

March 11, 2009

## **Route of the 2009 California Mille: Carmel Valley, Mt. Hamilton, Mariposa and More**

The 19th annual California Mille will break new ground when some 70 historic race cars depart San Francisco's Nob Hill on Monday, April 27, for a thousand-mile (mille) back roads adventure.

After a full-day, free car show on Mason Street between Sacramento and California on April 26, the Mille will depart on April 27 at 8:30 AM for Highway 1, then to Highway 130 for the winding route to the 4,360 summit of Mt. Hamilton, home of the University of California's Lick Observatory. After a brief stop to take in the view of Silicon Valley, the Mille will descend the eastern slope of the mountain driving through Patterson, across Pacheco Pass and ending Day One at Quail Lodge in Carmel Valley.

**Day Two** will see the the Mille drive west south on Highway 1, lunch in Cambria near Hearst Castle, then return on Highway 1 to Quail Lodge for an overnight.

**Day Three** will be a motoring marathon: from Quail Lodge over the 1,300 foot Pacheco Pass in the Diablo Range to Gustine, through the gold country to Mariposa for a catered lunch at the Fairgrounds, then up historic Highway 49 to Jackson, ending the drive at Le Rivage, a new luxury hotel on the Sacramento River in Sacramento. That evening the Mille will take a charter boat trip to Old Sacramento, tasting the fine wines of Lodi along the way.

**Day Four** will conclude the Mille's salute to Italy's Mille Miglia (thousand mile) with a drive from Sacramento along Sacramento River levee roads through Rio Vista, briefly on Highway 80 to connect with the Sonoma Highway to Sonoma., The Mille will continue on Highway 116 to Petaluma and then enjoy lunch at Rancho Nicasio, across the street from the Druid's Hall and down the road from the Nicasio one-room school house. After lunch, the final routing will take the California Mille up the picturesque west side of Mt. Tamalpais, down through quaint Mill Valley (officially proclaimed for the day *Mille Valley*), arriving at the center of Sausalito in time for dinner at Poggio Restaurant and accommodations at the Casa Madrone Hotel and Acqua Hotel in Mille Valley. Cars of the California Mille will be on display the afternoon of April 30, and the public is invited to meet the drivers and inspect the vehicles.

The California Mille draws its inspiration from Italy's famed Mille Miglia that ran from from Brescia to Rome to Brescia from 1927 to 1957. Cars that could have qualified for the Mille Miglia--with a few notable exceptions--are invited to participate the annual California event.

Chopard Watches of Switzerland is the Presenting Sponsor of the California Mille. Other sponsors include the Fairmont Hotel; the Lodi Wine Growers; KSFO Radio; British Motors Jaguar, Land Rover, Bentley, Lamborghini and Lotus; Jesup & Lamont Securities Corporation; and the Nob Hill Gazette.

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