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## **BILL GATES' LEGENDARY PORSCHE 959 TO BE FEATURED AT COBBLE BEACH CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE**

Kemble, ON — The Cobble Beach Concours d'Elegance is proud to announce that one of the most historically significant Porsche 959s ever built — famously owned by Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates — will be showcased at this year's event, taking place September 14, 2025 along the stunning shores of Georgian Bay.

This 1988 Porsche 959 Komfort, affectionately known as "The Bill Gates 959," is one of just 292 examples produced by Porsche AG. Beyond its engineering brilliance, this particular vehicle played a pivotal role in shaping automotive import laws in the United States.

When Gates purchased and imported the 959 into the U.S. without prior NHTSA or EPA approval, the car was seized by U.S. Customs and held for 13 years. During this time, Gates, along with other prominent enthusiasts and working with Bruce Canepa, lobbied the U.S. government. Their efforts ultimately resulted in the landmark 1999 "Show or Display" legislation, allowing vehicles of historic or technological significance to be legally imported and driven under specific exemptions. As the catalyst for this change, the Gates 959 is recognized worldwide as one of the most important and storied 959s ever made.

### **Highlights of this remarkable vehicle includes:**

- Retained by Bill Gates from 1988 to 2018
- Refurbished by Porsche in 1999 and re-imported to the U.S. under the new "Show or Display" exemption
- Upgraded by Canepa Motorsports with sport-style suspension, advanced engine management, and larger turbochargers
- Accompanied by extensive documentation, including owner's manuals, service manual, Porsche Production Certificate, toolkit, air compressor, jack, center-lug tool, and all original parts removed during the 2003 Canepa Generation II upgrade
- Currently presents in excellent cosmetic and operating condition

“This car isn’t just a marvel of engineering — it helped change U.S. automotive legislation,” said Rob McLeese, founder and chair of the Cobble Beach Concours d’Elegance. “To welcome the Bill Gates 959 to Cobble Beach this year is an absolute honour. It perfectly embodies our mission of celebrating vehicles that have profoundly shaped automotive history.”

The 11th annual Cobble Beach Concours d’Elegance & Motoring Festival (September 12-14, 2025) promises a weekend filled with spectacular automotive events, from the Tour d’Elegance (Participants’ Tour) through scenic Grey Bruce County roads to the Saturday Cars & Coffee and Concours d’Lemons in Owen Sound. The festivities culminate on Sunday, September 14, 2025, with the Concours on the 18th fairway overlooking Georgian Bay.

Tickets and the complete event schedule are available at [www.CobbleBeachConcours.com](http://www.CobbleBeachConcours.com)

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### **About the Cobble Beach Concours d’Elegance**

The Cobble Beach Concours d’Elegance is Canada’s premiere showcase of automotive elegance and history. Over the past decade, it has raised more than \$1,125,000 for the Brightshores Health System – Owen Sound Regional Hospital Foundation and Sunnybrook Hospital Foundation.