

Urbans Garage, Estonian factory provides classics.

PCCF (Porsche Classic Club Finland) first trip headed south of Gulf of Finland, Estonia. This trip was a bit special as we were pedestrians, we left the cars at home. Inspiration to this we got from Juha Vane who had done a reconnaissance trip this February together with 356 Klubb Sverige.

After the traditional onboard breakfast we stepped in a coach and headed towards Tartu and Urbans Garage. Good, Better and then Urbans Garage.

Many cakes pretty outside, but not inside. This old Finnish proverb can be turned around here.

There was some, could we even say car wrecks in the yard outside. Urban showed us his premises one by one which was the logical way. We started from the "main hall", where was couple of almost ready 356 and a 356 waiting for restoration, there was also a rare MB 300 SL but nothing more about it. In this hall was the cars completed. Urban told us about his operation that started from personal hobby to today's business with several employees. After this we went to metal fabrication hall and paint shop. During this we heard stories about all kind of fakes and cheats that are around 356 in the world. Restoration world was opened to us to a new level and some cold sweat when I wondered what my car paint or bottom really hold underneath.

Cars were made by hand and it was fine to see how the proud craftsman's displayed their hand skills. We didn't always have a common language but the workmanship and passion was not unclear. In the paint shop we saw a warning example that had been fixed with bondo, in front was left an about 10mm high bondo tower to prove the craftsmanship of previous guys. An other car was brought to Urbans for only finishing, but it has to be redone completely, so much had the corners been cut. Owner had paid 250.000€ for the car and was coming next Monday to look at his car. Urban said that he offer a chair first before telling the situation with this car. Urban is a brave man. It surprised us when he told that a poor condition barn find can be cheaper to restore than to correct a poor restoration.

At the paint shop saw we how the cars were sanded and "proof painted" in several steps to get a final surface.

If you miss some parts for your own classic, be it a 356 or 911, ask Urban, he has a very extensive spares inventory and also good connections to vendors and private sellers around the world.

If you want your classic in the correct condition, contact Urban. That's the start to a fine classic.

Urbans customers are passionate Porsche owners around the world.

After Urbans we headed to our hotel Pallas. After couple hours free time we went to Tartu old town and a restaurant where Urban and his wife came also. Dinner was traditional long course and night came. After couple local brews sleep came easy.

Saturday morning Urban had arranged a visit to a private museum. It is difficult to categorize this museum as there was cars, boats, bicycles, mopeds, household machines, vines, stuffed animals and you name what. This museum was an output of two passionate brothers. There was Russian time cars, Audis and MB's. There was an astonishment amount of cars but unfortunately this is a private collection and not open for the public.

After the museum it was time to head to the harbor and from there to Helsinki.