Stoner and Rossi Ducatis for sale

Two low-kay, mint-condition Ducati Desmosedici MotoGP racers, usually only ridden on Sundays by some handy practitioners

Ducati collectors will soon have a rare opportunity to snare a piece of the Italian marque's racing history, when Casey Stoner's GP10 and Valentino Rossi's GP11 Desmosedici MotoGP racers go under the hammer at RM Auction's Monaco event, to be held at Monte Carlo's Grimaldi Forum over May 10-12.

Offered directly by Ducati Corse, both bikes represent the pinnacle of Ducati's racing technology at the time. The GP10, known as chassis CS1, was the bike on which Stoner triumphed at Phillip Island, leading the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix from start to finish at an average speed of 175km/h. The bike also claimed another three podium finishes (at Assen, Catalunya and Valencia) and three pole positions (at Qatar, Phillip Island and Valencia) through the 2010 season, before it was decommissioned after the final round at Valencia, with 4232km having flashed under its wheels.

Stoner shifted camp to Honda for 2011, while Rossi signed on next to Nicky Hayden with Ducati Corse -- his spiritual home, as far as any red-blooded Italian motorcycle race fan was concerned. Essentially the same as the GP10 of the year before, the GP11 about to be auctioned -- chassis VR2 -- was the second of four versions Rossi raced during 2011. While 2011 was a lacklustre season for 'The Doctor', the GP11 is significant as it represents the last generation of Ducati's 800-class MotoGP racers, before it focussed its attention on a 1000cc V-four for 2012. Rossi snared a podium finish on this particular bike at Le Mans, France, while its last race was the Assen TT. It's logged some 2342km.

Both bikes come with a certificate of authenticity and a VIP tour of the Ducati factory in Bologna, Italy. The new owner(s) will also be required to enter into an official confidentiality agreement with Ducati.

Also on offer in Monte Carlo in May will be the Saltarelli Collection -- a 100-bike, one-owner treasure trove of significant Ducatis through the decades. Click here to take a peak at the fantastic motorcycles on offer -- and then dig out that chequebook!

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