

Press Release  
September 2020

## IN THE TRACKS OF A LEGEND: WITH THE MINI JOHN COOPER WORKS IN MONACO.



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**The MINI John Cooper Works is the epitome of extreme driving fun in the premium segment of small cars. The search for its sporting DNA takes us to the scene of the greatest triumph for the classic Mini and on a journey through time back to the golden years of the Monte Carlo Rally.**

**Munich.** Formula 1 on the North Loop of the Nürburgring, the 24 Hour Race of Le Mans, the 500 Miles of Indianapolis or the Monte Carlo Rally. Each motor-sport discipline has its iconic venue. Anyone who has achieved victory there is assured of a fixed place in the annals of history for that particular competition. Drivers who were victorious there not once but three times attain legendary status in the hall of fame. The classic Mini conquered the hearts of motor-sport fans during the special tests in Provence, on the winding roads and hairpin bends of the Col de Turini and on the grand prix circuit through the city streets of Monaco. In each of the years 1964, 1965 and 1967,

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the pint-sized British car earned overall victory in the Monte Carlo Rally. Since then, this classic rally has been inseparably linked up with the heritage brand and the name John Cooper. On a trip down memory lane with the legitimate successor to the surprise winner in the 1960s, the MINI John Cooper Works (combined fuel consumption: 7.1 – 6.9 l/ 100 km; combined CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 162 – 157 g/km), this intimate relationship is tangible over every kilometre.

A 170 kW/231 hp four-cylinder engine with MINI TwinPower Turbo technology, a sports exhaust system and a model-based chassis with sports braking system and 17-inch John Cooper Works lightweight alloy wheels transform the MINI John Cooper Works into the apotheosis of extreme driving fun in the premium segment of small cars. The sprint from a standing start to a speed of 100 km/h takes the little runabout just 6.3 seconds. In the intermediate sprint from 80 to 120 km/h, a time of just 5.6 seconds even leaves blue-riband sports cars behind.



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This connects it with the classic Mini driven by Paddy Hopkirk (1964), Timo Mäkinen (1965) and Rauno Aaltonen (1967) to outstanding successes, always achieved against much bigger and more powerful opponents. This was an era when vehicles from different classes competed against each other in the Monte Carlo Rally. A handicap formula was used to provide appropriate compensation when allocating points to balance out the differences in weight, displacement and performance. This enabled the agility and reliability of the classic Mini combined with the rally skills of its drivers to tip the scales in the battle against the powerful and muscular projectiles of other manufacturers.

Today, anyone setting a course for Monaco over the pass roads through the mountains of Southern France is following in the tracks of yesteryear's rally legends. Even driving under summer conditions, by day and in the modern MINI John Cooper Works fitted with particularly powerful brakes, multifaceted driving stability systems and automatic air-conditioning, we can gain a good impression of the challenges to be mastered by the competitors, for example in the



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legendary “Night of the Long Knives” more than 50 years ago. The steep roads leading up to the Col de Turini pass, the icy road surfaces and pitch-black darkness provided a scenario that demanded a huge amount of courage and skill from the drivers.

Spectacular landscapes dominate the picture in the French Maritime Alps. However, the perspective soon changes and the street canyons, waterside promenades and Port of Monaco come into view for the first time. The road runs in parallel with the coastline along the Avenue Agerbol and the Route de la Moyenne Corniche offering lots of opportunities to stop and enjoy the breath-taking panoramic view over the principality beside the sea.

In the south of Monaco between the Port de Fontvieille and the football stadium of AS Monaco, the MINI John Cooper Works goes past the Roseaie Princesse Grace, a rose garden laid out to celebrate the memory of Princess Gracia Patricia. From there, it’s not far to the princely residence and the city centre of Monte Carlo.

In the yachting marina and on the lookout for a parking space in front of Monte Carlo’s casino, the MINI John Cooper Works bustles along with a self-assuredness similar to the headstrong classic Mini of an earlier era on the authentic rally route through the phalanx of luxury saloons and super sports cars from Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom that dominate the roads of Monaco. The car signals sophisticated understatement with its standard John Cooper Works Aerodynamic Kit and the striking rear spoiler, and highlights the certainty of generating maximum driving fun on a minimalist footprint.



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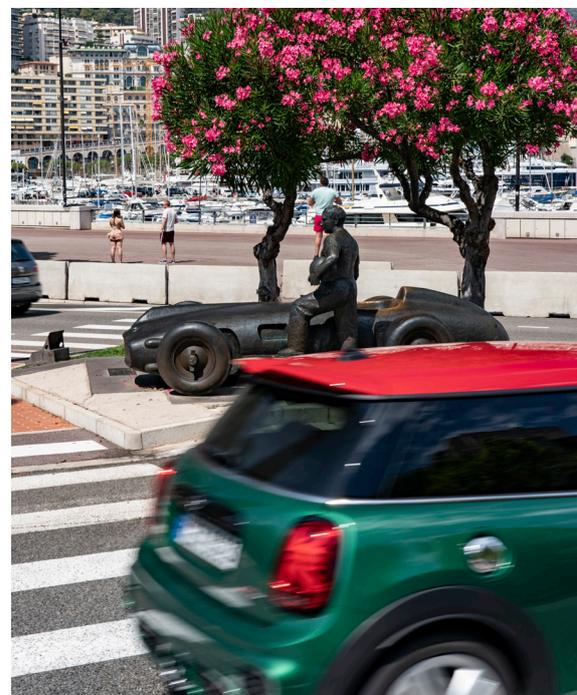


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Nowhere more intensely than in Monte Carlo does the MINI John Cooper Works demonstrate that genuine race feeling can also be experienced in urban everyday traffic. After all, this is a place where you can go on a city tour as you drive along a genuine grand prix circuit. But you need to make sure that you go around clockwise just like on race weekends.

Ready, steady, go and off into the famous Sainte-Dévote right-hand corner and then uphill in the direction of the casino. Driving along the street circuit, you can see the trail of bronze statues depicting famous racing cars and their drivers. The MINI John Cooper Works is really in its element once it gets to the hairpin bend that has caused problems for genuine Formula 1 rockets for

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decades. Shortly afterwards, it shoots through the tunnel under the Fairmont Hotel with pizzazz, round the Piscine corner circumventing the swimming pool and then the equally famous Rascasse corner in front of the eponymous restaurant. The diminutive elite athlete fitted with a cockpit styled specifically for the model and the John Cooper Works sports seats transforms this drive into a unique experience constituting a perfectly melded union of motor-sport tradition and modern driving fun – even while still keeping to the speed limit.



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The values of fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and electricity consumption 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/>.

# MINI CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS



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## The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises 31 production and assembly facilities in 15 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

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 126,016 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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