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Driving

The gentleness of Tuscany and a Cayman S in the wild. Does that fit? Who cares? Contrasts are what you want, with Porsche's new sports coupe. To sharpen the senses.

The Cayman *in natura*

The Cayman, up against the wall! Not with its back to it, but at an angle, its own way, the way it always is with this animal, ready to pounce.

It's the first photo for the series, launching the contest between the sports car and the landscape. Which is why this story is a classic background report—and a reversal of all Tuscan characteristics. Because suddenly, the Cayman's smooth lines stand for harmony, and the authenticity of the countryside around Siena for untamed wilderness. To heighten this fascination of contrasts, the car just had to take its place in front of this relief of cracked natural stones. The Cayman *in natura*.

The pure-bred two-seater handles these contrasts with ease—contrasts that are only apparently contradictions. At first, we consciously keep our shots of the moment at the surface. We experience different textures, changing colors, unusual materials. As if the ▶





sports coupé were diving straight into the fashion world of the Italian *Vogue*. Its esthetics come alive with what is non-conformist—as does the Cayman and the area around Siena. If “naturalness” is the best way to describe this area, boisterous power is the word for the topography of this newest Porsche. It knows how to stage itself. And enjoys romping almost playfully in this field of tension.

But it will never work without any cypresses at all. And that sets the stage for a special performance in a theater of light around the little village of Castelnuovo Berardenga. A local bicycle race has forced our Cayman off onto a tree-lined country road. The outlines of the giant trees lie across the bright gravel. Only shadows—or the world’s longest zebra crossing? The illusion becomes an illustration—dramatic effects, which work completely without artificial light. But the mysterious is inherent in this Cayman in cobalt blue metallic, which is why the soft afternoon light is supplemented by hard halogen spotlights. And the car fits into the natural ambiance once again; the result is a dramatic silhouette. Tuscany abstract.

It fast becomes apparent that car manufacturers can keep pace very well with landscape architects. Everybody interprets purism their own way; the final result is elegance. Like an extra-terrestrial object in the fields of cracked bark, the Cayman passes like a comet’s tail through the pallet of earth shades. But there always seems to be unspoken respect between the landscape and the car. Again and again, the sun spits splotches of color onto the body, a star-struck Porsche. ▶

**Knowledge is bliss:
The Cayman is completely unmoved by cliché**





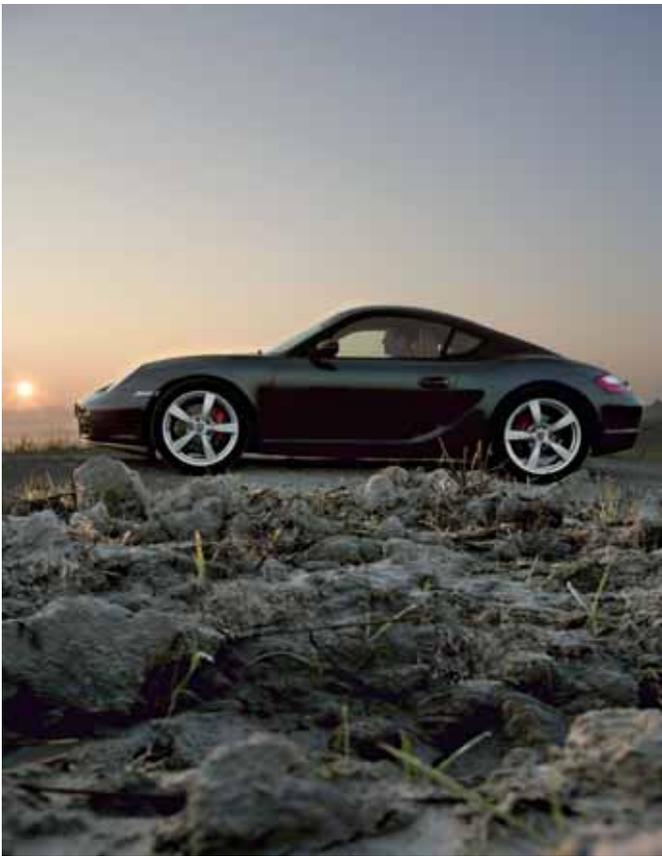
Exposure:
The Cayman shines naturally

All the qualities that make the reptile in this car can unfold effortlessly on the way to the Chianti country. The generous curves, the sharp corners after steep departures, the hills that call for you to put the pedal to the metal—they all harmonize with the rhythm of the Cayman. The powerful torque and high-revving quality of the Cayman provided by the classic Porsche

six-cylinder engine design are in permanent interplay—means to an end. Add to that the new chassis with its sporty tuning and a tighter gear ratio between first and second. *Attenzione!* Engine expert Jürgen Kapfer, Cayman Project Manager Jan Roth and body expert Ralf Göbel aren't into cuteness. The Porsche engineers at the Hotel Borgo San Felice to help out with the Cayman presentation didn't make this car what it is for nothing. Don't worry; the Cayman may be demanding, but it's also challenging. Here, in the body and soul of Italy, that also applies to the use of the tailgate: 410 liters of trunk volume equals almost 15 cubic feet. That's a lot of Chianti *Classico*.



Power and endurance are two prerequisites when it comes to passion. The independence of the Cayman can only support this principle. When a natural lack of constraint meets technical perfection, the result is restlessness transformed into drive. And so the Cayman seeks its vanishing point, turning into a chameleon in a flash. The landscape is softer now, and the sports coupé shifts into contrast mode. How and why it reflects this landscape infused with vitality can be seen when we look back against the light, which models the Porsche athlete like a sculpture—in an unfiltered but unmistakable manner. Catching a glimpse from the side like this can yield tremendously positive results. When chance is the director, unexplored vistas are opened. ▶



From an angle:
Treating the Cayman gently also has its attractions

The contours laid by the vehicle designers become fluid against the geometry of freshly plowed fields, and the Cayman becomes one with the land of the ancient Etruscans. The strong roof curvature, a gradually sloping front end, the tail that stretches and blends into the firm shoulders of the fenders—all this is reflected in the nature of the *Terre di Siena*, described poetically by ex-

perts as “a work of art blending sky and hills, broad spaces and geometries. A world that seems static only at first sight; in fact, everything is in permanent motion.” The essence of Tuscany, the essence of the Cayman. Concise perspectives.

Where pale green olive groves have determined the ambiance, all the sandy shades of the Pantone palette suddenly dominate. Scorched earth. Golden moments emerge from warmth and coolness—not only for the photographer. Colors, too, have temperaments. Sharply outlined, the Cayman glides out of an underpass into its next contrast. The driver loses a couple of nano-seconds shifting through the six-speed transmission: What’s stronger here, the visual or the actual experience? In this corner of the world, the Cayman thrives on the constant interplay between design and destiny.

You have to steer with perspective. Vast distances, intimate magic. If the countryside isn’t enough, take the sky along with it. The panoramic rear window invites you to take up this vision, to store it in the memory that will move the Cayman even further onward. ◀

