

# THE FINAL BOLIDE: A VISION BECOMES LEGACY



**The final Bolide marks the end of a chapter for Bugatti. A milestone that carries profound meaning for the brand, marking the culmination of a project that has pushed the boundaries of what is possible in track-focused automotive engineering. With the final example now complete in the Molsheim Atelier, the marque celebrates a journey that has demonstrated the unwavering commitment to excellence that has defined Bugatti since 1909.**

From the outset, Bugatti pursued a clear vision for this undertaking, one that would honor the brand's heritage while redefining the limits of performance. Its creation would be guided by the pursuit of purity and purpose: to craft a machine that remained effortlessly accessible to the gentleman racer, yet capable of delivering an unforgettable experience for even the most seasoned professional.

It is a story that embodies the spirit of Bugatti: where ambition meets precision engineering. August 2021 marked the beginning of that journey. The mission was complex: to translate the Bolide 'What If' concept from its reveal into production reality. What made this challenge particularly demanding was the commitment to ensure that this track-focused hypercar would embody Bugatti excellence in every aspect. The Bolide had to take its rightful place within the Bugatti collection, matching the quality of execution and craftsmanship that defines every car bearing the marque's name.

"My first contact with the project was in August 2021, so we really go back more than four years — and at that time — it was a brand-new concept, in the very early design stages. It was an exciting time because we had many elements to bring together."

EMILIO SCERVO

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER AT BUGATTI

Multiple details required careful attention, from core engineering to the finer details of production quality. These were not separate concerns, but interconnected aspects that together would ultimately define the Bolide's character.

The timeline underscores the known Bugatti narrative of dedication and precision. From August 2021 through 2022, the project's development unfolded with characteristic thoroughness. The team focused intensely on ensuring every technical aspect of the Bolide met Bugatti's exacting standards.

"We were developing the Bolide as a project that demanded a very high level of performance. The idea of being a perfect track car for both gentlemen and professional drivers is not so easy to translate into driving attributes, but it's essential to what makes it a Bugatti."

EMILIO SCERVO

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER AT BUGATTI

The design of the Bolide was finalized in 2022, with engineering completed in early 2023, the vision having crystallized through thousands of hours of engineering analysis, aesthetic refinement and meticulous attention to detail. Every decision ensured the first prototypes were ready to be driven, allowing the team to test and refine the car in real-world conditions.

Le Mans 2023 served as a pivotal proving ground. The Bugatti team arrived at the legendary circuit for its 100-year anniversary with a car that embodied years of commitment to Bugatti's principles and, with its colorful livery, paid homage to the Bugatti Le Mans winners of the 1930s. The results exceeded expectations, with Bugatti Pilote Officiel, Andy Wallace, hitting 350km/h on the straight.

Still, from summer 2023 to early 2024, the Bolide continued its intensive development phase on track. This period demanded absolute commitment from the entire team, with engineers and technicians working from early morning to late into the night, every single day. Each day followed a meticulously planned schedule, so precise that downtime was measured in minutes rather than hours, ensuring maximum track time when the circuit opened in the morning.

Every evening, the team conducted detailed debriefings to review the day's activities against the plan and assess outcomes. Throughout the night, the car was prepared for the following day's testing. Come morning, the team would reconvene early to complete final preparations, ensuring the Bolide was ready the moment the track opened.

Throughout this project, one principle remained constant: the understanding that performance alone does not define a Bugatti. Crucial conversations shaped an approach that went beyond technical specifications to address fundamental questions about what the Bolide should represent.

This insistence on marrying supreme performance with the qualities of grace and refinement is trait that defines every Bugatti that leaves Molsheim. It is visible in the proportions, felt in the driving experience and present in every detail from the cockpit to the powertrain.

For Bugatti it was vital that production quality matched the Bolide's extraordinary performance ambitions. Transforming a track-focused performance car into a true Bugatti, one that matched the marque's renowned aesthetics and pursuit of perfection, presented an immense challenge for the engineers, suppliers and production team alike. The focus was unambiguous: Bugatti customers expect not merely speed, but impeccable quality. They demand vehicles that deliver excellence not just on their first drive, but throughout their lifetime.

“We set out to create a car that can perform on the racetrack yet also belongs in the world’s finest collections. That’s why we devoted extraordinary attention to every detail of execution, from the paintwork to the interior, so that owning a Bolide reflects the same level of craftsmanship as every other Bugatti in your collection.

This was a new challenge for our production teams in the Atelier and for every supplier and partner. Motorsport typically prioritizes parts that can be changed quickly, yet a Bugatti is created to stand the test of time. Upholding that philosophy while delivering extreme performance required absolute dedication from everyone involved.”

CHRISTOPHE PIOCHON

PRESIDENT OF BUGATTI AUTOMOBILES

As production concludes in Molsheim, each Bolide that emerged from the Atelier carries the story of this remarkable journey. From the ambitious beginnings in August 2021 to the validation at Le Mans 2023 and the first track days with clients in 2025, the project reflects the dedication of the engineers that ensured every component meets Bugatti’s exacting standards.

The last Bolide represents a particularly meaningful chapter in this story. Commissioned by a dedicated collector and longstanding friend of the marque, this final example draws its

inspiration from a cherished piece of Bugatti heritage: the owner's own Type 35. The connection between past and present is expressed through the carefully chosen colorway, which honors the vibrant shades of blue that have been part of Bugatti's competition history for generations. This color palette holds such significance for the valued customer that he also specified the same colorway for his Veyron Grand Sport — itself the final example produced. The last Bolide therefore completes a trilogy that spans decades.

Finished in a bespoke specification featuring 'Black Blue' and 'Special Blue Lyonnais' exterior details with 'Lake Blue' Alcantara throughout the interior, this final Bolide reflects the relationship between collector and brand. From the French Flag on the side of the car to the 'Light Blue Sport' interior stitching, each element speaks to both an individual passion for motorsport and Bugatti's racing heritage.

The delivery itself became a celebration of this bond. When the customer arrived in Molsheim to take possession of his final Bolide, an intimate gathering marked the milestone. In true Bugatti family spirit, the occasion honored not only the completion of an extraordinary project, but also the trust and loyalty that defines the relationship between the marque and its most devoted collectors.

It is a fitting conclusion: a modern track hypercar that carries the spirit of the legendary Type 35 forward, connecting Ettore Bugatti's racing excellence with the ultimate expression of W16 track performance.

Limited to just 40 examples, the Bolide stands as a testament to what can be achieved when legacy guides innovation, and the pursuit of perfection remains the only acceptable standard.

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<sup>1</sup> Bolide: Not subject to Directive 1999/94/EC, as it is a racing vehicle not intended for use on public roads.