature





USEFUL CONTACTS

SALES & SERVICE

Autofficina, 5 Ruxley Lane, Epsom, Surrey KT19 0JB. Tel: 020 8391 0002. Web: www.autofficina.co.uk

IN ASSOCIATION with

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Nick Cartwright Specialist Cars, Unit 3&4 Brookfield Park, Tansley, Derbyshire DE4 5ND. Tel: 01629 56999. Web: www.nickcartwright.com Rardley Motors, Headley Rd, Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey GU26 6LB. Tel: 01428 606616. Web: www.rardleymotors.com

PARTS

Superformance, Unit G1, R D Park, Stephenson Close, Hoddesdon, Herts EN11 0BW. Tel: 01992 445 300. Web: www.superformance.co.uk Eurospares. Tel: 01787 477169. Web: www.eurospares.co.uk

Maranello Concessionaires, Unit B8 Crabtree Road, Egham, Surrey TW20 8RN. Tel: 01784 436222. Web: www.ferrariparts.co.uk





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ALFA ROMEO



1986 Alfa Romeo 115 Spider 2 litre Series 3 QV. 61,000 miles, red, this has to be one of the best examples of the most iconic Italian Spiders.... excellently maintained in its original spec. A large file of work over the years with invoices and MOTs, retrimmed upholstery, garaged all year, but only used in summer months, full MOT included. £11,995. Tel: 077186 74371. Email: billbakeruk@yahoo.co.uk (southern Hampshire). A271/015



105 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce S4. 54,000 miles, black, this car USA spec. We are in NZ, shipping is around £1600 to the UK, I am a UK AROC member. 2.0L injection, power steering, power windows, colour coded bumpers, leather seats and chrome trim. Imported to NZ in 1994 from the USA and converted to RHD using OEM parts, the original USA sales and owner's info is included, two sets of keys, £10,500. Email: jon.everitt69@gmail.com. A271/028





Alfa Romeo Spider S4 RHD Seaking. 1991, last edition of this classic Italian timeless design, 2000cc, fuel injection, LSD, power steering, electric windows, CD, full leather, rare Seaking RHD edition, hard top included. Dossier full of files for service records and history of the car, completely rust free due to warm Greek climate and extensive renovation work in 2010, more than 10 years in my collection, very useable, enjoyable, reliable every day classic with great combination of lightness and responsive accurate steering, and quite powerful engine for weight. Huge file of receipts for work done over the years to keep it in really excellent working order and overall condition, £13,950. UK registered on SORN, transport back to the UK can be arranged at very competitive price if no time for driving back through scenic European roads with a great car, free hospitality for weekend if choose to visit for viewing in Athens, Ryanair flights start from £85 if advance booked. Tel: Andreas, 0030 6938 132311 (Greece). A271/001



1972 2000 Alfa Berlina. Blue, excellent condition, imported last October from Italy, never been extensively restored. Original doors and sills, wonderful shut lines. Drives and performs excellent, no crunching gears or whining diff, £9995. Celebrate the 105 Berlina's 50th anniversary! Tel: 07813 203727 (Essex).



1992 Alfa Romeo Spider S4. 147,500km, Broom Yellow, converted to RHD by Bell & Colvill, period Zender alloys and Nardi wooden steering wheel, MOT to June 2019. Stainless steel manifold and exhaust and Harvey & Bailey handling kit, car appeared in Classic Cars magazines twice - August 2010 and April 2017 editions, reverse gear temperamental, £12,500. Tel: Peter, 020 8979 1347 (SW London/Surrey). A271/018



1971 Alfa GT Junior 1.3. Red, righthand drive, sold new in Malta I believe and imported around 1983 into the UK. New full clutch fitted less than 1000 miles ago, car in need of full restoration, £4000. Tel: 01278 450855. A271/027



1967 Alfa Giulia Sprint GTV Veloce. 90,000 miles, Muschio Verde with Skai interior Giulia Sprint GTV in overall excellent condition. Original RHD, a very rare car now, fully reworked over the last 5 years, £49,500, please contact me for more information. My price includes shipping to UK port but not UK taxes (approx £2500), car is in NZ but I am ex-UK and an AROC UK member 15+ years. Email: jon.everitt69@gmail.com. A271/022



