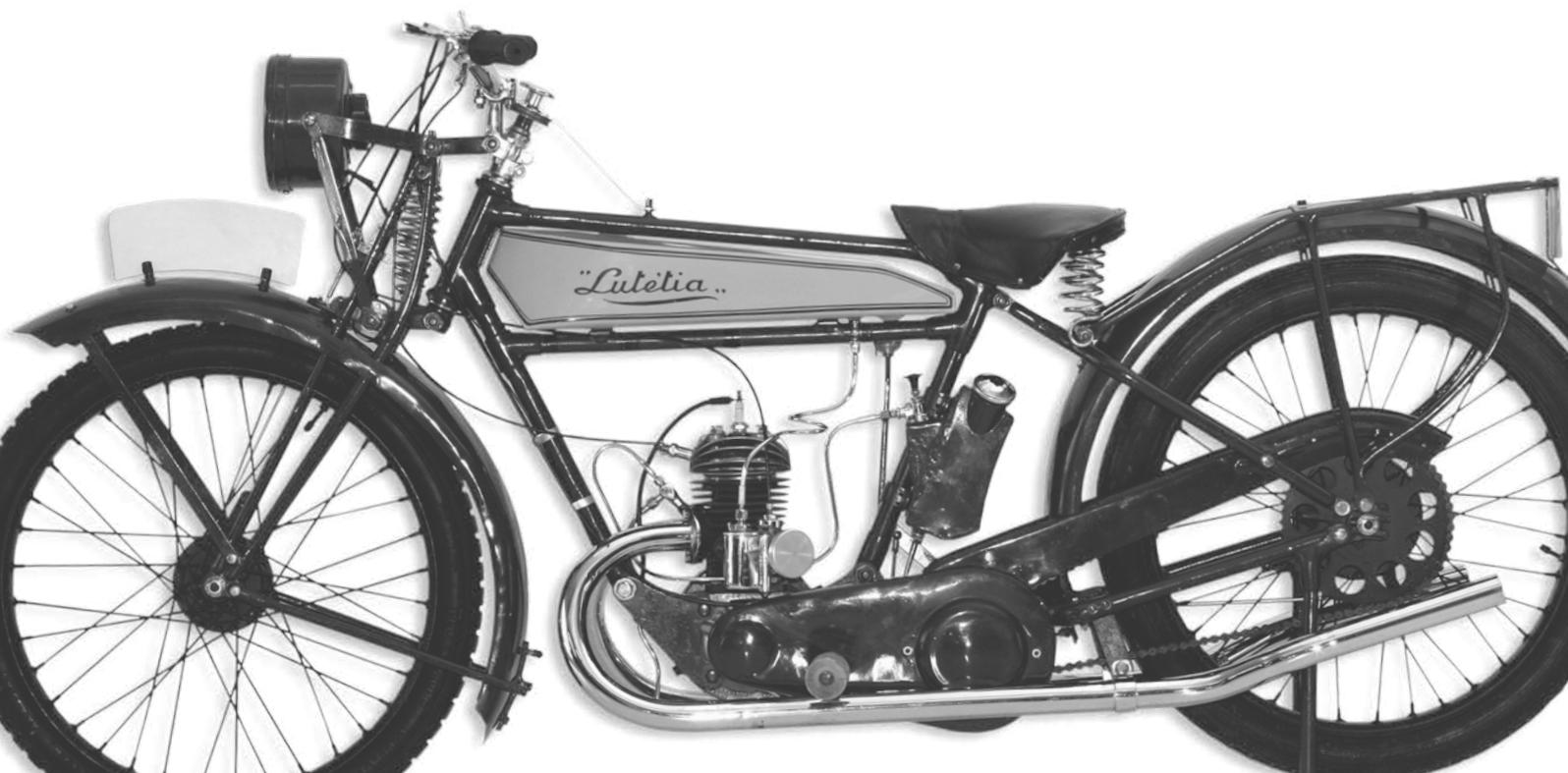


MUSEU **MOTO** BASSELLA

PRESS KIT



1.

