

Porsche 917 KH brings motorsport history to Singapore ahead of the Raceborn Fest

24/09/2026 One of the most significant racing cars in Porsche history has arrived in Singapore. After embarking on a phtography tour around the island of Singapore, a 1971 Porsche 917 KH, flown in from the Porsche Museum in Zuffenhausen, is scheduled to appear at Porsche at Jewel, as well as at the upcoming Raceborn Fest happening from 9 – 11 October at Porsche Studio Singapore.

One of the most significant racing cars in Porsche history has arrived in Singapore. The 1971 Porsche 917 KH, flown in from the Porsche Museum in Zuffenhausen, made a special photography tour around the island yesterday, ahead of scheduled public appearances at Porsche at Jewel, as well as at the upcoming
Raceborn Fest happening from 9 – 11 October at Porsche Studio Singapore.

Transported on a specially decorated flatbed truck, the race car travelled through Singapore for a one-day photography tour, appearing against a series of distinctively local backdrops far removed from the

European racetracks upon which its legend was made.

Presented across familiar city perspectives such as Chinatown and the Central Fire Station along Hill Street, the low-slung endurance prototype became a moving highlight in the build-up to Raceborn Fest, bringing a car associated with one of Porsche's defining motorsport eras closer to enthusiasts and race fans in Singapore.

The tour concluded at Capella Singapore at Sentosa, where the 917 was photographed against the restored Tanah Merah colonial building façade – former British Royal Artillery quarters dating back to the 1880s, later sensitively integrated into the Foster+Partners-designed luxury resort. Against this historic setting, the 1971 race car found a fitting final frame: two expressions of heritage, preserved with purpose and brought vividly into the present.

Porsche 917: the race car that helped Porsche win Le Mans

Few racing cars define Porsche's endurance racing legacy as clearly as the 917. Developed for the World Sportscar Championship at the end of the 1960s, it initially combined extraordinary speed with a somewhat infamous reputation for high-speed instability, particularly in long-tail form.

Its breakthrough came in the form of a short-tail "Kurzheck" configuration first seen in 1970, developed by a young Porsche racing engineer named Ferdinand Piëch. In this form, the 917 allowed Porsche to achieve its first overall victory at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1970, establishing itself as one of the defining sports prototypes of its era.

The 917 that conquered Spa

Although this particular 917 chassis did not win at Le Mans, it is best remembered for its performance at the 1971 Spa 1,000 km, one of the classic European endurance races of the calendar. Run by JW Automotive, the highly successful Porsche customer racing team sponsored by Gulf Oil, the car was specifically configured for the high-speed demands of the original 14.1-kilometre public road layout.

Alongside a bored-out five-litre version of the Hans Mezger-developed air-cooled flat-12 engine, the car featured aerodynamic solutions developed to improve stability at extreme speeds, including tail-mounted fins and a JWA-developed aerofoil concept judged better suited to Spa's fast sweepers. On the Masta straight, it was recorded at a top speed of around 350 km/h.

Driven by Pedro Rodríguez and Jackie Oliver, the #21 car completed the 1,001-kilometre race distance at an average speed, including pit stops, of 249.069 km/h. The result was not only a demonstration of outright speed, but also of JWA's meticulous race preparation, efficient pit work and team boss John Wyer's calm operational control, with the Porsche running faultlessly over the full race distance.

With the original Spa public road circuit later replaced by the shorter Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps layout in 1979, the average speed record set by this machine over a full race distance remained unmatched — making this #21 the fastest race car ever on the historic "Terrifying Triangle".

See the icon in person at the upcoming Raceborn Fest

From today, visitors will be able to see this 1,000 km Spa-winning 917 at a special display at Porsche at Jewel. The car will then appear at the Raceborn Fest, an event celebrating 75 Years of Porsche Motorsport in Singapore running from 9 – 11 October at Guoco Midtown and its surrounding community spaces, before heading back to Porsche at Jewel again.

At the Raceborn Fest, the car will be showcased alongside the new Porsche 911 Challenge, which makes its Southeast Asian premiere at the event and introduces a new entry point into the world of Porsche Motorsport.

Visitors to the Raceborn Fest can also look forward to a special announcement regarding Porsche Experience Centre Singapore, the upcoming regional destination scheduled to open in 2027.

Together, the 917, the new 911 Challenge and the latest update on Porsche Experience Centre Singapore connect the brand's motorsport heritage with the next chapter of Porsche experiences in Singapore.

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