Alfa Romeo 75 3.0 V6 Cloverleaf. MOT to June 2019. Recent cambelt, new rear discs and pads with refurbished

callipers, Koni shock absorbers, Eibach springs, CSC exhaust back box, 15" OZ Racing wheels just refurbished with new tyres, a joy to drive and handle, £9,995 ono. Email: chris.cousins@hotmail.co.uk. A271/007



1971 Alfa Giulia 1750 GT Veloce Mk2. Blue, imported from South Africa 2001 and owned by me since. Professionally maintained, two owners, 84,500 miles, new MOT, unmolested and rust free, AROC valuation of £25,000 in 2017, which is now the price, stunning sports car. Tel: 01665 714413 (Northumberland). A271/016



2001 Alfa Romeo 146Ti Tourismo Internazionale. 114,000 miles, red, registered by Autoworld Alfa Romeo Chesterfield and supplied to 1 private owner. Complete with full service history and including all original driver's documents and owner manuals, original sales invoice, 2 red and 1 brown key, MOT May 2019. 5 speed manual with 2.0 TS engine, air con, unused spare, nice original and clean condition, becoming a rare sight and is one of the last Alfa 146 models registered, AROC member reducing collection, £1595. Tel: 07761 235180. Email: redalfaromeo146ti@gmail.com.

A271/017



2002 Alfa Romeo 156 Sportwagon Veloce 2.5 Quad Cam V6. 112,000 miles, black, this car has just had fitted: cambelt, crank wheel, tensioners, rollers, water pump and aux belt, front suspension, upper, lower plus d bushes and drop links, rear shocks and springs, reconditioned calipers f&r, new pads f&r, new front discs, new Avon ZV7 205/55/16" tyres x4. Viewing highly recommended, the 2.5 litre Alfa engine is fantastic! £3795. Tel: Dustin, 07817 842443. A271/020

CLASSIFIEDS



2002 Alfa Romeo 147 1.6 Lusso. 93,000 miles, silver, 1 lady owner from new, full service history, good condition. AROC member, never missed a beat in 16 years, 11 months' MOT, £950 ono, call for details and to arrange viewing. Tel: 07971 650647 (Berkhamstead, Herts). A271/021



2008 Alfa Romeo 147 JTDM 16v 1.9 Q2 Ducati Corse. 89,000 miles, white. Very nice example of this rare Alfa Romeo Ducati Corse, 6 speed manual, 200hp, MOT Oct 2018, recently serviced May 2018, Q2 diff, red brake calipers, rear spoiler, climate control, electric windows, alarm, ABS, PAS, trip computer, cruise control, multi airbags, front fogs, £4250 ono. Tel: 07869 686956 (Reigate, Surrey). A271/029



Alfa Romeo 156 Lusso 1.6 Twin Spark. Registered March 2003, currently on SORN, 99,774 miles, FSH, full red leather interior, pearlescent metallic grey, 16" alloy wheels, ABS brakes and switchable traction control, dual zone digital climate control, heated front seats. cruise control, front fog lights, remote central locking and alarm, driver, passenger and side curtain airbags, electric windows, adjustable steering column,driver's seat adjustment, CD auto changer/RDS stereo system, electrically adjustable door mirrors, 60/40 folding rear seats, rear headrests and 3x 3 point rear seat belts, headlamp power washer. Engine and clutch replaced at Alfa dealer at 58,000 miles, engine paid for by Alfa Romeo UK, and failure due to undetected oil leak. Nearly new tyres, battery, radiator, thermostat housing, windscreen, windscreen wipers, gaiters for cv joint, suspension arm ball joint and steering rack in the last 18-24 months, also brake fluid replaced and brakes serviced. Intermittent airbag alarm and radio code problem, to run or use for spares, £350. Tel: 01753 739465 or 07900 662662 (Berks). A271/031

