

# Top 10 Corvette Engines at Corvettes at Carlisle 2021



By [Joe Kucinski](#) - September 1, 2021



**There were rows of Corvettes on display at Corvettes at Carlisle 2021. All of them have spectacular engines but these stood out.**

**Corvettes at Carlisle** is Corvette overload in every sense. The sights, the sounds, it is all Vettes, all the time. When I attend the event, I like to try to pick out some of my favorite aspects of the show. There are so many to choose from that I can pick something different every year. Which I do, and this year I focused on **engine displays**. Many of the Corvettes on hand proudly display what they have going on under the hood. Some of the engines are stock, some are not, and some have some artistic touches that make them special. These are the top Corvette engines on display at **Corvettes at Carlisle 2021**.

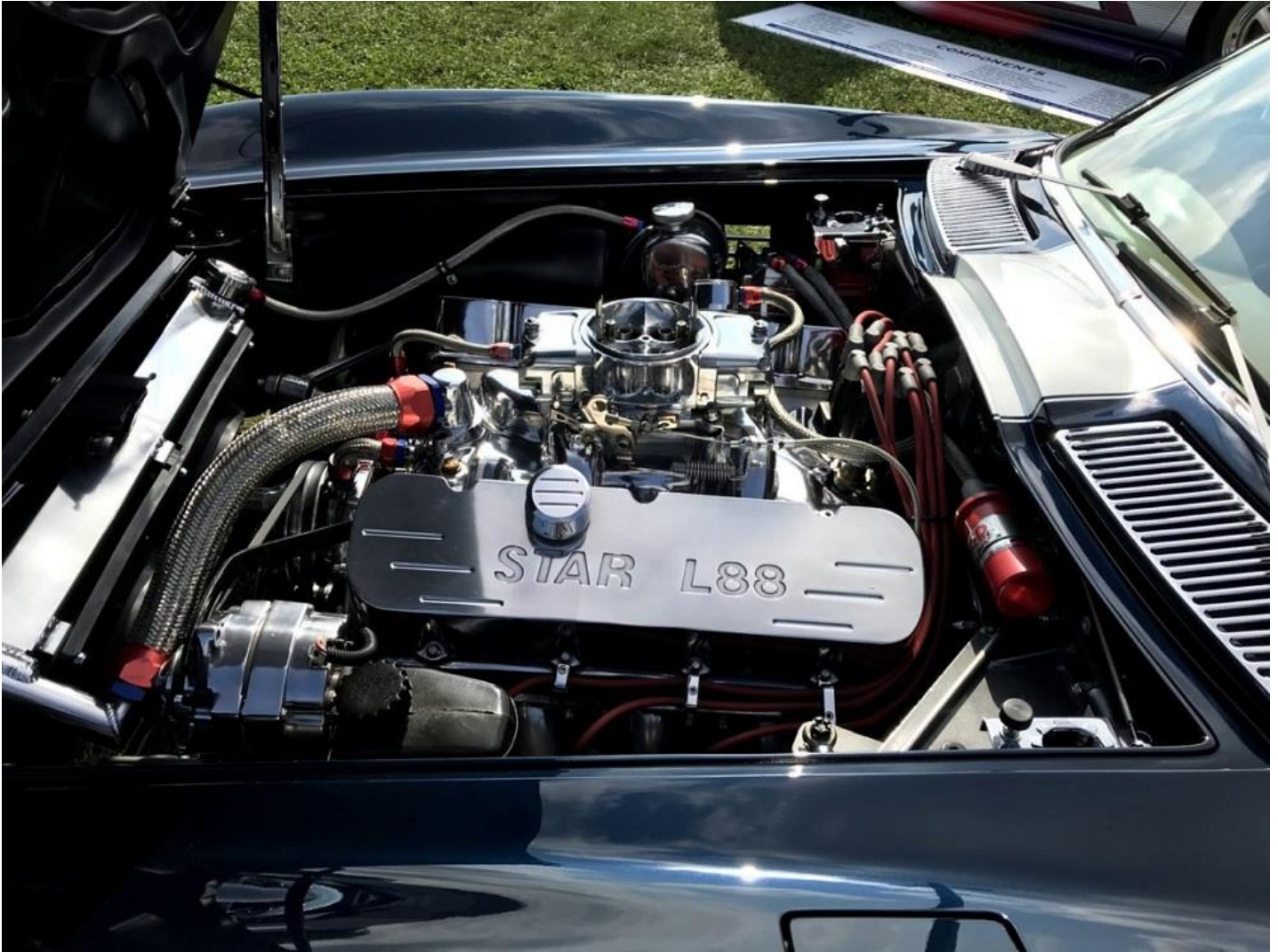
I didn't just go for the most powerful by default. I tried to look at each and determine why it was just cool. Sometimes it was the story behind the engine that made me smile. There were many contenders to choose from, and there are no losers. If you were at the event and have your own favorites, please share with us in the **Corvette Forums**.

