



Varignana 1705 | Concorso d'Eleganza

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ASSETS

The 2025 edition of the Varignana 1705 Concorso d'Eleganza crowned the Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 SS Berlinetta Pinin Farina as Best of Show and the Ferrari 121 LM as the People's Choice Award winner

The third edition of the Varignana 1705 Concorso d'Eleganza celebrated automotive excellence with 37 vintage cars competing and the introduction of the Classic Car Talks. The Best of Show title was awarded to a unique masterpiece that marked a milestone in automotive design history, presented by Corrado Lopresto, while Elad Shruga's Ferrari 121 LM captivated both the public and experts.

Palazzo di Varignana, Italy – September 29, 2025:

Palazzo di Varignana welcomed international collectors, jurors, and enthusiasts for the third edition of the Concorso d'Eleganza Varignana 1705, confirming its place among Europe's most enchanting concours weekends. For three days, the rolling hills of Bologna hosted an extraordinary gathering of collectors, jurors, and enthusiasts who celebrated automotive excellence, Italian lifestyle, and cultural heritage.

Thirty-seven rare and significant cars competed across six exclusive classes, evaluated by an international jury chaired by historian and author **Stefano Pasini**. The 2025 edition introduced *Classic Car Talks*, a new platform of conversations on culture, innovation, and investment held in partnership with **Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari di Imola** and **Azimut Capital Management**.

Best of Show

The highest honor of *Best of Show* was awarded to the **Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 SS Berlinetta Pinin Farina (1950)**, owned by celebrated Italian collector **Corrado Lopresto**. A one-off masterpiece originally commissioned by Sicilian nobleman Giovanni San Giorgio Gualtieri, this Berlinetta was the first car in history to feature dual headlights, a design breakthrough that influenced generations. With its elegant proportions, 2.4-litre inline-six, and impeccable provenance, the car has earned global recognition and triumphed once again at Varignana 2025.

People's Choice Award

The **Ferrari 121 LM** (1955), owned by **Elad Shruga**, captivated both the public and experts. Equipped with a rare 4.4-litre inline-six engine delivering 360 hp, it marked a turning point from Ferrari's traditional V12s. After debuting at the 1000 km of Buenos



Varignana 1705 | Concorso d'Eleganza

Aires and winning the Giro di Sicilia with Piero Taruffi, it raced in the United States with legends such as Shelby, Hill, and Miles. This ultra-rare Lampredi-powered racing car, built in just four examples, **received both the People's Choice Award and the Special Prize from the Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari in Imola**, confirming its legendary status in endurance racing.

Class Winners

Each of the concours classes delivered an evocative glimpse into different eras of automotive artistry:

- **Supercar Class:** *Lamborghini Miura P400 (1968)* – Nicola Sacchetti. Widely regarded as the world's first true supercar, Gandini's Miura stunned with its low, radical silhouette and mid-engined V12 — a car that redefined the meaning of performance.
- **Vintage Elegance:** *Bugatti Type 49 (1931)* – Silvia Nicolis. The final model designed by Ettore Bugatti himself, combining refined 8-cylinder engineering with exquisite coachwork, epitomizing pre-war French luxury.
- **Motori per il Dopoguerra:** *Fiat 8V (1950)* – Daniele Ferrua. Fiat's audacious 8V coupé marked Italy's post-war return to high-performance cars, clothed by the nation's best coachbuilders and acclaimed for its advanced chassis.
- **Raffinatezza Italiana:** *Lancia Aurelia B20 4th Series (1955)* – Gianluca Garagnani. One of Pininfarina's most elegant designs, blending a V6 engine with transaxle balance, the Aurelia remains a Gran Turismo icon.
- **Gioielli di Maranello:** *Ferrari 330 GTC Speciale (1967)* – Brandon Wang. Commissioned for Princess de Rethy, one of only six built, this bespoke Ferrari exemplifies exclusivity and refinement in 1960s Maranello history. The same car also received the Special Motor Valley Trophy, presented by President Andrea Pontremoli. "The secret handle positioned under the steering wheel, designed to allow the queen to step out without the king having to rise," said Pontremoli, "represents that unique attention to detail which has made the Motor Valley what it is today."
- **Aerodynes:** *Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 SS Berlinetta Pinin Farina (1950)* – Corrado Lopresto. A one-off masterpiece by Pinin Farina, considered the first car in history to feature dual front headlights.



