

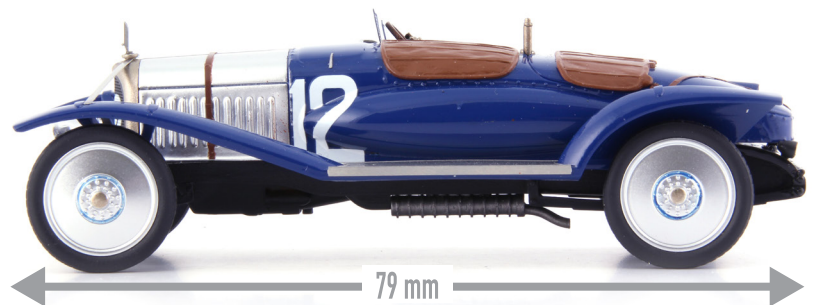
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limited edition 333 Stk.



The Trick with the Width

As of 1922 Gabriel Voisin began to produce the automobile C 3 with his company Société des Aéroplanes Voisin. It was driven by an 4-liter engine with an output of 81 hp. Most of the customers only bought the chassis to fit it with custom-made car body of an independent car body maker and although or perhaps for exactly that reason, the model advanced to a sales success.

There was also a sportive version of the C 3 available; a perfect precondition for Gabriel Voisin, who has always been attracted by spectacular sports and wanted his cars to compete in the Grand Prix A.C.F in Duppigheim near Straßbourg on July 16, 1922. But instead of competing in the highest racing class he went for a less noted classification. Only six cars; two Peugeots and four Voisins; went to the starting line. From this perspective the chance to succeed was quite good. But due to the fact that the Voisin race cars did not fulfill the regulations of the race it was initially not clear if a Voisin

was allowed to compete in the race. The regulations required a minimum width of 130 cm and the Voisin race car measured only 90 cm. Gabriel Voisin, who considered this rule as absurd, was not willing to fundamentally change his slim body design. Nevertheless he wanted his cars to compete in the race. His solution for this dilemma was to fit an aerodynamically shaped extension to each side of the car body. With this smart idea he met the race regulations without changing the slim body design extensively.

The four race drivers Rougier, Duray, Gaudermann and Piccioni went to the start in their Voisins to compete against the other two opponents. The race result after 53 laps and 709 kilometers proved the 42-year-old Voisin to be right – Rogier won ahead of Duray followed by Gaudermann.

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