

New Special Edition Miatas At Auto Show

Mazda once again used Chicago as the venue to unveil special edition Miatas (Chicago is where the roadster bowed in 1989.) Since its US debut, unlike many other sports/sporty cars, the Miata survived the massive genocide of two-doors that occurred from the late 80s to early 90s. The Shinsen Version and Special Edition Miata pay tribute to the traditional MX-5 Miata but heat things up with an extra-cool assortment of things. Production of each model is limited to 1500 cars.

Those who wish to drop \$26,030 on an SE will get a numbered certificate of authenticity and a gift set that includes a backpack/cooler combo, a blanket, two baseball caps, and a game set.

The Strato Blue SE includes:

- * Strato Blue Mica exterior with Gray cloth top
- * Gray leather trimmed seats
- * Special Edition Badging
- * 16" alloy wheels with locks
- * Chrome fuel door
- * Stainless steel scuff plates
- * Two-tone leather wrapped shift knob and four-stitch shift boot
- * Leather wrapped parking brake handle
- * In-dash 6 CD changer

Powered by the stock Miata's 142-horsepower 1.8-liter DOHC engine, the \$23,105 Shinsen comes with a five-speed manual transmission and a Tochigi-Fuji limited-slip differential. (Shinsen means "new and fresh" in Japanese.)

The Shinsen Version features:

- * Titanium Gray metallic exterior with Blue cloth top
- * Blue cloth bucket seats
- * Two-tone leather wrapped shift knob and four-stitch shift boot
- * Aluminum-like interior trim
- * Power door locks, cruise control, remote keyless entry
- * Available only with a six-speed manual transmission
- * Limited Slip differential

Like all Mazda models, the Special Edition and Shinsen Version Miatas come with a four-year roadside assistance program. The company will provide a free loaner car in the event a warrantable condition requires alternative transportation. The Shinsen and Special Edition Miatas are covered by a comprehensive four-year/50,000-mile warranty that covers every part on the vehicle except those subject to normal wear. In addition, both vehicles are covered by a five-year/unlimited-mileage corrosion warranty. Again, Mazda is producing only 1500 units of each model, both available in dealerships in late February.

Additional information is available at www.mazdausa.com.

Mazda Magazine Back Issues Available

Looking for the Miata Magazine issue that covers the introduction of your car? Want to read about Miatas at Indy I and II? Did the dog eat your favorite issue? No worries, Miata Magazine has announced they are once again selling back issues of the magazine.

Content information and covers of the back issues of Miata Magazine may now be viewed at their website, <http://www.Mazdaevents.com>.

Ordering of back issues is currently only available by calling 858-675-2076, but will be available for online purchase soon. The pricing is \$5.95 per issue (\$3.90 for shipping and handling without regard to number of issues ordered). The exception is the Premier Fall 89 issue, which is \$15.00 per issue. How to subscribe to Miata magazine? Call 760-631-7474 or order online at <http://www.Mazdaevents.com>.



The new Strato Blue SE and the Shinsen at the beach.

Looking for Road Trip Info?

Isn't the internet wonderful? Need some information? Fire up that computer and you'll be inundated! Here's some Miata links passed on to us by some members.

Gary Marconi forwarded a link about a couple who made a four week US tour in their roadster and lived to tell about it! <http://home.earthlink.net/~jppandes/M-crosscountry/>.

A couple of Canadian cross country trips are out on the web. Keith Tanner (from miata.net fame) took a trip from British Columbia to Ottawa, Ontario. <http://www.eunos.com/keith/xcanada.html>. Nora Hague chronicles her summer tour with pictures on this site: <http://hobbystage.net/miata/nora/>

Your tax dollars are at work with a web site by the Federal Highway Administration. This link is maintained by the National Scenic Byways program (http://www.byways.org/travel/designated_byways.html) and has a state by state listing of all-American roads and scenic byways. If you enjoy sight seeing and driving, give this web site a look for ideas on finding the road less travelled.

How about a trip to the Arctic circle? This site chronicles a trip from Stockholm, Sweden through Norway across the circle and back to Stockholm. Go to <http://www.mx-5.net/midnightmiatas/>.

Whether it be an weekend trip, a week long trip, or an extended journey, don't be afraid to jump in your roadster and take off. If you've taken a trip, write an article and share your experience with us!