



## **Classic Days 2023 - Final announcement**

The Classic Days 2023 ended a little earlier than planned on Sunday, 6 August. After Friday and Saturday were marked by surprisingly pleasant temperatures and overall better festival weather than forecast - interrupted by two short showers - Sunday morning was changeable, but at least mostly dry. However, at around 1 p.m. the organisers received an official weather warning from the German Weather Service (DWD) announcing heavy thunderstorms, heavy rain and gusts of wind up to 55 km/h (30 knots, wind force 7).

With a focus to the safety of visitors, participants, cooperation partners, dealers and service providers on the grounds, the Classic Days team then decided to end the event. This decision is always made on a situation-by-situation and moment-by-moment basis - in our case with a view to the forecast, which predicted thunderstorms until 6 p.m. at the most. Visitors and organisers of a motor festival with a British title such as the "Classic Days" certainly have no reservations about proverbial British weather with rain, even heavy downpours - but when it comes to thunderstorms and lightning on a wide, open area, there is no room for manoeuvre - whether there is actually a thunderstorm in the course of the event or not.

Many Sunday visitors had already arrived by 1 p.m. and had spent the morning watching the laps of the various starter groups on the circuit in demonstration runs of the Racing Legends or had explored the extensive festival grounds. For there was once again plenty to see at the 16th Classic Days: Special themes and exhibitions, decorated areas, partner presentations with classic cars, a new "Tuning meets Classic" area and the "Galerie 1886" of the ADAC-Nordrhein, as well as "Stars & Stripes", "Nostalgic Journeys", "Lovely Heroes", "Charme & Style" or the content-rich and informative e-Fuel Talk on the topic of "The Future of Fuels" accompanied by aramco.

Legendary drivers and motorsport celebrities were on hand, making small talk and signing autographs. Leopold Prince of Bavaria was in a good mood, competed in the Le Mans runs; Jochen Mass reported on e-fuel use with aramco synthetic fuels at the Mille Miglia in the Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Gullwing. Prof. Dr. Mario Theissen - former head of motorsport at BMW in the Formula 1 and Le Mans team was just as much in demand for autographs as Kurt Ahrens or Eckhard Schimpf.

By ending the event earlier than scheduled in the programme, a unique occurrence in 16 Classic Days editions to date, the procedures previously laid down in the safety concept and defined in the systematic procedures by checklist were consistently followed in such a weather situation: The Classic Days were terminated due to adverse conditions.

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The conclusion after three days of motor festival for charity purposes is positive. Nostalgia & Charity - supported by the non-profit and voluntary association Classic Days was once again able to inspire with great content, created the Classic Days-typical summer picnic garden party atmosphere and was a platform for many encounters.

A total of 35,800 visitors came to the Classic Days. The proportion of families with children was again remarkably high at the decidedly family-friendly "Festival of Motoring Culture & Lifestyle".

If the weather forecast had been more summerly, even more fans and visitors would certainly have come to the "Green Park" in Düsseldorf near the trade fair - but the organisers draw a positive balance overall and thank all cooperation partners, participants, service providers, fans and visitors, and not least the team of the management group for event security.

Classic Days at the Green Park in Düsseldorf 2023 are now history - we are happy about the unwaveringness to have still planned to visit us in spite of mediocre weather prospects.

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