



# TIMELINE

2020



## of MOTORCYCLES

### 1867

#### Steam Powered

First steam-powered motorcycle was made during 1867, in the factory of famous bicycle inventor Pierre Michaux. His son Ernest who also invented the bicycle pedals attached small steam engine to one of his bicycle designs.



### 1868

#### Twin Cylinder

American, Sylvester H. Roper presented his twin cylinder steam velocipede with a coal burn furnace. He died in 1896 while performing a demonstration of one of his steam motorcycles.



### 1871

#### One Cylinder

French engineer Louis-Guillaume Perreaux developed steam one cylinder motorcycle with an alcohol burner.



### 1881

#### Boiler Engine

American inventor Lucius Copeland strapped small boiler engine on a rear wheel of "farthing-penny" bicycle. This configuration enabled him to reach the speed of 12mhp.



### 1885

#### Diesel Based

German inventors Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach produced first motorcycle with diesel-based engine in 1885. They managed to equip a wooden bicycle with a small 264cc engine. This device, which carried the name of "Daimler Reitwagen" (riding wagon) is today regarded as the first motorcycle.



### 1894

#### Mass Production

"Hildebrand & Wolfmüller" was the first mass-produced motorcycle in the world. Sadly, only several hundred units were produced. After that year, many more motorcycle makers started building their designs around the world.



### 1895

#### French Circus

First motorcycle came to USA via the French circus group. In the same year, American inventor E.J. Pennington demonstrated his first version of motorcycle that had top speed of 58mph.



### 1900

#### First Patent

Werner Brothers submitted first motorcycle patent.



### 1901-1903

#### Let the Races Begin!

Several plants started production of motorcycles, most notably English Royal Enfield, Triumph, American Harley-Davidson & Indian Motorcycle Manufacturing Company. During that time begun the first organized motorcycle races, which in return increased demand for faster and powerful engines and designs.



### 1928

#### Largest Maker

German company DKW managed to become largest motorcycle maker in the world, surpassing American builders Indian and Harley-Davidson.



### 1930s

#### Before the Second World War

Before the start of Second World War, there were over 30 models of motorcycles in England.



### 1950s

#### The Wild One!

After the end of Second World War, American War veterans started gathering themselves into loosely organized motorcycle clubs. They become very famous after their portrayal in Marlon Brando's 1954 film "The Wild One".



### 1959

#### Honda Takes the Lead

Japanese company Honda became the largest manufacturer of motorcycles in the world, surpassing German NSU.



### 1960s

#### Fading Away

British motorcycle dominance faded away during 1960s with the appearance of several large Japanese manufacturers - Suzuki, Kawasaki and the Yamaha.



### 1990

#### Expanding The Market

Japanese supreme dominance lasted all up to 1990s when several American and Italian companies began expanding their markets.



### PRESENT

#### The Market is Here

Today beside Japanese companies several other manufacturers hold sizable piece of the market. Most notably there are BMW, Ducati, Victory and Harley-Davidson.

