

# Legacy

## ON WHEELS

**Lambretta**

BY SARA BIANCHINI



Perhaps you spent the summer internally seething at the continuous construction that held the city's vehicles hostage in never-ending gridlock. Or perhaps you spent your morning today in rush-hour traffic. It is possible you've fantasized about hopping on a scooter and zipping through the lanes of immobile vehicles. After all, life happens at the destination not in transit. Thinking about the freedom to pick up and go at leisure and park anywhere your heart desires, brings to mind the iconic design of the *Lambretta* scooter.



The very first Lambretta design was released in 1947 in Milan. The company was launched by the Innocenti family. It was an immediate success and Italy hasn't looked back since. The mode of transportation has become an emblem for a care-free and spontaneous lifestyle. The Lambretta became a necessary accessory if one wants to bask in *la dolce vita*. The status symbol swiftly made its way to celebrity status with the likes of Grace Kelly, Paul Newman, James Dean and more recently Cameron Diaz posing with their prized Lambrettas.

Today there is a Lambretta museum in a suburb of Milan that exists thanks to the tireless efforts of scooter enthusiast *Vittorio Tessera*. Entrance to the museum is free; that is how passionate Tessera is about sharing his collection. The manufacturer's rich history is without a doubt something to be admired in a showroom. However, the true essence of a Lambretta scooter is best experienced when it is driven, not stationary. For that you'll need to look into the latest V-Special series. Would you go with classic black or a showier fire-engine red?

