

1966 Vespa

150 GL (Gran Lusso)

The **Gran Lusso** became Vespa's mid-line categorized scooter, beginning production in 1964. These did not have the same powerful motor as their performance scooters. Early versions were manufactured for specific European markets, and were basically a standard Vespa 150 with larger 10" wheels. They did not have any model specific styling or badges.

The GL was a very elegant looking scooter, and became the model upon which the Super Sport was based. It was a progression for Piaggio into a more angular, and less round body style. The headset was a significant departure from previous models. The most obvious difference was that the headlight was no longer round, but trapezoid-shaped. This new headset had threaded mounting points for a rear-view mirror or windscreen. The speedometer from the VBB and GS was retained and was still the large clamshell style speedometer.

Museum Loan: Ali & Corey Detar – Harrisburg, PA

The GL sported a new larger taillight that followed the new squarer look of the rest of the scooter. The horn was the same "clamshell" horn used on the VBB and GS. Additionally, the forks, hubs, and wheels were painted to match the scooter. The GL only came painted in an ivory/cream color.

The two-port 150cc motor is similar to that on the VBB, and saw similar performance. Some internal changes were made to the motor to suit the gearing required for the 10" wheels. Additionally, some modifications were made to the top end that mildly increased performance.

This original Vespa GL example was purchased used in 1967 with 1,000 miles, and is still owned by the same family.

DID YOU KNOW?

Fans of Vespa scooters are affectionately referred to as "*Vespisti*."

Manufacturer: Piaggio & Co. S.p.A.
Genoa, Italy

Model: VLA1T

Number produced: 79,854 (1962-1965)

Engine: 6.25 HP 145.5 cc 2-stroke

Transmission: 4 speed, hand-shift

Top Speed: 50MPH

