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New AMG Performance Models Launched at Laguna Seca



AMG lined up three cars from its Performance Studio at the US, West Coast race track Laguna Seca. Pick of the bunch must be the closed-roof coupé SL, packing a twin-turbo 6.0-litre V12 and capable of a top speed electronically limited to 320km/h.

The SL 65 AMG Black Series has a totally new body design made of carbonfibre-reinforced plastic (CFRP), with extra scoops, wings and ducts as befits its ultra-high-performance role. The tuned engine produces 670bhp and generates 1000Nm of torque – all transmitted to the special 19" - or 20" - Dunlop sports tyres via the dual-clutch, Speedshift Plus, five-speed automatic gearbox.

The chassis is new, too, featuring adjustable coil-over suspension and more direct steering. The car is equipped with a roll-over bar, a limited-slip differential and 3-level ESP®.

Using technology straight from the F1 pace cars, the two-seater should be devastatingly fast. Mercedes AMG quotes a 0 – 100km/h of just 3.8sec and limits the top speed to 320km/h – that's a whisker under 199mph.



ML 63 AMG '10th Anniversary'

In addition to the fire-breathing coupé, AMG also revealed two very special versions of its ML63 4x4s. The ML63 AMG '10th Anniversary' has the 'regular' 510bhp 6208cc but has been given a stronger face with the addition of a new, power-domed bonnet, a chunkier radiator grille and Himalaya grey plastic panels underneath the front and rear. The 21" high-sheen light alloy wheels are also finished in Himalaya-colour.



Inside the car, the exclusive '10th Anniversary' edition has two-tone nappa lather in either black/Alpaca grey or black/light brown.



ML 63 AMG 'Performance Studio'

The other limited-edition ML63 has enhancements purely in paint and interior trim. Metallic Peridot brown paintwork glistens outside, while the inside is trimmed in full, porcelain-coloured, diamond-stitched nappa leather with black piping. The headlining is in charcoal Alcantara and all trim normally in wood is now high-gloss piano black.



Text: Classic Driver Photos: Mercedes-Benz

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