



VOISIN TYPE C1
Limousine 1919





The Marque's First

The debut of the Knight sleeve-valve Type C1 at the 1919 Paris Auto Salon marked the dawn of the golden age of Voisin and set the bar for impeccably engineered luxury autos.

The Type C1 was the first of Gabriel Voisin's automobiles. Under its very conservative lines, this model set the foundation for Voisin's automotive pursuits and began to reveal some of his styling and technical preferences.

Voisin had been presented with the idea of creating an automobile in 1917, when

engineers Ernest Artault and Louis Dufresne introduced him to their designs for a chassis powered by a Knight sleeve-valve engine. Voisin favored the simplicity, power, and quiet of the sleeve-valve engine in contrast to the loud and inefficient models then provided by other manufacturers. Voisin cars became known for their virtual silence, a feature that appealed to the luxury coach clientele. Beginning with the Type C1, the sleeve-valve engine was used on all subsequent Voisin models until the Type C30 in 1937.



The Voisin Type C1's debut was much anticipated—Voisin was one of the first manufacturers to produce a luxury automobile after World War I, and the car's success at the 1919 Paris Auto Salon was instantaneous. The engine block was cast iron, the sump was aluminum, and the factory coachwork was conventional.

This car was ordered by a Normandy industrialist, the head of Société des Hauts Fourneaux de Rouen, a steel company in Rouen, who resided in Grand-Quevilly.

The car remained the longtime property of the same man before being stored at the Le Mans Auto Museum for many years. The Mullin Automotive Museum acquired it in 2008.



PROFILE

Coachbuilder	Factory
Chassis number	804
Body type	Limousine
Acceleration	0
Top Speed	unavailable

BODY | CHASSIS

Front brakes type	Drum
Rear brakes type	Drum
Length	16' 2"
Height (Ground line to highest roof)	6' 5"
Width	5' 7"

ENGINE

Type	Inline
Number of cylinders	4
Displacement	3969
Distribution	Knigh sleeve-valves
BHP at 2400 RPM	75
Gearbox	Manual
Number of gears	4
Overdrive	0



