



MIKES CORVETTE CORNER

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Everyone's favorite topic, that is the mid-engine Corvette, has been spun on the rumor mill yet again. This time, [Wheels](#) has divulged potential details surrounding the [C8 Corvette](#), which is poised to be the most revolutionary iteration of the sports car ever. To start, the C8 Corvette is tipped to become a truly global car. That means [Bowling Green, Kentucky](#)—which will [suspend public tours](#) to get ready for *something*— will be churning out right- and left-hand drive variants. More importantly, the C8 Corvette will make an appearance down under as [Holden's long-rumored flagship sports car](#). The report goes on to state the price tag will climb higher than \$120,000 AUD (roughly \$89,000 USD) and debut as a 2019 model year vehicle. The price is highly debatable, but sources claim the C8 Corvette will offer Ferrari-beating performance at one-third of the cost. The model year, though, falls in line with previous intel stating [2019 will be the C8's time to shine](#).

The report divulges details on the powertrains as well. Specifically, a "base" C8 Corvette is rumored to arrive with a 502 horsepower small-block V8 engine with the latest lightweight and aerodynamic technology. Shaving weight from the car is said to be a high priority to help make the C8 Corvette the quickest, fastest iteration of the nameplate ever. Interestingly, the report states the small-block V8 will retain an OHV configuration. We'd beg to differ, but suppose anything is possible.

In regards to additional variants, an even hotter ZR1 model is said to arrive early next decade with a DOHC V8 engine producing around 670 hp, while a C8 Corvette E-Ray employs hybrid systems to push power even further. General Motors has already moved to [trademark](#) the "[E-Ray](#)" name and a Corvette mule has been spotted at GM's battery facility, too.



In the near term, the [2018 C7 Corvette ZR1](#) will become the hottest Corvette ever produced, but GM is said to have been toying with a reveal of the mid-engine Corvette at the 2017 Los Angeles Auto Show. The report states executives may have canned the plans in order to keep building hype closer to the car's launch. We'd agree—LA is much too early for this car to show face and Chevrolet has a history of saving big surprises for Detroit.

While the idea of a mid-engine Corvette may be one of the worst kept secrets in the business right now, all we can do is let the rumor mill churn away until we get some truly concrete information. We'll take the report with a grain of salt in the meantime.

I'm sure there's going to be a ton of changes and announcements regarding this special Corvette, especially the price. I'm sure Jay Leno is first on the list.

Mike.