

200 CARS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

The unique collection of Torino's Museo Nazionale dell'Automobile houses real treasures belonging to the last two centuries of history manufactured by over 80 companies, coming from 8 different countries.

The collection of Torino's Museo Nazionale dell'Automobile consists of **about 200 cars by 85 manufacturing companies, coming from 8 different countries of the world**: Italy, France, Great Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, Poland and the United States. This is a genuine national and international museum exhibiting one of the **rarest and most precious collections in this sector**. An extremely precious item is the "steam car" designed by Virginio Bordino in 1854; the first Benz model dating back to 1893 with motor belt gear box; the first Peugeot model introduced in Italy dated 1892; the 3.5 HP



Isotta Palombella 1909

Bernardi dating back to 1896, the first three wheel car, built in Italy; the 1899 Fiat 4 HP, the first to be produced by Torino's car manufacturing company; the Fiat 12/16 HP, the first car of this company to be exported; 1903 Florentia, the only existing sample of this brand; the 1904 Oldsmobile Curved Dash, the first economy featured car; the 1909 Itala owned by Queen Regina Margherita and called by her majesty "Palombella"; the 1910 Renault Fiacre, the taxi which took the French soldiers to the front on the Marna, rescuing Paris from the German invasion; the 8A Isotta Fraschini, an extra luxurious car bought by Rodolfo

Valentino and used in the 1950's «Sunset Boulevard» movie; the 1948 202 Cisitalia, the "self-moving sculpture" which marked history. A sample was exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York as «one of the world's six best cars»; the 500 F2 Ferrari that Alberto Ascari won his world title on, in 1952: the 1987 601 Trabant, a symbolic car of East Berlin.



Isotta Fraschini 8A

The importance of this immense collection is not only represented by the value of its extremely old items, but it also manages to tell the story of societies, nations and cultures across two fundamental centuries. The cars of the 30 new sections presented by stage director François Confino, are perfectly placed within the social context they originated from, just to prove how the items belonging to our daily life, and especially cars, can **successfully mirror our tastes, habits and ideas**. The cars stand before visitors as the emblems of a world which never stopped, as *its development and transformations are translated into changes and experiments in industry to science, and art to literature*. They also represent the historical memory of our past and the possibilities of our future: from the 1957 Fiat 500 to the 1952 Volkswagen Type 1, the celebrated Beetle, to the 1959 Autobianchi Bianchina, a sophisticated economy car.

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