

## Diary

Best events in...  
East Coast USA

WITH THE hullabaloo of California's Monterey Week rapidly approaching, it's easy to forget that there's a vibrant classic car scene on the East Coast of the USA, too. And if you're into your concours d'elegance events, you're well served. The **Fairfield County Concours d'Elegance**, based in Connecticut, might only be seven years old, but it established itself as one of the 2010 season's premier shows, with top-class cars displayed, – and rather more are promised for 2011. Be there in September.

Much further south in Florida, there's the **Amelia Island Concours**, already in the premier division. The auction houses love it – and in 2012 Ferrari fans will too, as the 50th anniversary of the 250GT0 will be celebrated. It is sure to be a great opener for next year's season.

Although it's taking place the weekend before Pebble Beach, it's worth taking time to visit the **New Hope Automobile Show** in Pennsylvania (13-14 August). The drive there from New York takes in some really nice roads and, once you're there, it costs a mere \$5 to get in. This event is only in its second season and is already over-subscribed (being limited to 250 places) if you want to display your car. You'll see a great selection from the 1920s to the '90s, and it has an unhurried atmosphere. Find out more at [www.newhopeautoshow.com](http://www.newhopeautoshow.com).

Back down in Florida you'll find another of those little-known gems in the **Lake Mirror Classic** auto festival and auction on 14-16 October in Downtown Lakeland. During the long weekend, this pretty resort fills to bursting with classic cars from all across the USA. This year's event also includes an auction, concours d'elegance (with 125 cars), fashion show – and a boat/Amphicar splash-in at the lake! More at [www.lakemirrorclassic.com](http://www.lakemirrorclassic.com).

These events only give a flavour of what eastern USA has to offer – it's a huge country, and a car-loving one at that, and on any given weekend there will be a popular resort somewhere hosting a similar event. **Nathan Baker**

CLASSIC PILGRIMAGE  
Targa Florio

THE TARGA FLORIO is a classic road race that ended in 1973. But its legend lives on. It's a road course that so many of us know about, even if few have enjoyed the privilege of driving our own cars on it.

For Brits and Northern Europeans it's a long drive just to get there: the race took place in Sicily, which means a costly ferry crossing from Naples or Livorno. So make an adventure of it: tour Italy and see the country change around you, from the sophistication of the north to the aggressive beauty of the south. The ferry docks at Messina, not far from the iconic start/finish straight near the bustling and cramped village of Cerda. Once there you'll easily trace the route, which follows a loop via Campofelice, Collesano, Caltavuturo and back to Cerda.

The sinuous mountain roads are littered with evocative reminders – fading painted adverts, crumbling buildings daubed with the greatest drivers' names, and yellow route direction signs. The roads are tight, narrow and subsiding, and the nearer the villages you get, the heavier the traffic becomes. But what a challenge it throws up. You'll want to attack the 45-mile course time and time again. And you could fly into Palermo and hire a car – it's still an amazing drive even in a Hertz Fiat. **Keith Adams**

## Listings

## 9-15 OCTOBER

**MILLE ET UNE NUITS CLASSIC**  
Spain, based in Barcelona. Luxury regularity rally taking in mountain, desert and coastal scenery.  
[www.sableschauds.com](http://www.sableschauds.com)

## 14 OCTOBER

**PORSCHE RENNSPORT REUNION IV**  
Laguna Seca, California, USA. Historic racing at the legendary raceway.  
[www.mazdaraceway.com](http://www.mazdaraceway.com)

## 14-15 OCTOBER

**HERO THROCKMORTON CHALLENGE**  
Persore, Worcestershire, UK. One-day Classic Trial for cars built before 1984.  
[www.heroevents.eu](http://www.heroevents.eu)

## 14-16 OCTOBER

**ZOUTE GP**  
Albertplein to Westhoek, Belgium. Regularity rally for cars built before 1965.  
[www.zoute-events.be](http://www.zoute-events.be)

## 16 OCTOBER

**PORSCHE RACE CAR CLASSIC**  
Quail Lodge, Monterey, California, USA. One-off gathering of over 200 significant racing Porsches in prestigious surroundings.  
[www.porscheracecarclassic.com](http://www.porscheracecarclassic.com)

## 20-23 OCTOBER

**ALGARVE HISTORIC MOTOR FESTIVAL**  
Portimao, Portugal. Fully packed weekend-long historic race festival on a brilliant track.  
[www.ahfportimao.com](http://www.ahfportimao.com)

## 21-23 OCTOBER

**MOTORCLASSICA**  
Melbourne, Australia. Top-level concours with a tea-party atmosphere, now coming back for a second year.  
[www.motorclassica.com.au](http://www.motorclassica.com.au)

