

CLASSIC DRIVER

[When the "Monza Gorilla" rumbled with Italy's first turbocharged car](#)

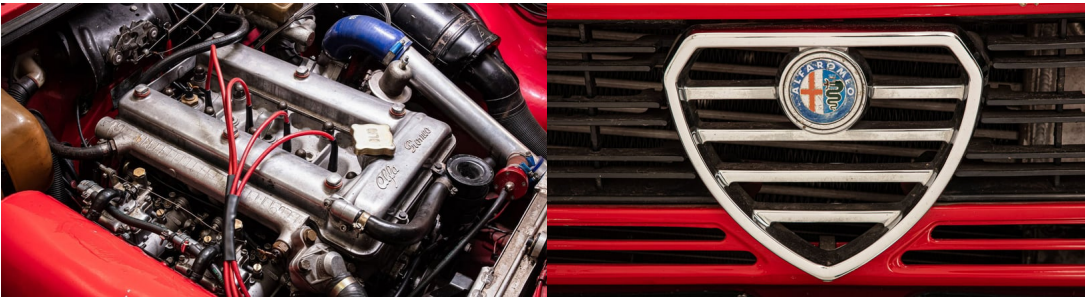
Lead

The Alfa Romeo Alfetta GTV spawned a few fantastic homologation specials, and one of the coolest has to be the Turbodelta - Italy's first turbocharged production car. We take a closer look...



Over the years, [Alfa Romeo](#) has produced some spectacular homologation specials, and today we'll be examining one of the most fascinating and underrated of them all. This, ladies and gents, is an Alfa Romeo [Alfetta](#) Turbodelta, of which Autodelta — Alfa Romeo's racing division — built a mere 400 in order to satisfy the homologation requirements for Group 4 racing.





Any good homologation special needs a few visual identifiers to separate it from the common-or-garden versions on the road, and all Turbodeltas were blessed with a black bonnet and those exceedingly cool rainbow decals on the side. Under the hood, the Turbodelta featured a 2.0-litre inline four cylinder engine equipped with a Dell'Orto 40H carburettor and — for the first time in Italy's production car history — a KKK turbocharger. This gave the Turbodelta a 20 horsepower advantage over the naturally-aspirated car, lending it a total output of 150 horsepower and a 130 mph top speed.



This example was registered in 1980 to Alfa Romeo SPA, and it remained within the company for 7 years. In March 1987, the company sold it to race-winning Italian Formula One driver Vittorio Brambilla (aka the Monza Gorilla) who enjoyed this Turbodelta as his daily for many years. Now looking for a new custodian, this Turbodelta is both a fantastic ambassador for the breed and a historically significant collector car. So, if your garage needs a boost, look no further than this turbocharged icon!

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