

**From March 16th through until April 28th, 2019
Autoworld - Brussels
Presents**

MINI 60 YEARS

An exhibition and parade in Brussels!

The Mini is 60 years old this year.

For the occasion Autoworld will, in March and April, be giving top billing to a dozen or so models of this both revolutionary and characterful small car, that was to play a major role in the company's evolution in the '60s.

And for all the owners of a Mini, whatever their year of build, an enjoyable parade will set-off from the museum on Easter Monday, 22nd April for a run through the streets of the capital.

Mini... in the Spotlight

The Museum's two exhibition zones will highlight various competition models such as the 1964 Monte Carlo winning version, a works prepared car for circuit racing and one of the cars in which Julien Vernaeve carved himself a reputation in the '60s and '70s in Belgium. But also standard series models, such as a 1973 Mini 850 with a mere 900kms on the odometer, as also various extremely rare versions such as a Radford or a Wolseley Hornet...

A Mini-Parade, but big in spirit– Monday 22nd April 2019

To give the numerous Mini enthusiasts – whether Austin Mini, Morris Mini, Rover Mini or other Mini – to celebrate the 60th anniversary of their favourite car, Autoworld is organising, with the support of the Mini make, a large gathering in front of the Museum followed by a parade through the streets of Brussels.

The parade will take on that of a fun run, without any sporting aspects, and it goes without saying respecting the Highway Code

Participants are expected on Monday 22nd April between 12.00hrs and 14.00hrs on the Esplanade du Cinquantenaire in front of Autoworld. Inside the Museum they will receive their anniversary rally plaque as also a roadbook.

Please note that the number of participants is limited to 200 cars. So, it will be a question of first come first served.

Registration is free but mandatory via <https://goo.gl/forms/yvSNiRfQeibf10Xt1> or by email to mini@autoworld.be. Participation entitles entry to the Museum and visit to the "60 Years Mini" exhibition.

The great Mini story in a nutshell

In 1957, Alec Issigonis, who had already made a name for himself with the Morris Minor, is given the assignment to design a prototype vehicle that could accommodate four persons, fitted with one of the existing BMC (British Motor Corporation) engines and would be smaller than what the different companies of the BMC family were offering at that time. Thus, the Mini was born, introduced in 1959. The car was fitted with a 4-cylinder transverse engine, with front-wheel-drive, and notwithstanding a mere length of 3,05 metres able to take four adults on board. It was a car as revolutionary as it was full of character, and it was to play an important role in the company's

evolution in the '60s. In 1959, Austin and Morris, the makes that made up BMC in 1952, both launched the car under their own name: the Austin Seven and the Morris Mini Minor. The production factories were based at Longbridge (for Austin) and Cowley (for Morris), where in 1959 some 100 cars per week rolled off the line.

The Mini Cooper was revealed in 1961, having been breathed on by John Cooper. It was soon to make a name for itself in competition. In 1969, Mini became a make in its own right.

Numerous variants existed, but the basic concept remained unmodified. The last Mini based on the concept of Issigonis was produced in 2000. Since 1994 the make is a subsidiary of BMW who initially commercialised the original Mini during several years prior to launching, as from 2001, new models.

Useful Information:

Autoworld - Esplanade du Cinquantenaire – 1000 Brussels

Open daily – even on Monday – from 10.00hrs until 17.00hrs (from 10.00hrs 'till 18.00hrs on Saturday and Sunday)

Entrance fee to the museum: € 12/ adult - € 10/ senior – € 9/ student - € 5/child from 6-12 years – free for child younger than 6 years

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