

AUTOMOTIVE

End of production for Bentley's Mulsanne flagship sedan

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The penultimate Bentley Mulsanne car. Image courtesy of Bentley Motors

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

It is the end of the production line for the Mulsanne, a majestic sedan from Bentley Motors made completely by hand and the flagship of the British automaker for 11 years.

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The Crewe, England-based company produced 7,300 units of the Mulsanne since its 2009 reintroduction. The last-but-one car is being shipped off to a customer in the United States with the identity of the final car's destination kept under wraps.

"As the flagship of our model range for over a decade, the Mulsanne has firmly solidified its place in the history of Bentley as nothing less than a true icon," said Bentley chairman/CEO Adrian Hallmark in a statement.

"I am immensely proud of the hundreds of designers, engineers and craftspeople that brought the Mulsanne to life over the last 10 years," he said.

"Now, as we begin Bentley's journey to define the future of sustainable luxury mobility through our Beyond100 strategy, the role of Bentley flagship is passed to the new Flying Spur."



Putting finishing touches on the penultimate Bentley Mulsanne. Image courtesy of Bentley Motors

The final rollout comes weeks after Bentley resumed production at its plant. The penultimate car and its predecessors got star treatment, featuring in photographs and a video incorporating some of the employers who handcrafted the car.

The vehicle headed to the U.S. is a Mulsanne Speed 6.75 Edition by Mulliner finished in rose gold over tungsten.



The Bentley Mulsanne production line. Image courtesy of Bentley Motors

In the last 11 years, more than 700 people have invested nearly 3 million hours crafting the Mulsanne.

Producing the Mulsanne bodies required approximately 42 million spot welds, and creating the leather interiors took more than a million hours alone.

Nearly 90,000 hours have been spent polishing cars, before a total of over 4 million individual quality checkpoints.

This last Mulsanne was supposed to have been phased out this past spring, but production delays over the COVID-19 lockdown meant the last batch of only 30 cars rolled out this summer.

All **Mulsanne** cars are made by hand at Bentley's plant in Crewe.

After clearing its 600-item quality inspection, the Mulsanne hands over its flagship status to the new Flying Spur.

Owned by Volkswagen, Bentley's lineup will now comprise the Flying Spur, Continental and the Bentayga SUV.

BENTLEY LAST YEAR posted a 5 percent growth to deliver 11,006 cars. It marked the company's seventh consecutive year with sales crossing 10,000 cars, although this year will prove challenging to automakers across the board as government-imposed COVID-19 lockdowns take their toll on business.

The end is just the beginning. Today we're celebrating the final **#Mulsanne** while looking towards our sustainable future. **#Bentley's** flagship role is now passed to the new **#FlyingSpur**. Discover more: <https://t.co/cNJZ0Z2co7> pic.twitter.com/Mi3l7mQowq

Bentley Motors (@BentleyMotors) **June 25, 2020**

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