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Ferrari 'Breadvan' Officially Recognised by Ferrari Classiche



The Ferrari 'Breadvan' is an unofficial favourite in the Classic Driver office - for its unique and instantly recognisable styling, as much as for its fascinating history. Now, Ferrari SpA has acknowledged the car's historical significance by issuing an 'Attestation for vehicles of historic interest' to what is officially titled the '250 GT Berlinetta *passo corto* (chassis 2819) nicknamed the "Breadvan"'.

This (not exactly mellifluous) 'Attestation' is for **Ferraris** that don't quite comply with the ultra-strict **Ferrari Authenticity Certification** criteria, but are nevertheless recognised as internationally important cars. We particularly enjoyed the wording of the **Ferrari** press release which seems almost begrudgingly to admit that "the **Breadvan** is probably one of the most emblematic models... considering its peculiar configuration".

This much-admired **Ferrari** left the Maranello factory in 1961 as a **250 GT Berlinetta passo corto** (short wheelbase) '*Competizione*', and took part in that year's **Tour de France**, driven by **Gendebien** and **Bianchi**. It was then bought by **Count Volpi di Misurata** - and entered in the **1000Km of Paris** with **Trintignant** and **Vaccarella**, under **Scuderia Serenissima**.





In 1962, however, the **Count** instructed **Giotto Bizzarrini** to re-design the car to compete more effectively against the **250 GTOs**. As well as developing the brakes and suspension, the car acquired a most innovative, aerodynamic body, with a lowered engine.

The nickname '**Breadvan**', invented by the British press, hardly needs to be explained.

In its startling new form, the **Breadvan** was entered in that year's **Le Mans**, driven by **Abate** and **Davis**, but transmission problems forced an early withdrawal. Between then and 1965, the **Breadvan** competed in prestigious races with such exceptional drivers as **Scarfiotti**. It is now a firm favourite on the historic motorsport scene.

Text: Charis Whitcombe

Photos: Classic Driver

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