

News

Porsche CEO Matthias Müller at the wheel of a 550 A Spyder



MILLE MIGLIA

A THOUSAND AND ONE DELIGHTS: CLASSICS UP CLOSE

The legendary classic-car rally, the Mille Miglia, has lost nothing of its fascination, even to this day. Five classic cars of the Porsche Museum were among the starters this year.

In a country where *motore* rhymes with *amore*, it was obvious what and whom the spectators cared about most. People lined the course of this year's Mille Miglia by the thousands in a joyful celebration of legendary vehicles. Even the drivers were impressed by the crowd's spirit. "The Mille Miglia is loads of fun. The enthusiasm for the automobile is unbelievable," raved Matthias Müller, for example. The CEO of Porsche AG sat behind the wheel of a 550 A Spyder. "The rally is a unique experience that hasn't lost any of its appeal," Achim

Stejskal agreed. The director of the Porsche Museum started in a Porsche 356 A. He added: "Experiencing this adventure at least once is a must for any auto enthusiast."

The legendary multiday tour is as Italian as pizza and Chianti. The love of exquisite collector's automobiles, Italian gusto for life, and picturesque racing routes have been exhilarating classic-car fans since 1977. From 1927 to 1957 the Mille Miglia was still conducted as a public-road race. The appeal of the thousand-



Legends on wheels drive past the Castel Sant'Angelo in Rome

mile triangular tour also derives from the scenic routes. One route, for example, leads through Brescia, Verona, Bologna, and San Marino to Rome, where the participants arrived in the city center, the destination of that stage. Other highlights included the drive through the Piazza del Campo in Siena and through the center of Florence. The 384 vintage cars included three other vehicles from the museum in Zuffenhausen: a 356 Speedster, the 550 Spyder Panamericana, and a Porsche 356. ●