## 21-27 OCTOBER

**LA CARRERA PANAMERICANA**  
Mexico. Amazing week-long endurance event from Huatulco to Zcatecas – packed with cars as varied as the incredible scenery.  
[www.lacarrerapanamericana.com.mx](http://www.lacarrerapanamericana.com.mx)

## 22 OCTOBER

**BART'S CHALLENGE**  
Apeldoorn, Netherlands. First running of this charity rally event.  
[www.thetrial.nl](http://www.thetrial.nl)

## 3 NOVEMBER

**GOODWOOD OCTANE TRACK DAY IN ASSOCIATION WITH EFG**  
Goodwood Circuit, Sussex, UK. Hone your track driving with *Octane* and meet the *Octane* team.  
[www.octane-magazine.com](http://www.octane-magazine.com)

## 4-6 NOVEMBER

**LONDON-BRIGHTON VETERAN CAR RUN**  
London to Brighton, UK. The original and best veteran car run, with Bonhams auction and concours d'elegance.  
[www.lbvcr.com](http://www.lbvcr.com)

## 5 NOVEMBER

**AC OWNERS CLUB SPRINT**  
Goodwood, West Sussex, UK. Sprint event, also open to non-AC owners to experience.  
[www.acownersclub.co.uk](http://www.acownersclub.co.uk)

## 5-6 NOVEMBER

**NATIONAL CLUB MOTOR SPORT SHOW**  
Ricoh Arena, Coventry, UK. Brand new show covering rally, road, stocks and supercars.  
[www.motorsportshow.co.uk](http://www.motorsportshow.co.uk)

## 11-13 NOVEMBER

**NEC CLASSIC MOTOR SHOW**  
NEC, Birmingham, UK. The biggest and best indoor classic motor show in the UK.  
[www.necclassicmotorshow.com](http://www.necclassicmotorshow.com)

## 20-24 NOVEMBER

**WINTER CHALLENGE**  
UK/Netherlands to Monaco. Two start points, one grand finale in Monte Carlo for this classic rally. Replaces Rally of the Tests this year.  
[www.classicrally.org.uk](http://www.classicrally.org.uk)

## 30 NOVEMBER – 4 DECEMBER

**BAHAMAS SPEED WEEK REVIVAL**  
New Providence Island, The Bahamas. The greatest cars from 1954 to 1966. Tour, dragstrip evening, concours and cavalcade.  
[www.bahamasspeedweekrevival.com](http://www.bahamasspeedweekrevival.com)

## 3-4 DECEMBER

**2011 RACE OF CHAMPIONS**  
Düsseldorf, Germany. Champions past, present and future battle it out on track.  
[www.raceofchampions.com](http://www.raceofchampions.com)

## 10-13 DECEMBER

**LE JOG 2011**  
Land's End to John o'Groat, UK. Reliability and touring trial for classic cars.  
[www.heroevents.eu](http://www.heroevents.eu)

## 11-14 JANUARY 2012

**WINTER RAID**  
Swiss and Italian Alps. Classic road rally for those who like winter challenges.  
[www.raid.ch](http://www.raid.ch)

## 12-15 JANUARY 2012

**AUTOSPORT INTERNATIONAL**  
NEC, Birmingham, UK. Europe's largest motor sports show with historic exhibits.  
[www.autosport-international.com](http://www.autosport-international.com)

## 17-22 JANUARY 2012

**CAVALLINO CLASSIC XXI**  
Palm Beach, Florida, USA. Top-level Ferrari event, with racing and tours.  
[www.cavallino.com](http://www.cavallino.com)

## 28 JANUARY –

## 1 FEBRUARY 2012

**THE WINTER TRIAL**  
Austrian Alps. Mountainous winter road rally that's growing in popularity.  
[www.thetrial.nl](http://www.thetrial.nl)

## 1-5 FEBRUARY 2012

**RÉTROMOBILE**  
Paris, France. Impressive season-opening classic car show, now back in its traditional place on the calendar.  
[www.retromobile.fr](http://www.retromobile.fr)

## 19-20 FEBRUARY 2012

**RACE RETRO**  
Stoneleigh Park, Coventry, UK. A mixture of live action and static displays.  
[www.raceretro.com](http://www.raceretro.com)

## 21-25 MARCH 2012

**TECHNO-CLASSICA ESSEN**  
Essen, Germany. Europe's largest indoor classic motor show, with private and dealer sales, club stands, Coys auction.  
[www.siha.de](http://www.siha.de)

## 22-25 MARCH 2012

**RETRO CLASSICS STUTTGART**  
Stuttgart, Germany. Large scale classic car show with echoes of Techno-Classica.  
[www.messe-stuttgart.de/retro](http://www.messe-stuttgart.de/retro)

*Octane makes every effort to ensure accuracy on these pages, but recommends that you contact event organisers before setting out.*