Next issue on sale 5 Sept



Alfetta GTV. Silver, only 15,000 miles from new, excellent original condition, only 2 owners, owned by me since 1989. Tel: 01606 888470 (Cheshire). A271/026



Alfa Romeo 159 JTDM Ti 2 litre Sportwagon. White, 51,000 m, MOT 10 months, excellent condition inside and out, 2011, £10,000 ono, only two owners from new. Tel: 07816 335474 (Devon). A271/008



1995 Alfa Romeo 164 V6 Super 24v. In lovely condition inside and out, showing only 56,000 miles and with 4 former owners, acquired by present owner in October 2009. Metallic silver with blue velour interior, options include: automatic transmission, air conditioning, sunroof and alloy wheels. This has to be one of the best available and very rare in this specification and condition with low mileage, £6995 ono. Tel: 07710 560731. A271/023



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Alfa Romeo GT 3.2 V6. 2005, 61,400 miles, red. Classic V6-engined Alfa Romeos with low mileage and good service history are becoming harder to find, while the 156 GTA is popular they are significantly more expensive than the 3.2 GTs on offer, are often higher mileage and harder driven. This example is unmolested and has had all the pre-emptive servicing carried out, notably the cambelt and clutch. Benefits from lower rate of road tax than later cars. Owned by Phil Ward, founder of *Auto Italia* magazine, the car is fitted with 17-inch 156 GTA wheels and Pirelli P-Zero tyres. Alfa Workshop and Autodelta service history. MOT Jan 2019, photos are available from the studio photoshoot. Recent service history: 49,372 cambelt and tensioner; 56,651 clutch; 57,601 service; 58,919 upper wishbones; 59,270 quick shift gearchanger; 59,848 clutch master cylinder; 60,316 front discs and pads; 61,340 reg reverted to 'MFo5EZR', £7995. Tel: 07870 563657. A271/024



Alfa GTV Coupe 2.0 T-Spark.

TALIAN CARS FOR SA

Collectible classic!! 1998 Phase 1, only 94,000 miles, beautiful metallic Atollo Blue, black cloth interior, MOT'd til April 2019. Amazing condition, recently spent around £1000. Tel: Nick, 07989 608491. Email: alfa@graphic1.co.uk. A271/039



1996 GTV TS Lusso. 112,500 miles, MOT 05.12.18, large history file, cambelt and tensioners replaced December 2014 at 102,000 miles, recent new Varta battery and exhaust front downpipe, Dunlop tyres, black leather interior, drives very well, call for details, £650. Tel: Flavio, 07854 932595 (Orpington, Kent). A271/040



2002 Alfa Romeo GTV Cup no 133. 87,400 miles, red, reluctant sale due to medical reasons, recent major expenditure on suspension, driveshafts and brakes. Must be seen to appreciate, £9500 ovno. Tel: lan, 07432 503045 (Cheshire). A271/019



1995 Alfa Romeo ES-30 RZ. 16,500 miles, yellow with black interior. MOT'd to June 2018, rare car in excellent condition. Serial no 211 of a production run of 278, £70,000 ono. Tel: David Weavers, 01502 569698. A271/046



1998 Alfa Romeo Spider T Spark 16V Spider. 58,396 miles, silver, MOT until March 2019, 2 former keepers. Bought in 2010 complete with all manuals, several years' old MOTs, recently recommissioned, cheap summer fun, £975 ono. Tel: 07576 368975. A271/045



Alfa 166 2.0 Twin Spark face lift model. 2005, 55-plate, metallic grey with black full electric leather interior, 104,000 miles with extensive service history by Alfa specialist, just had new timing belt and water pump changed as well as head gasket and full service. Sienna alloys with good quality tyres fitted, tastefully up graded throughout the years, stainless steel rear Ragazzone tail pipe (this is not a sports one but fully free flow), Bilstein shockers all around. Car is in great condition inside and out, bodywork has 4 very small marks, car has been garaged most of its life. If driven hard in reverse it clicks out at times, only started since the frosty/snowy weather in February. Will come with new MOT, everything works in the car and drives very well, good comfortable car. £3200. Tel: 07774 672757. A271/042

2010 Alfa Romeo Brera 1750 TBI.

59,500 miles, red with black leather, one

of only 62 RHD with this engine, 200bhp

extras include Graphite Prodrive wheels

Turbo. MOT Nov 2018, 2 owners, FSH,

18" with Pirelli tyres, panoramic roof,

Text: Phil, 07772 785927. Email:

one in p/x, £10,995.