## # 10. ZZ 427 GM Crate Motor



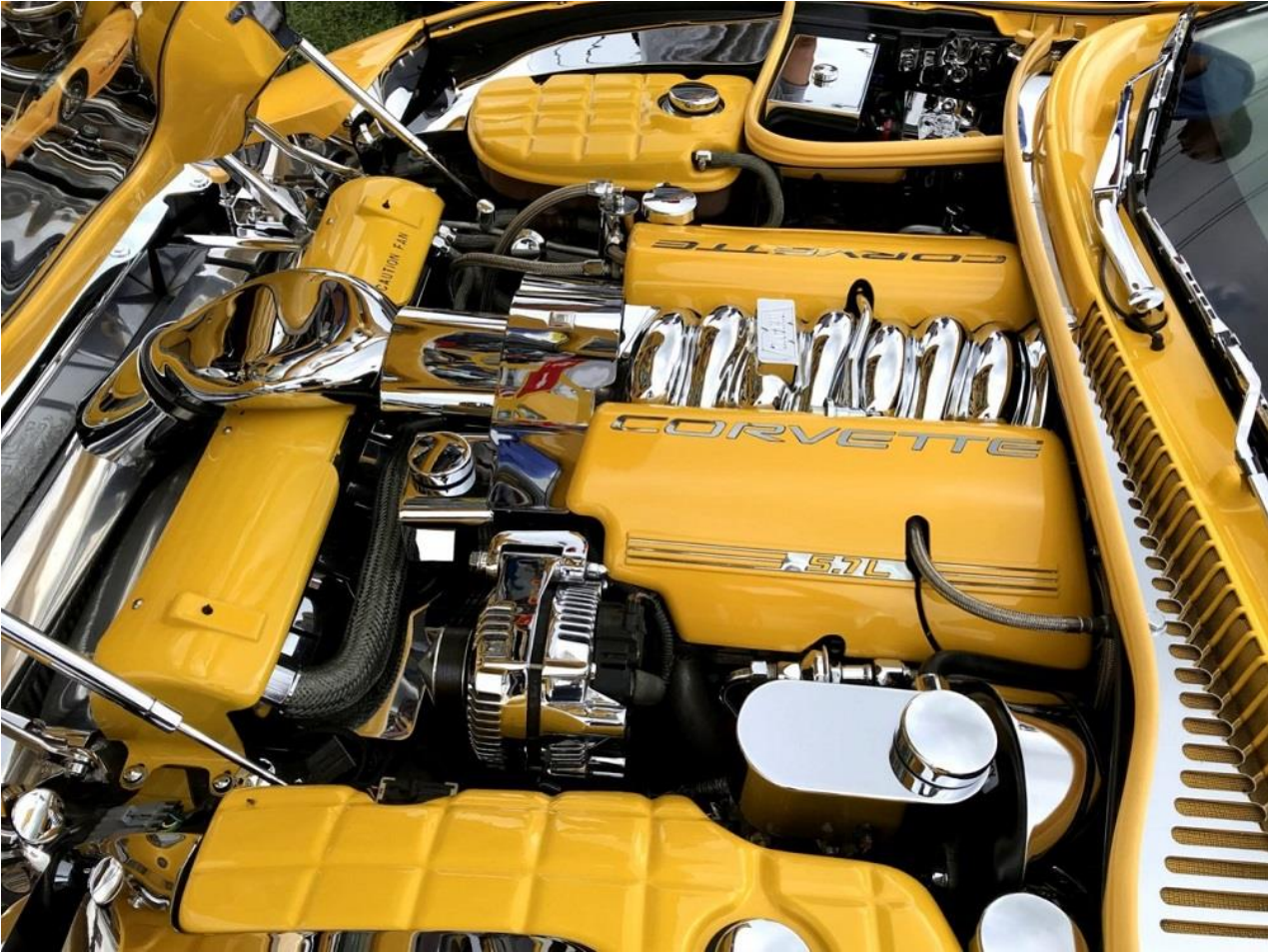
This classic engine was fitted to a beautifully restored 1967 Corvette Stingray. The motor makes 480 horsepower and 490 pound-feet of torque. It was hooked up to a Tremec TKO 500 5-speed transmission. Beautiful car and beautiful engine. Tough to image anything more iconic than a 427 Stingray.

## # 9. 427 L88



I promise not every engine on this list will be a 427, but how do you pass on an L88? This engine is a 1969 L88 and is installed in a custom 1967 Grand Sport. The car is referred to as the Star L88, and it certainly was one of the stars of this show.

## #8. T. Rex Engine



After a couple of serious motors, we switch gears and add a bit of fun. The engine here is basically a stock 5.7L LS1. But it is beautifully presented in a spotless engine bay. Highly polished chrome and body color matching yellow dominate the scene. This engine is part of the "T. Rex" Corvette and while maybe not everyone's cup of tea, it is a lot of fun and beautifully presented.

