

Classic & Other Automotive & Motor Sports Events In Portugal

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Those of us with an interest in absolutely any kind of petrolhead event will be delighted to know that Portugal is an absolute country of rabid fans of everything from classic vehicle shows & exhibitions to classic car cruises to donut spinning exhibitions to racing to rallying to regularity competitions in ALL areas of the country & they range from small village/local events with just a handful of vehicles involved to huge national events where many hundreds of vehicles might be involved plus often endless trade sellers of anything & everything automotive related & the very best of those are the annual Motorclassico shows in Porto & Lisbon.

This massive interest must also extend even to successive Governments who are kind & interested enough to allow suitable vehicles to be listed as being of historical interest to Portugal which in many cases often gives the possibility of ludicrously cheap basic insurance & makes them exempt from both annual road tax & IPO inspection. Although any responsible owner of such a vehicle is obviously well advised to submit the vehicle for an annual safety inspection that at least checks issues such as brakes, steering rack & track rod ends etc. (Which is what I do).

You will see some events advertised in local cafes & bars etc & also on various special interest social media sites/groups & some on the websites below but you WILL need to search very carefully indeed in many cases as advertising & marketing is (to put it politely) often a bit hit & miss.

Alternatively, feel free to ask on groups such as this and/or look in their 'Events' section and/or if all else fails, send me a PM & I'll do my best to help if I can.

<https://www.acp.pt/ser-socio/classicos>

<https://fiva.org/en/>

<https://www.museudocaramulo.pt/>

<https://www.caramulo-motorfestival.com/en/>

<https://portugalclassiccars.com/events>

<https://www.motorclassico.com/>

If you are planning to import a classic vehicle then you need to read Importing A Foreign Registered Vehicle Into Portugal in the files section & the definition of a classic here is at least 30 or more years old & in good & largely unmodified condition & if it is a classic then it will predate the issuance of the EU Certificates of Conformity & they will happily accept a copy of any document

that shows the original tech spec of the vehicle as it came off the production line such as a copy of the original sales brochure or the tech spec you will find detailed in your workshop manual or similar.

Also be warned that the high summer temperatures will often cause older cars (especially with large capacity engines) to vapour lock the fuel supply lines especially if the car has copper fuel pipes that run over the top of the engine & the easy cure is to bin the copper pipes & replace with rubber fuel lines that run around the engine rather than over it & sometimes a fuel vapour filter might need to be installed near the carburettor inlet manifold & also be warned the very high UK light here will eat the paintwork of your classic if it gets half a chance to try to keep it either garaged or in shade when you are not driving or riding the vehicle.

Also note that if your classic requires spare parts to be imported from outside of the EU then you can expect to be hit with mega high import taxes on cost of items + postage/shipping + packaging + 23% VAT/IVA on cost & in many cases that can add in excess of 300% total taxes.

However, you can sometimes make a significant saving on that if you import into a different EU country & then use domestic postage from there as most other EU countries are considerably less harsh in the way import taxes are levied & there are companies that specialise in such helpful & perfectly legitimate services but you do sometimes have to hunt them down with a Google or similar search & one company I find to be especially helpful when importing parts or come to that, any item from the United States is USA2YOU who can be contacted at <http://usa2you.nl/eng/>

Also for good quality electrical parts for any classic vehicle, Bosch have a dedicated & very efficient classic vehicle department at <https://www.bosch-classic.com/de/en>