

1960
1963

FERRARI

250 GTE/250 GT 2 + 2



Italy

SPORTS



FERRARI 250 GTE/250 GT 2 + 2

The 250 GT, introduced in 1954, was Enzo Ferrari's first true production series. A 2 + 2 version of this coupe, initially seen as the course marshal's car for the 1960 Le Mans race, was Ferrari's first four-seat production automobile. About 950 were built, making it the best-selling Ferrari road model to that date. It was renamed the GT 2 + 2 in 1962.

Pininfarina Body

The 250 GTE had the same 102-in.-wheelbase chassis as the long-wheelbase 250 GT. Room for two small rear seats was created by relocating the fuel tank and moving the engine, steering gear and front seat about a foot forward. The aluminum bodywork over the steel oval-tube chassis was designed and built by Pininfarina. It was characterized by a fastback profile, slab sides, a large rear window and crosshatched grille and vents behind the front wheel openings.

Mighty V12 Engine

The three-litre V12 engine had a single overhead camshaft for each cylinder bank and was equipped with three twin-choke Weber carburetors. A test drive recorded 123 mph without even engaging the top gear. Overdrive

for the transmission proved a problem, however, because this unit required a different oil than the gearbox.

SPECIFICATIONS

Performance: Top speed of at least 135 mph

Engine Type/Drivetrain: Overhead-cam, V12

Displacement 2,953 cc (180 cu. in.)

Power Rating 240 hp

Transmission 4-speed manual, with overdrive

Chassis: Independent front coil-spring and rear semielliptic leaf-spring suspension; worm-and-peg steering; disc brakes; 2,820 lbs.

Price: \$12,600 in the United States in 1960-62; \$12,900 in 1963

Because the 250 GTE was the first Ferrari production car with room for four passengers, it set a sales record for the marque.

Photo D.P.P.I.

Printed in USA

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D3 051 068-003

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