

Saturday, May 1. 2010

Something completely different - Moto GP

Yamaha team event. This weekend the Moto GP Championship visits the city of Jerez. Because Spain is motorbike crazy, this is going to be a huge spectacle. Jerez is only 20km from where I am, but a little bit of the action came on Thursday to my Pontoon in the Marina: the drivers of the Yamaha team went out for a joyride on waverunners. Of course TV and long-legged ladies in tight outfit were also present. Not that I would be interested in such things. In the evening I went to the showers, where I met a hyper guy that calls himself Pocholo. We talked a little and then he dragged me along for a beer with his friend Antonio and some girls. Antonio and Pocholo. The girls were primarily occupied with their cigarettes, but talking with Pocholo and Antonio was a lot of fun. And just watching Pocholo, the guy is a crazy combination of hyperactive nutcase & deep thinker. Besides he is also a very popular DJ in Spain, and is here to do some DJing at the race. His friend Antonio sells Aprilia and Vespa motorbikes, runs an events company, and is getting a new bio soft-drink on the market - Dwarf 8. Wow, surprise. I was even more surprised when they invited me to join them at the race. Cool! Well, the things you say over beers. Not so here, shortly after noon on Friday Pocholo called out: "Hey Axel, grab your camera and wallet. We leave in ten minutes". Antonio gave me VIP ticket for the weekend, and off we went. Which one would you take? A ticket to the paddock! In style of course. And as you would expect from a crazy guys as Pocholo, his ride is as crazy - a big old 15ton heave and 5m high off-road truck, from the roof of which he does his DJ-ing. The ride to the race-track was a happening in itself. The truck is well-known, and everywhere people screamed "Pocholooooo!" and waved their hands. The original idea was to set up the truck and play some music at the race-track. But in the life of Pocholo change is as constant as the ringing of his mobile phone. 5m high, 15 tons heavy, 90.000 Watt stereo system on the roof. Team bosses posing behind paella. So after we arrived at the race-track he had to go to a Foto-shooting with some top brass of the Guardia Civil, and dropped me off at the gate. Antonio produced a special ticket for the paddock, where we met up with another Antonio, who is the Andalusia Manager of Aprilia. After some food in the VIP area we visited his team as it got the bikes ready, and talked to Pol Esparagaro, who finished fourth in the Championship last year. Hopes are high he will win the Championship in the 125cc class this year. I'll keep my fingers crossed. Derbi's Box. Pol Esparagaro Friday practice. A crane for the truck. Me, Pocholo. After Pocholo was done with his interview we met him outside and set off towards the city and Antonio's garage. For a future event the truck needs a lift at the back for Motorbikes and Jetskis, and we all set to work. That was great fun too. My Spanish is absolutely lousy, and so was the English of the mechanics, but we got along splendidly. Later Antonio gave me a lift back to the Marina, where I reviewed the pictures and made a little movie: My VIP ticket is also valid for today and tomorrow, and I'm really tempted to go. Today I'll have to do some more work on Vespina, and would also like to test the wind-vane in the bay. So I probably won't make it to the race-track for the qualifying. But seeing how motorbike-crazy everybody in Spain seems to be, including the King Juan Carlos, I shouldn't miss the race on Sunday.

Posted by Axel Busch in Vespina at 02:48

Hut ab, mitten in der Prominenz ...für so eine Gelegenheit lässt man die Vespina gerne mal einen Tag allein.....und das mit dem DJ-ing aus'm Auto war ja noch was für den Volvo ggg
Anonymous on May 1 2010, 11:03

Only you, Axel, can meet the coolest people in the coolest places!! I hope you take advantage of the VIP ticket and get to enjoy the race. I mean, c'mon, it's not everyday one meets the most famous DJ in Spain, only to end up riding in his massive truck to be given VIP tickets!! Enjoy man...I'm jealous

-George
Anonymous on May 1 2010, 19:23