



EXHIBITION ADOLPHE KEGRESSE, THE CRUISING GENIUS

Rétromobile pays tribute to Adolphe Kégresse, a behind-the-scenes figure who revolutionised the automotive world.

- **An exceptional and immersive display on the Pont des Expositions.**
- **A journey to the heart of Citroën expeditions on the 100th anniversary of the *Croisière Noire***
- **Rétromobile 2025 pays tribute to Adolphe Kégresse, a pioneer of the automobile.**
- **The inventor of half-tracks, a solution for driving in snow and on hazardous terrain.**

Paris, 15 October - Rétromobile 2025 is to shine a spotlight on Adolphe Kégresse, a prodigious inventor who marked the history of the automobile with his visionary innovations. This tribute will showcase his most predominant contribution: the half-track. This innovative solution provided vehicles with the opportunity to move around in extreme environments, in particular through snow and sand, and contributed to the development of automobile expeditions.

An immersive life size display

Adolphe Kégresse left a lasting mark on the automotive industry with more than 200 patents registered. Through this display, several of his creations which have been hidden away for many years will once again be on display at Rétromobile 2025, where visitors will be able to admire various models of half-tracks, the symbols of the ingenuity of this adventurous engineer.

This first-time display, featuring several highlights, will put on show **12 exceptional Kégresse half-tracks**. In addition to the 'civilian' versions, several **flagship models** will be presented, such as the **Citroën Kégresse 10 HP model K1**, the only half-track of its kind in the world, and used for the legendary **Crossing of the Sahara**, exhibited in partnership with l'Aventure Citroën.



The display will take the public on a deep dive into the famous **Croisières Noire** and **Jaune** (Black Cruise, Yellow Expedition). An immersive décor comprising sand, rock, bivouac and camping utensils will offer a backdrop to **certain vehicles** that went on these historical expeditions, such as the Citroën Kégresse P 19. Usually on show in the 24 Hours of Le Mans Museum, this vehicle took part in the Central Asia Yellow

Expedition between 1931 and 1932. Other reconstructions will also retrace and recount the adventures of Adolphe Kégresse.

Who was Adolphe Kégresse?

Adolphe Kégresse was born in 1879. As a young man, he developed a passion for all things mechanical, and moved to Russia where he worked for the company Lessner, the supplier of automobiles to Tsar Nicholas II, and where he quickly became head of the imperial garages. It was in Russia, faced with the challenges of tough winters, that he dreamt up an ingenious system: the half-track, to enable vehicles to get around whatever the weather conditions.

On his return to France following the Russian Revolution, Kégresse joined forces with André Citroën. Together, they would develop the vehicles with flexible tracks (known as *autochenilles*) that would power the expeditions of Citroën around the world, notably the Black Cruise and Yellow Expedition, which proved to be true technological feats and advertising coups in the 1920s and 1930s.



Discover the vehicles on show at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01YSSiDevIM>

Rétromobile 2025

WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY – SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2025 - Paris Expo Porte de Versailles - Pavilions 1, 2.2, 3

Opening hours:

Weds 5 & Fri 7 Feb: 10am – 10pm

Thurs 6, Sat 8, Sun 9 February: 10am – 7pm

VIP-PRESS PREVIEW EVENING • TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2025 FROM 6PM TO 10PM

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**RÉTRO
MOBILE**

About Rétromobile.

Founded in 1976, Rétromobile is today one of the most prestigious collector car exhibitions in Europe. This stature has allowed it to bring together everyone from the vintage car world, and offer unprecedented and exclusive displays and special features. It is also acknowledged by its visitors as being the world's largest temporary garage dedicated to cars. As a true leader in the collector vehicle market, Rétromobile is the annual gathering for all car fans.

About Comexposium.

The Comexposium Group is one of the leading event organisers worldwide, creating events that bring communities together to discover and explore businesses, passions and interests. Comexposium organises more than 150 professional and general public events, covering more than 10 sectors of activity (agriculture/food, retail/digital, fashion/accessories, leisure...). The group connects 48,000 exhibitors and 3.5 million visitors, 365 days a year in 22 countries. Creating experiences and encounters between individuals, Comexposium's enables throughout its events (SIAL, All4Pack, Paris Retail Week, One to One Monaco & Biarritz, Foire de Paris, Rétromobile, etc.) and its associated content its communities to be connected all year round through an effective and targeted omni-channel approach.

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