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# CLASSIC CAR WEEKLY

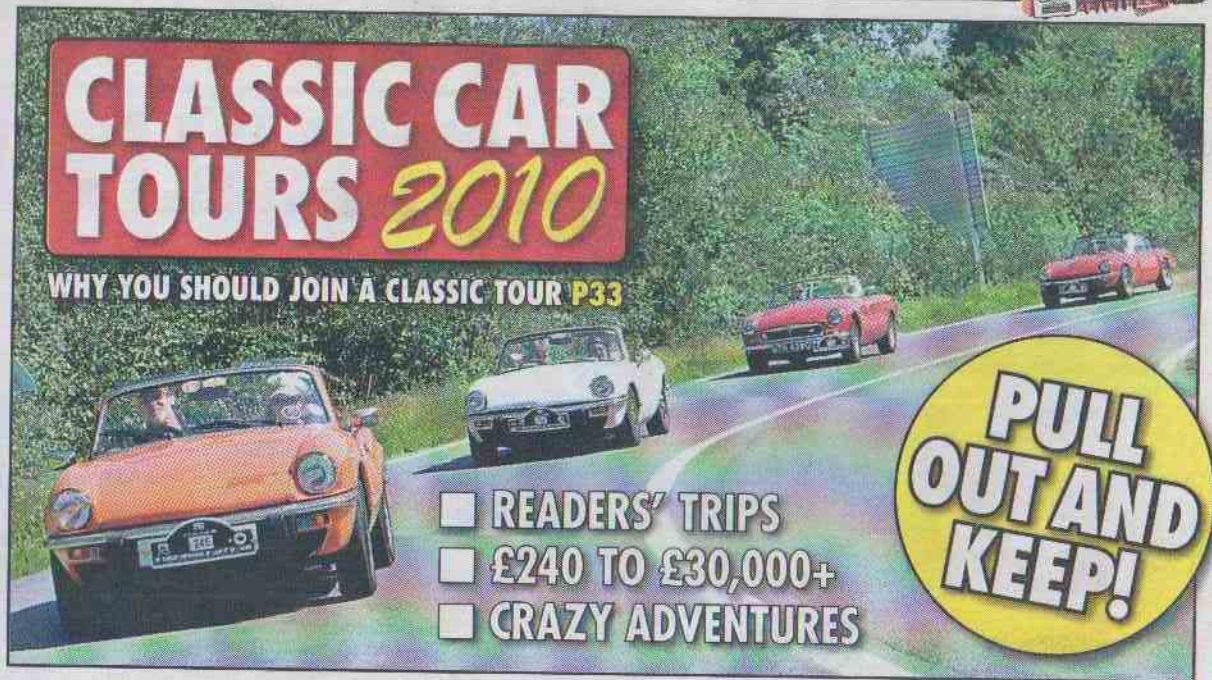
BUYING ■ SELLING ■ NEWS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 24 2010 No 1019

£2.40

## CLASSIC CAR TOURS 2010

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN A CLASSIC TOUR P33



- READERS' TRIPS
- £240 TO £30,000+
- CRAZY ADVENTURES

**PULL OUT AND KEEP!**

# EURO-EXODUS HIKES PRICES

**T**he supply of classic cars in the UK is diminishing and prices are rising as European buyers continue to benefit

CLASSIC ROAD TEST

**RILEY ELF**





We take six classic owners and match them to a tour from the 2010 range

**JONATHAN DIMMER AND  
DAN COOK, SWANSEA**  
OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS



**THE BRIEF**

"We're graduating from university this summer and we're skint, but we want a proper motoring adventure holiday."

**TOUR MATCH**

**RAMSHACKLE RALLY'S  
PAMPLONA RALLY**  
■ £240 FOR A CREW OF TWO

You two are made for this. The entry fee is less than two return tickets on a budget airline to Marbella, and you're young and hardy enough to camp or put up with the cheapest hotels you can find. You'll be chucked in with a couple of hundred like-minded loonies and you'll have the fun and, er... novelty of buying a banger for £150 or less and decorating it. Handy with the spanners? If not, you soon will be. Then there is Pamplona's San Fermin festival itself, which is truly something to see. Bull running is optional, thankfully, but beer is compulsory.

**JOHN AND SARAH CANNING,  
SOUTH LONDON**  
1960 AUSTIN HEALEY SPRITE MK 1



**THE BRIEF**

"We always end up in Northern France because it's easy on the ferry, but we've never been to Ireland or Scotland in the Frogeye. Where's best?"

**TOUR MATCH**

**MCKINLEY KIDD'S  
TAILOR MADE TOURS**  
■ £535-£595 PER PERSON

We're not mad enough to tell you which is better out of Ireland or Scotland, but Scotland has one major advantage for you – no ferry trip. And ferries to Ireland cost rather more than they do to Calais. McKinley Kidd will discuss what you like (Golf? Whisky? Wildlife?) and figure out not only a route, but the best hotels and sights to see on the way, sometimes arranging visits you'd never get as Joe Public. You could leave the Frogeye at home, as they have a relationship with the Edinburgh Classic Car Club and offer a choice of tasty motors.

**NICK AND LUCY CHIVERS,  
HERTFORDSHIRE**  
1963 FIAT 500



**THE BRIEF**

"We'd love to take our little Fiat far enough south for it to feel at home. Are we being realistic about travelling so far in our Italian baby?"

**TOUR MATCH**

**500 VINTAGE TOUR,  
SICILY, ITALY**  
■ €560 1wk RENTAL, TOURS FROM €49

Car trains aren't what they used to be. There's no direct service to Italy or Spain from either Calais or Paris, so you'd have to start in Dusseldorf in Germany or s'Hertogenbosch in Holland, and it'll cost you about £650 each way from there to northern Italy. So you need an alternative. Fly to Sicily and drive a hired 500 on roads that seem made for it, with fabulous hill-top villages, beautiful coastlines and jagged mountains. The 500 Vintage Tour company also offers 'follow my leader' tours on fascinating routes like 'In the steps of The Godfather.'

**JAMES EVANS AND GERALD  
ELPHICKE, TWICKENHAM**  
"WE'RE NOT SURE WHICH CAR YET"



**THE BRIEF**

"We've been thinking of buying a classic – maybe an Alfa Spider – but we're not sure we'd actually enjoy using it. How can we find out?"

**TOUR MATCH**

**VINTAGE CLASSICS  
HIRE AND LOCAL TOUR**  
■ £275 FOR TWO-DAY HIRE

Vintage Classics are one of a few tour operators whose main business is the hiring of classic cars rather than the arrangement of group holidays for those with their own cars. But they have masses of experience in suggesting not only routes (we like the sound of the Taste Trail) but great places to stay around the Cotswolds and South West. They even have a red Alfa Spider on the fleet, amongst a few other choice classics. Contact them to talk about a Romantic Escape option they organise in partnership with a nearby country house hotel. Saves cash...