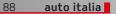
Dover, Kent). A271/047

Ascari tuning exhaust. Would consider

funkyphilip@gmail.com (located near



Alfa Romeo 159 Sportwagon 1.9 JTDm Ti. 136,000 miles, only two owners before me, owned from 75,000 6 years ago. Full black leather seats, service history, comes with OBC, e/w, e/m, c/l, heated seats, 19-inch Alfa Ti wheels, Brembo brakes, service history including cambelt changed in 2012, clutch and flywheel in 2015, wheel bearings and rear springs last month. MOT to October 2018, good condition inside and out, pampered but in a good way! Tel: Chris, 07794 416395 (West Sussex). A271/043



CLASSIFIEDS





Alfa 166 2.0 Ti Twin Spark (2004) Facelift model. Metallic grey with full Ti black leather interior and 18-inch Ti alloys, 161,000 miles with extensive service history and receipts, including Alfa specialist engine refurbishment at 85,000 miles and most recent cam belt and water pump changed at 131,000 miles. I have owned this Alfa for 10 years and it is in very good running order with an MOT until June 2019, £1750 ono. Tel: John, 07900 276639. Email: johnpaul.harrison@ntlworld.com (Bedfordshire). A271/003



Alfa Romeo 156 Sportwagon 1.9 JTd M-jet. 2004, in grey metallic, 125,000, MOT till Dec '18, black leather interior, FSH, undersealed, a few minor faults but drives well, £700 ono. Email: davidkellett6@aol.com. A271/041



2005 Alfa Romeo GT 3.2 V6. 53,000 miles, rare Dijon Blue metallic, grey leather interior, new Autodelta exhaust system, Quaife LSD, top end engine rebuild and powder coated, 1 previous owner, MOT and FSH. This car wants for nothing and is one of the best examples in the UK, £10,500 ono, bought via Autolusso, sale due to purchase of new Giulia. Tel: lain, 07969 998078. Email: robbo2006@btinternet.com. A271/044



2017 Alfa Romeo Giulietta 1750 TBIm240 TCT Veloce. Alfa Black, one private AROC owner from new (March 2017). Showroom condition, less than 6000 miles and just serviced, price includes voucher for the next two main dealer services, but not the private plate, £18,950. Tel: Kevin, 07712 619389. Email: elfisti@googlemail.com (Coventry area). A271/048

FIAT



Fiat Mk1 Punto Sporting 1998. 83K, just serviced and MOT'd 1 year, solid car underneath just with some minor cosmetic blemishes, £850. Contact: 07748 094452 for info. A271/049



Fiat Abarth 595 1.4 T-Jet Competizione. 2015/65, Cordola Red, 24K, FSH, one owner, black Sabelt half leather/Alcantara Sports seats, very high spec and immaculate inside and out, £12,500. Tel: 07940 231000 (Suffolk). A271/050

LANCIA



Lancia Appia SIII Berlina. Smart body and grey cloth interior, new Michelin X all round, new exhaust, battery and refurbed brakes, Italian LHD import now UK registered and ready to go, £10,750. Tel: 07798 797262. A271/052



Lancia Fulvia 1.6 HF S2 Coupe, 1972. Hard to find an RHD 1.6 HF in such straight and original condition. 117,000 miles, History back to 1978. Restored and repainted once (1989-90), retains all its original components. Used by the previous owner of 10 years for light classic rallies and European tours. On the button, ultra reliable, fitted with upgrades (Koni shocks, Facet fuel pump, Lumenition electronic ignitition etc). Correctly restored Mag wheels. Fully serviced with much recent work done, MOT to 3/19, £29,500, please email: horrocks.martinrichard@gmail.com for full details and photo file. A271/053