Varignana 1705 | Concorso d'Eleganza

- **Auto in Divisa – Service Vehicles:** *Porsche 911 Carrera 3.2 Targa (1989)* – Lorenzo Matteucci. Delivered new to the Dutch Highway Police, complete with lights and radio, this Carrera 3.2 tells the unusual story of how Porsche engineering served public duty.

Special Recognition

The **Chairman's Award**, presented by the **President of the Concorso Massimo Dall'Olmo**, was awarded to the **Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 SS Cabriolet Pinin Farina** owned by **Björn Schmidt**, one of the most anticipated entries. Carefully restored and famously admired by **Hollywood icon Rita Hayworth**, this car—produced in only 40 examples—represents the pinnacle of post-war Italian elegance: flowing lines, Pininfarina craftsmanship, and a sporty soul by Alfa Romeo.

Classic Car Talks

New for 2025, the Concorso introduced the *Classic Car Talks*, a **forum of conversations** designed to expand the event beyond the concours lawn and explore the cultural, technological, and financial dimensions of classic motoring. Organized in collaboration with **Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari di Imola** and **Azimut Capital Management**, the program brought together leading voices from academia, motorsport, and finance.

The sessions included:

- **Heritage and Sustainability: Reading Automotive History Through Technology**
Augusto Bianchini, Associate Professor, University of Bologna
- **The Future is History: How Classic Cars Remain Central to Modern Motorsport**
Federico Oliva, Head of Hospitality, Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari di Imola
- **Investing in Excellence: Protecting Heritage and Passion for Classics**
Alessandro Bertolini, Executive Manager, Azimut Capital Management

Through this program, the Concorso reinforced its role not only as a celebration of beauty and heritage, but also as a stage for dialogue on sustainability, motorsport tradition, and the investment potential of historic cars.



Varignana 1705 | Concorso d'Eleganza

A Vision of Beauty and Heritage

"In just three years, the Concorso d'Eleganza Varignana 1705 has grown into a true celebration of excellence, where cars, culture, and lifestyle meet," said **Carlo Gherardi, Founder of Palazzo di Varignana**. "This event was created and is driven by Palazzo di Varignana, embodying our values of beauty, heritage, and hospitality. We are proud to have established an international stage where automotive artistry is not only preserved but also shared with new generations in an atmosphere that reflects the best of Italian lifestyle."

A Weekend of Italian Excellence

Framed by the elegant resort of Palazzo di Varignana, with its panoramic landscapes, refined hospitality, five restaurants and wellness spa, the Concorso has rapidly established itself as a highlight of the international concours calendar. With the support of **Azimut Capital Management, Cribis, Emma Villas** and **Fiore 1827**, together with the partnerships of **Autodromo Enzo e Dino Ferrari in Imola, Laurent Perrier**, and under the patronage of the **Motor Valley Association** and **ASI – Automotoclub Storico Italiano**, the 2025 edition once again confirmed Varignana as a unique stage where heritage, innovation, and Italian lifestyle come together.

ENDS

For media enquiries & interview requests

Andrea Mazzuca: andrea.mazzuca@maked.it

About the Concorso d'Eleganza Varignana 1705

The Varignana 1705 Concours d'Elegance is a celebration of automotive artistry and elegance, organized by Palazzo di Varignana. Held in the heart of Italy's Motor Valley, this exclusive event features a curated selection of vintage cars built before 1973, each meticulously judged by a distinguished panel of experts. <https://www.varignana1705.com/en>

About Palazzo di Varignana

Palazzo di Varignana is a captivating resort nestled in the hills outside Bologna. Spanning 30 hectares of scenic countryside, it offers 150 elegantly appointed rooms, five restaurants, refined event spaces, a spacious spa, top-tier sports facilities, and picturesque trails for trekking and biking. It's a haven for those seeking tranquillity and natural beauty in the heart of Emilia-Romagna. <https://www.palazzodivarignana.com/en>