Bassella Motorcycle Museum



It has become an icon for all motorsport fans, surrounded by an amazing landscape in the Catalan pre-Pyrenees

The **Bassella Motorcycle Museum** gives continuity to the task performed by Mario Soler (1907-1991), a devoted motorbike and mechanics fan, who for many years, in his small workshop in Bassella (Lleida), with his hands and talent, recovered a great number of motorcycles. Thanks to this effort, he became a reputable restorer and one of the first collectors in Spain.

At the time of opening, back in 2002, it was the first museum especially focused on the world of the two wheels to be operative in Spain. Nowadays, it is recognized as one of the best motorcycle museums in Europe and it has become an icon for all motorsport fans and an obligatory stop in the route to Andorra.

It is a private initiative managed by the **Motorcycle Museum Foundation Mario Soler**, a non-profit entity that works in order to promote the motorcycles values, its past, present and future and is in charge of the **Bassella Motorcycle Museum** as well.

2.

The exhibitions

More than 1000m², split in two different open plan halls to discover the fascinating motorcycle world through a wide selection of national and international brands

Permanent exhibition

100 years of motorcycle history

At the ground floor of the museum, the visitor will enjoy some of the models produced at the start of the 20th century fitted with gas light, like a Clement of 1902 manufactured in France or a spectacular 4 cylinders FN with a wicker side-a-car of 1914. An evolution along the mythical European brands (BSA, Norton, Triumph, Ducati,...) and some rare interesting units like a Gillet España that was used by the Spanish police and only 50 units were manufactured.

American brands are exhibited there as well, such as an Indian of 1925 or a Harley-Davidson with side-a-car used as taxi in Barcelona. We may as well highlight a section devoted to military models that proves how the various wars have served as experimentation laboratories for new technical solutions, so a lot of military models were eventually used as popular models for civil use.

This exhibition also includes a selection of the main national brands (Montesa, Bultaco, OSSA, Derbi, Sanglas, Rieju, Lube,...) and the consequences of the Japanese brands invasion with specific examples as is the case of the Montesa-Honda created in 1986.

The basement floor of the Bassella Motorcycle Museum is devoted to competition models, from those handcrafted prototypes at the start of the 20th century to the most sophisticated bikes of today like the Honda 125cc with which Emilio Alzamora won The World Championship in 1999.

The tour includes several off road types (trial, enduro and motocross) where the national brands played a very important role



during the 60s and 70s. There are as well mythical models that participated in several races like the Dakar Rally or the popular endurance race 24 Hours of Montjuic, that took place in the old urban circuit of Barcelona between 1955 and 1986.

Finally, in the centre of the museum stands out the original workshop where Mario Soler refurbished the majority of motorcycles that shape the present collection. Everything was carefully transported piece by piece from its former location in Bassella, keeping all elements and original details which constitute one of the most remarkable areas in the Museum, where time stopped more than 20 years ago...

Temporary samples

Apart of the permanent exhibition, the Museum displays small temporary samples that are periodically renewed. These will let you get closer to the motorcycling world in different disciplines.

You can check the current temporary exhibitions at

www.museumoto.com.

3.

An historical building

The building of the **Bassella Motorcycle Museum** was built with recovered materials from the old houses of Bassella (small village which disappeared in the year 2000 under the Rialb reservoir waters). The stones in the facade, the roof tiles, some internal paves, the iron banisters.... are some of the centenarian items which were carefully kept, then moved from its former location to the km.134 of the current C-14 road in order to melt with the new construction materials.



4.

Activities

The **Bassella Motorcycle Museum** offers different services and activities to take advantage of the visit:

- Specific educational workshops for schools (children, elementary and secondary education) and technical visits for mechanics, engineering or industrial design students.
- Conferences, symposiums and tributes related to motorsport.
- Great Museums Rally, a classic motorcycle and car meeting, which takes place once a year. More than 120km on less crowded roads, with cultural and gastronomic stops, to discover wonderful landscapes and places of the Lleida region.
- Private and customized events.

Check our calendar and all the information related to the upcoming events at www.museumoto.com.

5.

Useful Information

Bassella Motorcycle Museum

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Opening hours:

From Monday till Sunday: 10.00 to 18:00 (public holidays included)

Wednesday closed

Prices:

General ticket: 9 € (drink included)

Reduced ticket: 6 € (drink included)

Free admission: Children up to 8 years old and Motorcycle Museum Members

Guided tours by previous booking

Sponsors:

