

Press Release  
April 2020

## FASCINATING SPRING MESSENGERS: THE NEW MINI CONVERTIBLE SIDEWALK AND THE BEAUTIFUL COLOURS OF CHERRY BLOSSOM.



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The blossoms are opening on the trees and the roof of the MINI Convertible is opening on the road. These are two clear signals showing that the yearned-for spring has finally sprung. Cherry blossom is one of the most beautiful recurring spectacles of nature and Japan is not the only place on earth where this signals the start of the season of balmy days. The new MINI Convertible Sidewalk offers the most attractive option for driving fun under an open sky.

**Munich/Bonn.** Nature is not familiar with the concept of lockdown. Even this year, the start of the cherry blossom season is once again an absolutely clear sign that spring has come – and more than ever it is the symbol of anticipation for times to come when magic moments can be celebrated together and in the open air. The new MINI Convertible Sidewalk is also a very special spring messenger. The edition model of this open-top four-seater is an open invitation to let down the soft top and capture the first rays of warm sunshine, turn your eyes skywards and admire the colourful splendour of the cherry blossom.

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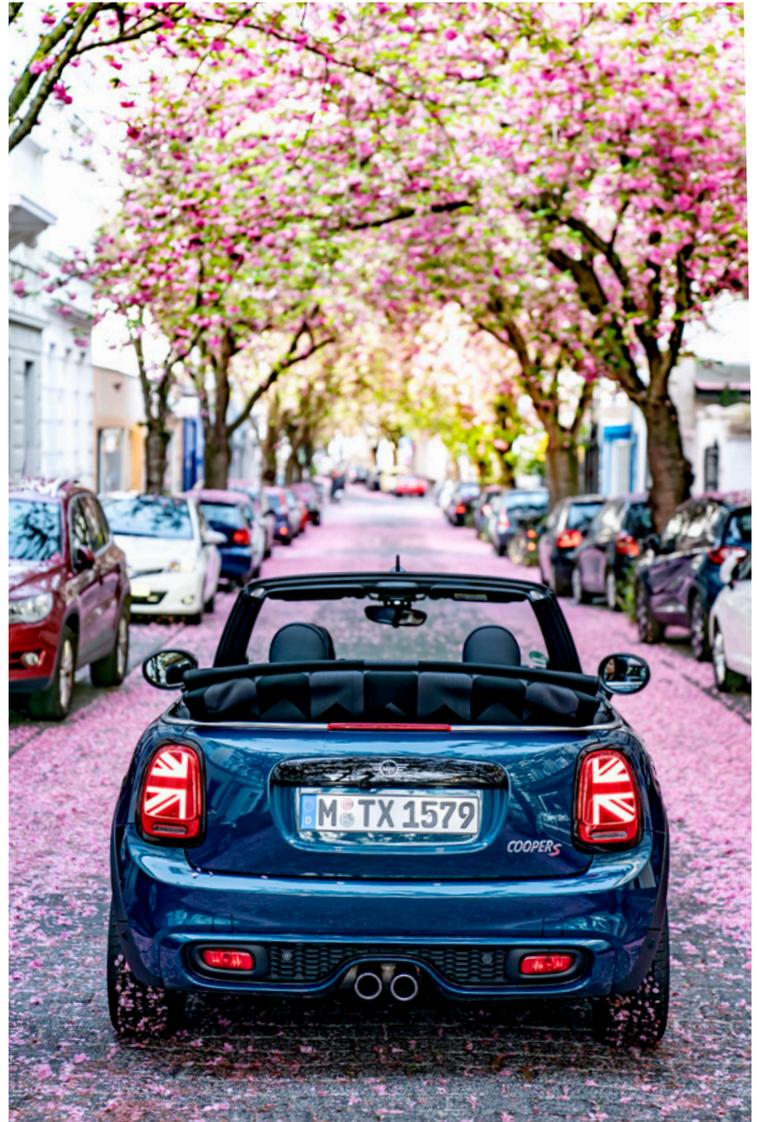
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Bonn is the perfect destination for an outing to view this natural marvel. The city's residents and tourists alike believe that Breite Straße – Broad Street – in the one-time capital of Germany provides a wonderful opportunity to admire the pageant in white and pink. The MINI Convertible Sidewalk provides an impressive contrast in blue to the subtle display of colour in Bonn's old town. The Deep Laguna metallic paint developed specially for the livery of this edition model is combined with matching bonnet stripes and 17-inch light-alloy Scissor Spoke 2-tone wheels, which are also a model-specific design feature.

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The exclusive soft-top roof of the edition model is well worth a closer look. The MINI Yours Softtop Sidewalk features an artistically woven-in arrow graphic. Naturally, the roof had been opened to the elements for the spring tour around Bonn. The electric-powered roof operates almost silently and takes just 18 seconds to open up.

The first blossoms are able to fall on the anthracite-coloured seats in the exclusive MINI Yours Leather Lounge Sidewalk version where they create a brightly coloured showpiece together with the contrast stitching in Petrol and Energetic Yellow. The petrol paint effect also embellishes the door bezels and the backlit trim on the passenger side of the new MINI Convertible Sidewalk.

The fascination with the subtle springtime messengers originated in Japan. Cherry blossom has been venerated there for centuries. It represents beauty and transience – since this wondrous show of natural beauty only lasts for a few fleeting weeks between the end of March and the beginning of May. Originally, the Cherry Blossom Festival was reserved for the imperial court but since the 17th century, Hanami – translated as “flower viewing” – has been celebrated by everyone in Japan.

The tradition of cherry blossom festivals has now spread far beyond Asia across the ocean to North America and Europe. In Washington D.C., the friendship between Japan and the USA is commemorated in the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. In the region of Extremadura in the



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West of Spain, more than two million cherry trees transform the “Valle del Jerte” valley into a sea of pink and white. And in Hamburg, the Cherry Blossom Festival has celebrated the partnership with the twin city of Osaka in Japan for more than 50 years.

In Bonn, a rapturous reception for the blossom is a relatively recent phenomenon. But a post on Facebook “Places to See Before You Die” about the sea of blossoms in Breite Straße and Heerstraße in Bonn created huge hype in 2012 and brought unimaginable fame to these two streets. This year is no exception and pedestrians and amateur photographers continue to delight in the boulevard of cherry trees. And why ever not? The natural show can be happily enjoyed by individuals or in groups of two, while maintaining social distancing or alternatively on a spin with the new MINI Convertible Sidewalk.



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The values of fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and electricity consumption and range shown were determined according to the test procedure defined in the European Directive VO (EU) 2007/715 in the version applicable at the time of type approval. The figures refer to a vehicle with basic configuration in Germany and the range shown takes account of optional equipment and the different size of wheels and tyres available on the selected model. These factors can change during the configuration.

The values of some vehicles are measured according to the new WLTP (Worldwide Harmonised Light-Duty Vehicles Test Procedure) and converted to NEDC (New European Driving Cycle) for comparison purposes. The taxes or other duties for these vehicles may be based on fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions data which differ from that shown here.

Further information on official fuel consumption and official specific CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of new passenger cars is given in the „Handbook of fuel consumption, the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and power consumption of new passenger cars“, which can be obtained free of charge at all sales outlets and from Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH (DAT), Hellmuth-Hirth-Str. 1, 73760 Ostfildern-Scharnhausen, and at <https://www.dat.de/co2/>.

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In 2019, the BMW Group sold over 2.5 million passenger vehicles and more than 175,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2019 was € 7.118 billion on revenues amounting to € 104.210 billion. As of 31 December 2019, the BMW Group had a workforce of 133,778 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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