

Behind the scenes with the Porsche GT Team at the greatest 24-hour classics

Published: 9th April 2020 By: Glen Smale

Online version:

<https://www.porscheroadandrace.com/behind-the-scenes-with-the-porsche-gt-team-at-the-greatest-24-hour-classics/>



Le Mans 24 Hours, 15-16 June 2019: The #93 Porsche GT Team 911 RSR (GTE Pro) driven by Patrick Pilet, Nick Tandy and Earl Bamber approaches the Dunlop Curves after completing the first lap of the race

Two of the world's greatest endurance races for GT vehicles within eight days on back-to-back weekends show how Porsche Motorsport and its customer teams faced this extraordinary challenge during the 2019 season. *Endurance*, a stunning Porsche

documentary available on YouTube and Amazon Prime, takes the viewer behind the scenes at the [24 Hours of Le Mans](#) (15/16 June 2019) and the [24-hour race on the Nürburgring-Nordschleife](#) (22/23 June 2019).



Nürburgring 24 Hours, 22-23 June 2019: View of the paddock with cars following the Friday afternoon qualifying session

These two endurance classics, just one week apart, put drivers, engineers and team managers under stresses seldom experienced in such a concentrated form, showing the pain and the glory of what such a tight schedule demands. The documentary outlines the background, challenges and tireless efforts of all parties through this excellent 90-minute film.

British film director James Routh, famous for his award-winning Formula 1 documentary *Drive to Survive*, accompanied the team, technicians and drivers for 25 days. From Le Mans preparations to test drives in Italy and a private test day after the endurance race in Germany's Eifel region, this movie offers impressive behind-the-scene glimpses. The spectacular driving scenes are enhanced by candid comments from Pascal Zurlinden, Director Factory Motorsport. Porsche works drivers Kévin Estre, Michael Christensen, Laurens Vanthoor and Matt Campbell give spectators an inside look at the stresses they faced during these two events. Porsche motor racing engineer Luca Massé also describes the everyday challenges of a Porsche race engineer.



Le Mans 24 Hours, 15-16 June 2019: The #91 Porsche GT Team 911 RSR (GTE Pro) driven by Richard Lietz, Gianmaria Bruni and Frederic Makowiecki, seen here during practice on 12 June 2019

The documentary showcases what endurance racing really demands: deprivation, stress, emotion and the total dedication and passion of all involved. Dealing with the tense situations and setbacks on the racetrack are portrayed in an unfiltered and realistic manner, showing the dangers and what life is like at the limit.



Nürburgring 24 Hours, 22-23 June 2019: The #911 Manthey Racing Porsche 911 GT3 R of Earl Bamber, Michael Christensen, Kévin Estre and Laurens Vanthoor finished second overall on the day following one of the longest 'drive through' penalties in recent times. To add insult to injury, the team had their car disqualified almost two weeks later due to an alleged engine power infringement

I attended both races in 2019, and can report that the demands of covering Le Mans and the Nürburgring 24 Hours on consecutive weekends from a media perspective was no pushover. The documentary comes highly recommended by the *PORSCHE ROAD & RACE* team, and



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can be viewed on YouTube or Amazon Prime, and you can view the gallery of images on our sister website, *VIRTUAL MOTORPIX*. We hope that you have a great weekend of viewing!!

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Images by: Virtual Motorpix/Glen Smale