


CLASSIC DRIVER



1962 Maserati 3500 - 3500 GT Spider Vignale

3500 GT Spider Vignale

Lot sold	USD 0 EUR 0 (listed)	Lenkung	Links
Baujahr	1962	Innenfarbe	Sonstige
Chassisnummer	AM101*1129	Zustand	Gebraucht
Losnummer	202	Standort	
		Kraftstoff	Sonstige
		Außenfarbe	Sonstige
		Automobiltyp	Sonstige

Beschreibung

German title

- Superb example
- Original engine block sold with the car
- Very rare five speed gearbox

The Maserati 3500 GT was probably the car that saved the sports car manufacturer from Modena from bankruptcy in the late 50s. The 3500 GT was produced in very high numbers for such an exclusive car and was indeed a huge commercial success. The convertible version however, was not a spider version of the Touring bodied 3500 GT but a special design created by Vignale on a shorter chassis than the 3500 GT.

According Fabio Collina from the Maserati factory archives chassis number 1129 was sold to a Mrs Teresa Mitarachi from London, U.K. Mrs Mitarachi or Mitarakis as she really was called, was of Greek origin and ordered the car in left hand drive. It was also fitted with the optional Borrani wire wheels. Mrs Mitarakis kept the car until 1977 when a Frank Wilbur bought the car from a dealer in the USA.

After Wilbur was too old to drive the car, it went through a couple of dealers and eventually, in 1988, it landed at Frank Mandarano's MIE Corporation. MIE then sold the car on to a Ivan Ruiz in Georgia. Ruiz bought the car in bare metal from MIE and duly sent the car away for a 5-years restoration. The restoration was completed in 1993 and the owner entered the car in many events and, amongst others, won a prize at the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. The current owner bought the car in 2009 and even though the car was still very good condition he decided to send it to Maserati specialist, Ital-Auto, outside Stuttgart for a further restoration. It was beautifully re-painted in black and the interior re-trimmed in its original black colour. 500-600 hours of work excluding the paintwork were carried out and about 100 hours were spent solely on cosmetic details. The car is complete with all its tools, books and with factory hard-top. The engine mounted is not the original one. However, the car does come with the original matching number engine block as well. It was also originally fitted with a rare and very desirable 5-speed gearbox which gives the car significantly longer legs for a much more relaxed drive.

Maserati only made 242 examples of this great car and finding a better one would be very difficult. Between 40 and 45 hard-tops were made by the factory, one was added on this car in 1988, making it even rarer and, a serious competitor for prizes in any Concours d'Elegance. This very usable and lovely touring car is ideal for a warm summer day ride on the Riviera, but then, you would have to leave the hard-top at home.

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