

Press release
13. May 2015

Tradition-swathed route, legendary sports car, historic triumphs.**BMW Group Classic and the BMW 328 at Mille Miglia 2015**

Munich/Brescia. BMW Group Classic's involvement in this year's Mille Miglia sees a number of legendary racing cars taking a route steeped in tradition, swept along by memories of historic motor sport victories. The spotlight will be turned most intensely on the BMW 328, whose success story is closely intertwined with this long-distance event through northern Italy. Fielding several examples of this racing classic along with an international line-up of drivers from Germany, the USA, Britain, Italy and China, BMW Group Classic will be at the start of this year's internationally popular round-trip event with BMW's overall Mille Miglia victory of 75 years ago very much in mind.

With its low weight, high reliability and perfect roadholding, the BMW 328 caused a sensation soon after its debut in 1936, both on the road and on the race track. At the Mille Miglia it first drew attention to itself in 1938 when it won the 2.0-litre category. Two years on, Fritz Huschke von Hanstein and Walter Bäumer followed that up with overall victory in a BMW 328 Mille Miglia Touring Coupé. Among the models BMW Group Classic is dispatching to this year's event are the BMW 328 Berlin-Rome Touring Roadster from 1937 and a BMW 328 Mille Miglia Roadster hailing from 1939.

The Mille Miglia has been held as a regularity and reliability trial for historic cars since 1977. Only models that took part in the 1,000-mile event between 1927 and 1957 are eligible to compete, with original racers from that era enjoying an especially exclusive status. The winning car of 1940 has plied these self-laid tracks of motor racing history more than once. Indeed, 2004 saw the BMW 328 Mille Miglia Touring Coupé from the BMW Group Classic fleet cross the finish line in Brescia as overall winner. It was the first time a car had won both the original event and the new iteration of the Mille Miglia.

The 2015 Mille Miglia starts in Brescia on Thursday, 14 May 2015. More than 460 historic automobiles have registered for this year's rendition of the round trip. The opening stage begins in the afternoon and runs via Verona, Ferrara and Ravenna to Rimini. The destination of Friday's second stage is Rome, whence the field continues its journey the following day to take in Siena and Pisa before rolling up in Parma. During the final stage on Sunday, 17 May 2015, the historic racing cars and their escorts will negotiate the Autodromo

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di Monza race track, among other points en route, before finishing at the event's starting point in Brescia.

BMW Group Classic is fielding the following teams in the 2015 Mille Miglia:

133	Ian Robertson / Jim Holder	BMW 328 Berlin-Rome Touring Roadster
146	Alexander Bilgeri / Scott Hughes	BMW 328 Mille Miglia Roadster
125	Ulrich Sanne / Wang Wei	BMW 328
123	Peter van Binsbergen / Wolfgang Wieland	BMW 328
132	Sergio Solero / Michele Lupi	BMW 328

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BMW Museum – Hands-on history

Visitors of all ages can explore the past, present and future of the BMW brand at BMW Welt, the BMW Museum and the BMW plant. The BMW Museum plays an important role in this. Since re-opening in 2008, it has been successfully presenting the history of BMW and offering a glimpse of the future. The museum also explores the theme of mobility for the benefit of younger visitors. The Junior Museum organizes a special program for children and young people, basing its educational concept on learning through play. The museum also has a history of its own: it is one of the oldest automobile museums in Germany, was built in 1973 and declared a historic monument in 1999.

The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2014, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.118 million cars and 123,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2014 was approximately € 8.71 billion on revenues amounting to € 80.40 billion. As of 31 December 2014, the BMW Group had a workforce of 116,324 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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