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A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF THE FIRST COAST MIATA CLUB

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Summer Crush Cruise-in, Miata Club

FCMC Caravan: November 4, 2023, Saturday, 5:00am Depart 5:30am, at the RaceTrac located at 95 & US. 207 RaceTrac 2511 state Rd. St. Augustine FL 32084

IT'S A MIATA & BRITISH INVASION! ALL MIATAS, ALL BRITISH TUNES, ALL DAY! ANNUAL STATEWIDE MAZDA MIATA CRUISE-IN. Drive to the Statewide Mazda Miata Cruise-In at Summer Crush Winery in Ft Pierce, FL on Saturday, November 4. Club Member Irene, is putting together a drive to the Cruise-in, including (optional) overnight stay details. THIS IS A TICKETED EVENT WITH AN ADMISSION CHARGE. Information about the event and buying tickets at summercrushwine.com/our-concerts-events.

Summer Crush Event: 12-3pm

ADMISSION TICKETS are REQUIRED (1 per person). Table reservations are optional and do not include admission tickets. Tickets for admission are currently \$6 in advance (before taxes & fees). Unreserved tables are open to first come first served on the day of the event. PRICES OFTEN INCREASE WITHOUT NOTICE AS THE EVENT DAY NEARS. TO LOCK IN THE LOWEST PRICE, GET YOURS NOW AND SAVE!!! Admission before 3pm Includes a free raffle ticket for fun Summer Crush prizes! Online Ticket Sales and reservations stop at 9AM the morning of the show. After 9AM, tickets are available at the gate. As usual NO COOLERS OR OFF PREMISE FOOD OR BEVERAGES, INCLUDING WATER ALLOWED (We have free water by the glass or bottled water for \$1). We check bags at gate. Tables are currently priced at \$10 to \$19 depending on the size of the table.

What to Eat: Food Trucks TBD PLUS Summer Crush Charcuterie and cheese boxes, fish dips, Chips & Salsa, Ice Creams, and more!

Description:

It is a Miata & British Invasion! Probably the largest gathering of Mazda Miata's in Florida, the country, with clubs and individuals coming from across the state with classic British Invasion tunes all day!! Admission to spectate and enjoy will be \$10 per person at the gate, SO GET YOURS IN ADVANCE AND SAVE! CAR SHOW DETAILS: Co-hosted by No Name Car Club. People's choice voting. Winners at announced at 3pm. Cars arrive between 10:30am and 11:30am. \$20 per car includes gate fees for driver and passenger and free raffle ticket. For more Car Show info please contact Carlos with No Name Car Club at 772-528-4247 to get your car at the show. ONLINE Ticket sales stop at 9AM the morning of the show. After 9AM, tickets are available at the gate.

Wise Guys and Gals Drive Miatas - 10/21/23





Mazda Says Rotary-Powered Iconic SP Concept Could Be Shrunk Down To MX-5 Size

The Iconic SP concept is 10 inches longer than the MX-5, but Mazda's head of design says that the show car is bigger than it needs to be for demonstration purposes



Earlier this week, Mazda unveiled a gorgeous, classical coupe concept at the Japan Mobility Show. Although it was supposed to be a look into the future MX-5 design, it was actually 10 inches longer than the current roadster. However, the automaker says that you shouldn't read too much into the size of the concept car.

Chief Designer Masashi Nakayama said that the Iconic SP was deliberately oversized for its auto show debut. He added that all of the technology and design could easily be shrunk down to the size of an MX-5, per Automotive News. While that will no doubt please fans of the legendary sports car, it's unlikely that the weight can be shrunk down, too.

Although the little rotary engine removes some of the burden from the battery pack, making it smaller and lighter, the concept still weighs in at 1,450 kg (3,196 lbs). That's significantly more than the MX-5, which weighs less than 1,089 kg (2,400 lbs).

While the weight of electrified vehicles is a concern in general, it is especially so for sports cars, and still more of a concern for the MX-5, whose low weight is one of its central appeals. That allows it to be exciting while being powered by an engine that produces just 181 hp (135 kW/183 PS).

If the Iconic SP shrinks, its weight no doubt will, too. But the lion's share of the extra heft likely comes from the powertrain that needs an engine (albeit a small one), electric motors, and batteries, too. The car will at least have more power to help carry that extra weight around, though.

With a proposed output of 365 hp (272 kW/370 PS), that's a huge jump over the MX-5. And Mazda hasn't forgotten what it's about with the Iconic SP. The automaker plans to put the engine in the middle of the car so that it will have perfect 50:50 weight distribution, which should help with handling. It will also burn a little cleaner than the MX-5.

"The rotary engine can also burn hydrogen, liquefied natural gas and biofuels. It has great potential for future environmental friendliness," said Masahiro Moro, Mazda CEO. "Combined with motors and other electrification devices, it is an extremely good match."