2009 Maserati Quattroporte V 4.7S. Immaculate and low mileage

Quattroporte for sale - near offers considered. I have decided to sell my beautiful and immaculate 2009 Quattroporte 4.7S, it has done only 16,000 miles from new. It is in the relatively rare and lovely Bordeaux Pontevecchio, and has an Avorio leather interior with Bordeaux piping and Avorio stitching, the car has 20-inch Sport Design alloy wheels, Nero brake calipers, GTS grille, mahogany wood interior trim, trip computer, active suspension, multizone climate control, electric seats with driver memory, front and rear park distance control Xenon headlamps electro-chromatic rear view mirror, rain sensitive wipers, Nero headlining and electric sunroof. The car has a full service history (main dealer and Maserati specialist independent), £30,950. Email: robertcrooks@mac.com. A271/012



2000 Maserati 3200GT Nero. Previous injuries forces sale of beautiful car, Maserati 3200GT Nero with grey interior (odometer 59,399 miles). Jersey registered car on 02/03/2000, first registered in UK 01/05/2002, owned since 01/12/2005. Regretfully I find this difficult to drive now as a result of old sporting injuries forcing sale, under 1000 miles per year for the past 5 years! Extensive history, very recent MOT (18/04), classic and very desirable Maserati Nero paintwork with beautiful light grey colour interior. Stainless steel sports exhaust (amazing V8 sound), upgraded Alpine Bluetooth stereo with hands free phone, battery isolation switch, (very desirable plate by separate negotiation), £16,250. Tel: 01494 723743. Email: tw_lloyd@mac.com.



2007 Maserati GranSport Coupe. Immaculate condition, mileage 24,600, regularly serviced by Autoshield, MOT to May 2019. As well as the regular GranSport features it also includes cruise control, spare wheel, new tyres all round, new clutch. Owned since 2014 and only two owners from new, Anniversary Blue with black leather interior, £39,500. Tel: 01244 674439. Email: dickpole@zcl-uk.net. A271/010



2006 Maserati 4200 F1 with all Grandsport updates. A really excellent modern classic Maserati supercar, with style and Ferrari engineering additions to the already fabulous package, presented in gleaming metallic black (Nero Carbonio) with mint oyster leather and benefits from later edition of Cambiocorsa software, plus carbon clutch and late skyhook suspension, electronic software. 400bhp Grandsport engine management, Larini sports exhaust that sounds amazing, 20-in alloys, new style aluminium centre console, mint condition leather and all switch plastics, full navigation, climate, sound system, Xenons, alarm, full electric heated seats with memory Absolutely rust free as spent most of its life in Greece, Waxoyled for extra protection, maintained regardless of cost with all original books, 2 sets of keys, alarms and receipts, manual books all present, an undervalued option of a great GT classic. At the moment car in Athens, Greece, just had its summer yearly service at 86,000 miles, all miles only on intercontinental European very eniovable trouble free motorway cruises. hospitality is included and assistance with transport is provided if needed, £24,995. Tel: Andreas, 0030 6938 132311 (Greece). A271/002



2002 Maserati 3200GT. A superb and very low mileage example of this classic design and one of the last 3.2L Turbo V8s with the boomerang rear lights to be produced before it was dumbed down to meet American regulations, finished in Blu Nettuno with blue leather interior, this car has covered only 32,400 miles and has been in my ownership for 12 years, having had one owner prior to that following registration by the dealership. The 3200GT is starting to appreciate in value and being a 2002 model, this example benefits from the significant modifications to the engine management, steering and suspension introduced in 2001 to improve driveability and handling. The car has only been driven during the summer months, has always been garaged and is Waxoyl sprayed underneath, the carpets and upholstery are unmarked, as well as the usual very comprehensive standard list of accessories it has electric memory seats, Becker in-car entertainment and is fitted with a Tracker (not currently registered), it has new tyres, new front discs and stainless steel rear exhaust boxes, the cambelts were replaced 2000 miles ago, £19,450. Tel: 01480 464553. Email: dougscott@flaggholm.co.uk. A271/013

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PARTS

Fiat Strada Abarth parts for sale.