## # 7. 1957 283ci



1957 was a special year for Corvette engines as it was the first time, they advertised them as producing 1 horsepower per cubic inch. And while this engine is not the most powerful "fuelie" model, it is the still powerful dual 4-barrel carb version. And what makes this one a little extra special is the backstory. The car was purchased brand new in 1957 by the current owner's father. He inherited the car in 1993 and has had it ever since.

## # 6. 1993 ZR-1 LT5



Another legend in the Corvette stable of engines. These C4 ZR-1 engines were the first in Corvette history to come with dual-overhead cams and four valves per cylinder. Designed by Lotus and produced by Mercury Marine these engines were like nothing before seen in a Corvette. The engine spotted here was installed in a beautiful 1993 ZR-1.

## # 5. Blue Flame Six



For historical purposes I just had to include the old inline straight six from a 1954 Corvette. Whenever you pop the hood on a Corvette you naturally expect to see a V8 motor of some sort, but that was not the case in the early cars. The engine and the car it is in are both in fantastic shape and a show favorite.



## # 4. Cunningham Engine



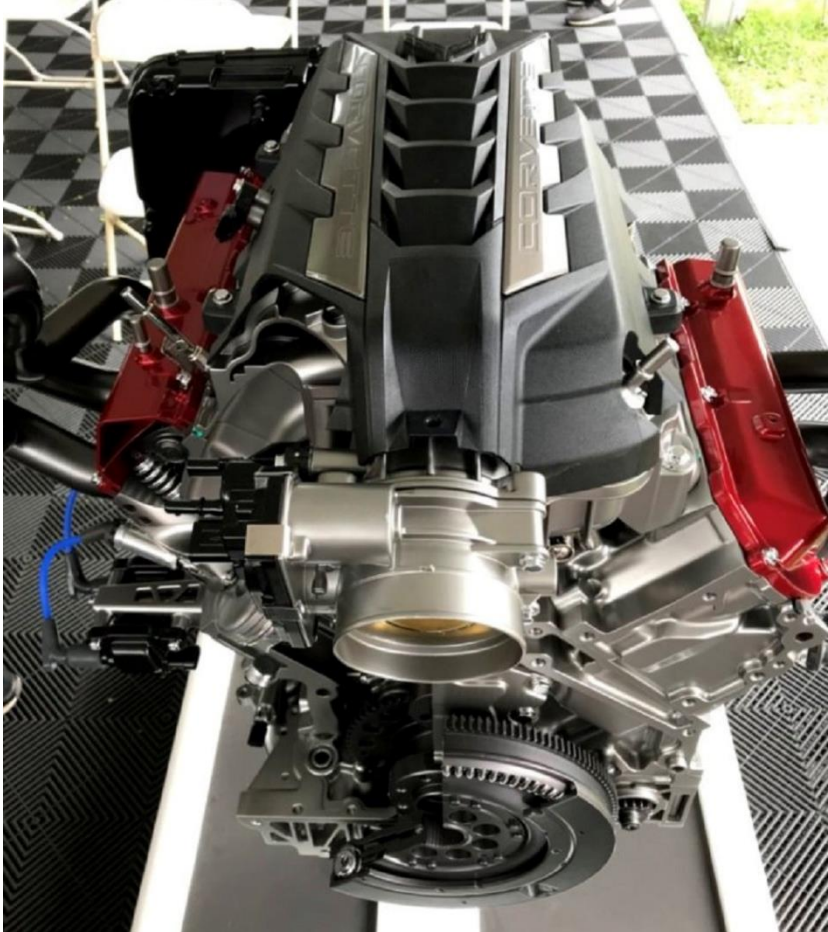
The 6.2L LT2 V8 in this special car has been tuned by Lingenfelter to produce 600+ horsepower. The upgrades include a carbon fiber intake manifold, and Corsa Sport tuned headers and airbox. Only 60 of these cars will ever be produced and the purchase price is \$159,999. This is a rare and expensive car that deserves a place on this list.



### # 3. LT2 V8



Speaking of the LT2 V8. This engine was selected as one of the highlights because it is of course what powers the current C8 Stingray to supercar performance numbers. Also, this is a view of the engine that we rarely get to see. Being able to get an up close and personal look at this modern-day marvel was a treat.



## # 2. LS3



The LS3 is a fine motor for sure. But that in and of itself does not make it one of the highlights of the show. However, this particular LS3 is in a Torch Red 1964 Corvette restomod. This car not only borrows a more modern engine, but it has the front suspension from a C7 and a rear suspension from a C6. It is a well put together package that made it a favorite. And the best part is, it is for sale.

## # 1. 1957 Fuelie



I didn't want to put two 1957 engines on the list, but how can you not include a fuelie? This was a favorite engine of the show. There were only a little over a thousand ever made and they are now over 60 years old, so they are a rare sight. The car is stunning of course, but it got extra points from me because it actually has a trailer hitch installed on the back. That is not something you see on many Corvettes, let alone a 1957 fuel injected model.