That's all well and good, but it may leave you wondering why Mazda would bother calling it an MX-5 when it would inevitably struggle to live up to its predecessors' image. It's doubly puzzling when power comes from a rotary engine, with which the brand has a history of making larger and heavier sports cars.



That's a question that Mazda is leaving an open-ended answer to. While the brand has hinted that the Iconic SP is a sign of what it's planning with the MX-5, Nakayama said that it deliberately chose a vague name for the concept, in order to leave some mystery about what vehicle it represents specifically. Perhaps things aren't as simple as they seem.

Mazda Miata updated in Japan with new LSD, infotainment

This likely previews updates for America

Mazda somewhat unceremoniously announced updates to its Japanese-market Roadster - aka the MX-5 Miata - Thursday, cementing at least a couple more model years of production for the current ND model and signaling a likely refresh for the version sold in America. The changes aren't show-stopping, but there appear to be some quality-of-life improvements on the way that could make ownership and the driving experience just a little bit nicer.

Let's start with the mechanicals, which in this case means a new diff for cars equipped with the six-speed manual. It's still a two-way, clutch-type unit, but it now features a cam mechanism that allowed Mazda's engineers to spec limiting force values for both acceleration and deceleration separately. This helped engineers tune out some of the Miata's inherent turn-in instability and generally improve its manners both around town and on the track, the company said. Mazda also updated the steering hardware to reduce friction in the system and improve feedback; the company says the resulting feel should be lighter but more accurate.

While the 1.5-liter engine offered overseas is of little interest to us, it received some tweaks to improve performance with premium fuel, resulting in a four-horsepower bump (for a total of 133). The 2.0-liter engine offered here was also breathed on, but Mazda says those changes were limited to improved response both to both acceleration and lift. Mazda also threw in a new dedicated "track" mode for manual models that limits electronic intervention to full-on panic situations. Other highlights include an updated infotainment system with a larger, 8.8-inch screen and a host of small interior and feature updates, which are the sort of thing that tends to vary by region.

Mazda has not yet announced any updates for the American-market MX-5, but we expect the applicable changes to trickle down within a model year or two at most.



FCMC Events Calendar

- **November 4 — 5:00 AM: Summer Crush Cruise-In**

See all the details on the front page, our website and our Facebook page!

- **November 14 — 6:00 PM: Monthly Club Meeting**

The meeting will be held at Culhane's Irish Pub at 9720 Deer Lake Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32246 in Tinseltown. Come early and hang out with fellow club members to get the most out of your evening!

- **December 2 — Green Cove Springs Christmas Parade**

All the details are on our club website and Facebook page!

- **December 9 — 12:30 - 3:30 FCMC Holiday Party**

In lieu of our monthly club meeting we will be having our annual holiday party at the Mayport Community Center. All the delicious details and the reservation link have been forwarded as a separate attachment and are also available on our website and Facebook pages. Come out to see everyone's ride and then enjoy all the food and swap gifts! See you there!

Happy November Birthdays To:

Anita Wiseman Nancy Moore,
Pat Boehme & Helen O'Mara

Welcome To Our Newest Members:

Stan & Jackie Sobotka (Returning Members) and
Dan McLean

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We're on the Web! Check us out!
Web Page: www.firstcoastmiataclub.org
Facebook: facebook.com/groups/firstcoastmiataclub

It's a rotary-powered Domino's pizza delivery vehicle! And it's up for auction!

Consider its 1985 Tritan A2 pizza delivery vehicle, built almost 40 years ago at the behest of Domino's founder Tom Monaghan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Only 10 were commissioned by Monaghan, and all were customized with warming ovens in the rear. Now one of the few surviving A2s — the oven's been removed — is being offered for sale at a Las Vegas classic car auction on November 10.

The Tritan A2 was designed by engineers James Amick and his son Douglas, with large arch-shaped rear wings and a broad, curved airplane type windshield. The two-seater could run on gas (a 440cc Syvaro SP-440 rotary engine) or electric (Yes! An EV!) motors.

It rides very low to the ground, so a pothole could be ruinous, and outward visibility is poor, Chuck Sinnott, the car's current owner, told CNN. He says that he has mostly taken it on a trailer to local car shows where he might drive a few short laps around a parking lot just to show it off, he said.

The fiberglass three-wheeler is actually considered a motorcycle for regulatory purposes. Mecum Auctions has not estimated an expected bid price; one sold at auction in 2019 for \$44,800. Domino's did not respond to questions about the car/motorcycle/spaceship, CNN said.

“This thing turns some heads. It's a crowd pleaser,” said Sinnott, “But my wife and I can't jump in it and go to Monterey.” Sinnott said he bought the car in 2021 for about \$25,000 from a Domino's franchise owner. He would not say if he plans to buy something else with the money he gets from this auction.

