



## 125 years of cars

Information as regards the excursion to the [Mercedes-Benz museum](#) in Stuttgart on February 12th, 2011

One of Germany's key industries is the production of cars. Especially in Baden-Württemberg a lot of cars are produced – well known brands are Mercedes, Porsche, Audi. And there are a lot of supply industries like Bosch or ZF Friedrichshafen.

This year the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the invention of cars is celebrated- On January 29th, 1886 Carl Benz applied for a patent of a three wheeler with combustion engine, which he has built in Mannheim. Independent from Benz also Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach built first cars in Cannstatt near Stuttgart, Siegfried Marcus in Vienna.

Carl Benz's wife Bertha is famous for the first interurban excursion by car from Mannheim to Pforzheim in 1888, together with her sons, but unbeknown to her husband.

1926 the companies of Benz and Daimler merged, their cars were called Mercedes-Benz.

This year there will be a lot of events as regards the anniversary. Events will take place from May 7th until September 10th, 2011. One example: the "Solitude Revival" (July 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011). Further information: [www.automobilssommer2011.de](http://www.automobilssommer2011.de)

Examples of other places to visit:

Porsche Museum, Stuttgart

([www.porsche.com/germany/aboutporsche/porschemuseum](http://www.porsche.com/germany/aboutporsche/porschemuseum))

Audi Forum, Neckarsulm („Markenausstellung“)

([www.audi.de/de/brand/de/neuwagen/neuwagenabholung/neckarsulm.html](http://www.audi.de/de/brand/de/neuwagen/neuwagenabholung/neckarsulm.html))

Unimog-Museum, Gaggenau

([www.unimog-museum.com](http://www.unimog-museum.com))

Private collection of oldtimers of the Fürst zu Hohenlohe, castle of Langenburg

([www.deutsches-automuseum.de](http://www.deutsches-automuseum.de))

Of course also the other side of the coin has to be taken into account: the large cities suffer from traffic jams, the individual traffic "explodes", infrastructure needs to be adapted. The use of cars is responsible for a lot of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and thereby for the greenhouse effect which is on his part responsible for the climate change.

Therefore the development of better and attractive public transport systems, low energy cars, intelligent carsharing systems is a challenge for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.