

# CLASSIC DRIVER

## Paris Rétromobile 2009 - Preview



**Next week sees the start of the 34th Rétromobile, the 10-day event in Paris devoted to classic cars and the history of locomotion.**

Among the highlights is an exhibition on 'new' energies that are more than 100 years old. It clearly demonstrates that alternative energy is by no means a purely 21st Century obsession. Around 20 forerunners of today's 'green' vehicles will be on display, including the **1899 'Jamais Contente'**, a torpedo-shaped electric car which has the honour of being the first French automobile to exceed 100km/h. There is also the **compressed air tramway of Nantes**, built in 1879, and the **1908 Krieger** limousine. This latter was an electric car that travelled at 50km/h, silently and smoothly, with a range of 100km.



Meanwhile, **Peugeot** will be present to promote its 120-year heritage of automobile production, while **Citroën** will be celebrating its 90th birthday.

For the first time, Rétromobile is also holding a collectors' sale, over the second weekend of the show. Thousands of items will be offered for sale by both the trade and private individuals: from spare parts and models, to automobilia and documentation.







And, of course, there's the [Bonhams auction, next Saturday, 7th February](#).

Rétromobile opens at 12.00 noon on Friday, 6th February, and closes at 7pm on Sunday, 15th February. Held at the Porte de Versailles exhibition centre in Paris, adult entry costs 13 euros. See [www.retromobile.com](http://www.retromobile.com).

**Text:** *Charis Whitcombe*

**Photos:** *Classic Driver - **Strictly Copyright***

---

***ClassicInside - The Classic Driver Newsletter***

[\*Free Subscription!\*](#)

**Gallery**