Front grille, tailgate, rear lenses and some other items, open to sensible offers, call Martin after 19.30 please. Tel: 07941 851991 (Essex). A271/005

Spares: Fiat 1500 cabriolet. Variety of used parts including

distributor, starter motor, rhd steering box and many other smaller items, offers. Tel: 01684 892906. A271/032



Fiat Coupe 2.0L 20V Turbo 1998 model, complete fuel tank and electronic pump for sale, £100. Tel: 07935 830055. Email: arturobrogna@yahoo.co.uk (Carmarthenshire). A271/004

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The publishers accept no responsibility for the quality of goods sold through these pages although the greatest care will be taken to ensure that advertisements accepted are bona fide. Advertisers should take note of the requirements of the TRADE DESCRIPTIONS ACT 1968 when preparing their advertisements for publication.



Ferrari 512BBi complete brand new rear clip for sale, £3000. Will need lower edge repair, hinge bar has been removed but also included is old item for pattern, also composite bumper bar exhaust surround. Tel: Les, 07950 962716. Email: lesed@hotmail.co.uk. A271/054 Alfa Romeo 156 spares. 1 set genuine Alfa Romeo grey mats; 1 wooden steering wheel; 4 alloy spoke wheels with nearly new Avon tyres, 17-inch; front bumper; 1 17-inch 16 spoke alloy wheel with nearly new Goodyear tyre; 1 CD car radio, all cheap. Tel: 01634 387380 (Kent). A271/033

Classic parts for sale. Shamal: stainless steel sports exhaust system complete with engine chip, made by Maserati specialist Amendola of Modena. 1 pair front side/indicator lights complete good condition. Ghibli 1968 4.7: 1 knock-on Campagnola wheel; 1 knock-on splined wheel centre: 1 knockon R/H front wheel hub; a pair of original rear brake discs; good set of rear brake pads; pair of rear side windows with chrome surrounds; LHS door glass; rear anti roll bar; track rod with good ball joints; steering box not power; heater tap; heater blower unit; petrol filter body; petrol flap. Khamsin: 1 stainless main mid silencer almost new; 1 original Maserati mid main silencer, good condition no rust. Bora: 1 new clutch master cylinder still in box; 1 nearly new clutch slave cylinder; 1 new brake master cylinder seal; 1 new water pump seal. For further details of any of the parts listed please contact John Betteridge on 01993 898431. Email: annajohnbetteridge@btinternet.com. A271/014

Genuine Alfa Romeo Giulia 19" dark alloy wheels from a Giulia Quadrifoglio, set of 4 with tyres that have covered just 52 miles! Boxed, packaged and ready to be fitted, £9995. Tel: 07940 231000 (Suffolk). A271/034

MISCELLANEOUS



Alfa Romeo Quadrifoglio Alfa Corse cloverleaf rear badge, size 65mm, enamel finish, £30. Tel: 020 8399 7541 (Surrey). A271/009



Unique pieces of original art work. Ferrari mosaic shield size 595mm high x 425mm wide, and sign size 1025mm long x 312mm high, these pieces of art work are made up of pieces of tiles mounted on a wood background, edged in black, £650 ono, shipping extra. Tel: 07564 637636. A271/055



Ferrari brochures and books from an enthusiast's collection. Excellent condition, need more space, so open to offers, photo only shows a small selection. Please email for full list to: myg9question@gmail.com. A271/025 Owner's handbooks. Alfa 75, 54 Spider, 33 1.5 carb, 1.7, ie and Sportwagon, early 164, Fiat 2.0 20V Coupe, Lancia Thema. Also assorted showroom posters. Tel: Alan, 01635 202521. A271/006 Auto Italia magazines. From number 1

