



Le QUOTIDIEN

HISTORIQUE



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Among the six starting cities for this Rallye Monte Carlo Historique, three are in the starting blocks today, for the rest of the 330 crews: Bad Homburg (60 crews) from 2:20 pm, Barcelone (102 crews) at 4:30 pm and Reims (136 crews) at 7 pm. Yesterday, there was a nighty start in Copenhagen.

Bad Homburg Start :



Bad Homburg, 52 000 residents, is a modern city and a business center in the Francfort-Rhin-Main area. With a thermal resort dedicated to well-being, a literature and poetry festival, for culture, as well as numerous concerts, plays, and even an organ festival. This Friday, the main event in the city will be the start of Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique.

Barcelona Start :

Culture, weather, gastronomy, **football and cars !** Barcelona is a city where it is almost impossible to get bored. From Gaudí to gothical architecture, it is full of absolute marvels. The sense of hospitality of its residents will make it a memorable day for 106 crews ready to start Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique.



Reims Start :

The Museum of Fine Arts, in Reims, shelters the second collection of Corot works, after Le Louvre, as well as sculptures and objets d'art dating back to the XIXth century (Monet, Matisse, Rodin, etc.). However, people visit Reims not only for its museums. Each edition of Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique has started from here. The city can boast of one of the absolute jewels of French heritage : champagne ! The visit of the caves is a "must", but most of the 135 crews starting from the Champagne capital wisely skipped that tour, in order to focus ... on the race to come !



Technical Control in Reims

Copenhagen Start (9 crews) . Thursday 26th - 11H00



Schedule Saturday 28th January
10H55 St André les Alpes
12H10 ZR1 Entrevaux-Entrevaux
14H45 Beach Hotel MONACO
15H00 Parc fermé Port Hercule

Crews to follow closely...

Rauno Aaltonen / Henri Lindon
winners of Rallye Monte-Carlo 1967



Rauno Aaltonen was born in January 1938 and started motor racing in 1956.

A very eclectic driver... and rider, he became the first Finn to win a moto Grand Prix (Japan 1958, in the 350 cc category), opening the way for the late Jarno Saarinen.

He then took part in Le Mans 24 Hours, in 1965, in an Austin-Healey, and won the Monte-Carlo Rally in 1967 thanks to a technique that he invented: braking with the right foot, which made it much easier with a front-wheel drive rally car (just ask Jean Ragnotti)!

He was the first of the "Flying Finns" and he is now an ambassador for the Mini brand. Aboard a Mini very similar to the one he drove in 1967, Rauno Aaltonen, along with Hans Sylvans as a co-driver, will do everything he can to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his 1967 win, during this 20th edition of Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique.

"We did not win (in 1967) because we played it safe", Rauno recalls.

"Just like all the other drivers, we were on full throttle! And if Mini won three times in Monte-Carlo, it is also because our team was the most professional, at that time. We could count on Ice Crews, with drivers taking notes in the stages before us. This was new at the time", and now it is the rule!

Starting from Bad Homburg, the crew of Mini #177 (same number as in the golden age) will have to be followed closely.

And you can count on Rauno Aaltonen to celebrate in style...

Seen in the press ... «Communiqué Renault»

Renault enters four Renault 8 Gordini in Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique 2017

- Four Renault 8 Gordini take part in the 20th edition of Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique.
- The Renault Classic crews start from Barcelona on Friday January 27, aiming to reach the chequered flag in Monaco on Wednesday February 1.
- Crew #5 : Manu Guigou / Jean-Pierre Prevot
- Crew #8 : Jean Ragnotti / Sebastien Delanney
- Crew #12 : Michel Leclere / Michel Duvernay
- Crew #14 : Guillaume Chancel / François-Paul Forgeoux

Renault 8 Gordini, a true legend of motor racing !

Some cars have marked their times, in a specific way. Renault 8 Gordini is one of them, so Renault decided in 2017 to enter four of them in this rally. One of the most popular sportscar ever produced, Renault 8 Gordini guaranteed a top speed of 175 km/h at a very affordable price.

Born in 1964, it allowed a whole generation of drivers to start enjoying a very sporty way to drive. Because the «Gorde» (its nickname) was ready for it, thanks to a pack of changes brought to its road car base, the Renault 8 Major. **Amédée Gordini, nicknamed the "Sorcerer", doubled the power available**, thanks to a new cylinder head and two superb Weber carburetors.

Suspensions, steering, brakes and additional equipment go well with the top speed of 175 km/h. They fully justify the round dials and the white stripes on the legendary blue livery. Born with a 1,108 cc engine, this little bomb was equipped with 1,255 cc in 1966, as well as two extra round lights giving it a famous look.

The same year, the "Gordini Cup" was launched, in order to make the myth even more popular.

Many drivers started racing in a R8 Gordini and remember it well. In 1970, the Renault 8 Gordini was replaced by a Renault 12 Gordini. The four Renault 8 Gordini entered by Renault Classic this year in the Rallye Monte Carlo Historique are using Michelin tires X M+S 89 (135x15) which proved their worth along previous editions.

An ACM Live application is available to follow the rally and consult the archives on Android and iPhones. To install it, search for "ACM Live" on Google Store or App Store, or alternatively scan the following QR Codes (see under).



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