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Club Sportiva pioneers timeshares for classic and exotic cars

CLUB SPORTIVA

SAN FRANCISCO— For the first time, car aficionados can get behind the wheel of the car of their dreams, without the hassles of ownership, with a Club Sportiva timeshare membership. Members can select from one of 15 exquisitely maintained cars ranging from a 1982 green Morgan Plus 8 roadster to a 1983 red Ferrari 308 GTSi Quattrovalve or 1990 red Bentley Turbo R, without worrying about maintenance, upkeep or storage.

Car enthusiasts can choose one of four packages, from "Trial" to "Titanium." Like timeshares in jets or vacation homes, Club Sportiva packages are based on a point system. Through each package, members purchase a specific number of points based on anticipated annual driving days. The number of points used with each driving day is determined by two factors: the car selected - since, for example, a Ferrari differs substantially from a Triumph - and the time of year for the drive. Memberships begin at \$995 per year, with a one-time administrative fee of \$250.

Cost of ownership versus timeshare

The costs associated with owning and maintaining a classic car can be prohibitive to all but the very wealthy. Club Sportiva's founder and operating partner, Torbin Fuller, estimates an annual cost of nearly \$7,000 to insure, park and maintain a 1969 Jaguar E-type. Paying off the loan to purchase the car can add another \$10,000 each year. If, for example, the car is only driven 16 days annually, the cost for each driving day can add up to over \$1,000.

With a Club Sportiva "Platinum" membership, car enthusiasts own 7-16 driving days, based on the car they select from the Club's paddock, for an annual fee of \$3,195. Currently Club Sportiva's collection includes 15 cars:

- 1962 yellow Corvette convertible
- 1982 green Morgan Plus 8 roadster
- 1961 red Porsche 356B Cabriolet
- 1989 red Porsche 911 Carrera 4
- 1974 red Triumph TR6 roadster
- 1990 red Bentley Turbo R
- 1998 black Mercedes-Benz SLK
- 1994 yellow Lotus Esprit S4
- 1983 red Ferrari 308 GTSi Quattrovalve

- 2003 blue Mini Cooper
- 1991 green Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce
- 2003 blue Porsche Boxster
- 2003 silver BMW Z4 convertible
- 1991 green Aston Martin Virage
- 1969 green Jaguar E-type roadster

Cars are carefully selected before joining the stable, so only two or three are added annually. Torbin anticipates adding a 1994 Ferrari 348 Spider, 1996 Acura NSX, Porsche 911 C4 cabriolet and a 1969 Camaro convertible later this summer. The cars are stored in Club Sportiva's San Francisco paddock and clubhouse and can be delivered to members at either of the Club's two Bay Area locations.

"We created Club Sportiva to make dreams come true," says Torbin, a self-proclaimed classic car "nut." "Car lovers can now enjoy a classic car, without worrying about costly maintenance or upkeep. They can just get behind the wheel and drive."

Club Sportiva membership packages also include invitations to special clubhouse events, complimentary use of the Club Sportiva car paddock and clubhouse for private parties, travel, and subscription discounts and incentive points for member referrals. "Daily Drives" are also available to non-members for one or two day motoring expeditions around the Bay Area.

Club Sportiva pioneered the classic car timeshare concept in 2003. Today, it has more than 100 members, ranging in age from 33 to 68. Members include legendary racer Mario Andretti and Apollo 12 astronaut Dick Gordon. Though most members are men, there are several women members.

In 2004, Club Sportiva acquired the marketing and sales rights to Euro Sportiva, a collection of 30 exotic cars based near Munich, Germany. Euro Sportiva provides Americans traveling to Europe a one-of-a-kind rental from a prestigious collection of Ferraris, Lamborghinis and Bentleys. Cars are delivered to travelers nearly anywhere in Europe. Established in 1993, this unparalleled car collection is Europe's largest. Euro Sportiva also offers a wide range of driving tours to several of Europe's most scenic destinations.

For more information, please visit www.clubsportiva.com.



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(Pictured from top to bottom: Porsche, Lotus and Corvette.)