Auto Italia magazines. From number 1 March 1995 to number 95 July 2004, all in very good condition, offers to Keith Walker. Tel: 01903 244015. Email: kathrynwalker03@gmail.com (West Sussex). A271/035

Alfa Romeo Owner's Club magazines. 1973 to 2017. Email:

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Bugatti-Maserati (1937)

250F (Fangio's Car)

250E vs Ferrari 246

Cooper Maserati

8CM + 6CM

8CL

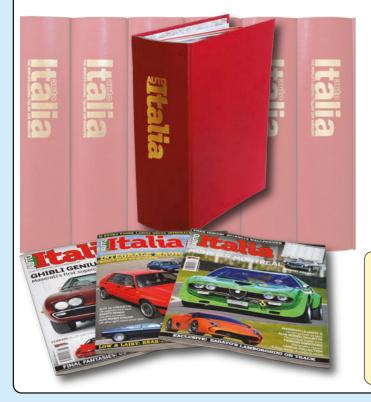
8CM

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OBSCURATI CURIOSITIES FROM THE AMAZING WORLD OF ITALIAN CARS

CARMA FF

THIS TWIN-TURBOCHARGED FERRARI 308-BASED RACER WAS VERY QUICK ON TRACK AND WAS EVEN INTENDED TO HAVE A LIFE AS A ROAD CAR

Story by Richard Heseltine

t made headlines in period, but not always for the right reasons. This long-forgotten Ferrari 308 GTB-based curio in many ways prophesied the 288 GTO and F40, but an air of mystery surrounds its current whereabouts. One thing is for sure: this was an insanely quick machine, and arguably the only car capable of meting out a kicking to the Porsche 935 on track. The only thing missing from its armoury was reliability.

The Carma FF was conceived by the gentleman driver, Martino Finotto, and his business partner, sometime Autodelta racer and Lancia Stratos tamer, Carlo Facetti. At the end of 1979, the duo called time on a successful European Touring Car Championship campaign with a privateer BMW. Instead, they would field a Dallara-built Lancia Beta Montecarlo in the 1980 World Championship for Makes. However, they would also dovetail outings aboard this semi-works car with something home-grown.

From their Achille Motors facility in Milan, they had previously built a pair of Gp4spec 308 GTBs and followed through by building a turbocharged variant. This was then fielded in races with great success at national level. Suitably emboldened, they created the Carma (CARLo and MArtino) FF. This radical-looking machine first broke cover during practice for the February 1981 Daytona 24 Hours, and packed 710hp from its twinturbocharged V8. Ferrari badging was conspicuously absent, with even the cam cover bearing the legend 'Carma FF'. While ostensibly derived from a road car, beneath the Rizla-thin glassfibre shell sat a multitubular frame with only the centre section of donor car remaining. The entire ensemble weighed only 1030kg. Facetti, who was paired with Finotto and



a young Emanuele Pirro, qualified sixth fastest, but was out within only a few minutes of the start.

Facetti recalled in *Potenza in Punta di Piedi*: "On Wednesday before the race, I took the first steps onto the track. First of all, we noticed problems with the rear spoiler, which was deformed, and with the front axle... When I started the race, I agreed that I would make no more than 10 laps. On the eighth one, I set the fastest lap, which was the record for the rest of the race. I withdrew on the twelfth lap after I had been called to the pits."

With subsequent mods by Alba, a firm better known for its later Group C2 designs, the FF was quick enough to qualify on pole for the 1981 Monza 1000km endurance classic. The Carma won a minor race at Vallelunga with Finotto driving, too, but its final outing was that year's Kyalami 9 Hours (pictured). It was the second fastest car through the speed traps, but retired from the race after 71 laps.

Facetti recently said that the plan had originally been to market road-going replicas of the Carma, but none was ever completed. The one and only race car was last seen at auction in the mid-1990s. Its present whereabouts are unknown, despite plenty of internet chatter. While it may not have given the all-conquering Porsches a bloody nose, the FF was fast enough to give them a fright. Just imagine how different history might have been had it received factory backing.

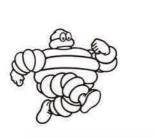




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