

CLASSIC DRIVER

[The going looks Gooding at the official Pebble Beach auction...](#)

Lead

As the only house that can claim the title of 'The official Pebble Beach auction', it's little wonder that Gooding has pulled off so many high-profile consignments for this year's sale...

Once again, it's a [Ferrari 250 GT California Spider](#) that headlines a major auction sale, this time in SWB, covered headlamp form, i.e. the most desirable configuration. Gooding has set the estimate at \$16m - \$18m, which pitches it squarely between the similar example sold by Bonhams for \$15.18m almost exactly a year ago, and the \$18.5m ex-Alain Delon 'barn-find' car sold in February by Artcurial. The HAGI Ferrari index reports a circa 10% increase year-on-year - we'll be interested to see whether that rings true on this occasion.

Enter the royals' realm



The Cal' Spider is joined in the [lotlist for Gooding's two-day 2015 Pebble Beach auction](#) by several of its blue-chip brethren, including the [1962 Ferrari 250 GT SWB Berlinetta Speciale](#), bodied by Bertone with one-off 'sharknose' coachwork reminiscent of the marque's sports-racers of the era. They're supplemented by two Prancing Horses with royal provenance: the captivating [1957 Ferrari 410 Superamerica Series II Coupé](#) formerly owned by Princess Soraya of Iran, and the [ex-Aga Khan 1965 Ferrari 500 Superfast](#) in a svelte (yet non-original) shade of dark blue.

Stiff competition



There's a healthy serving for the high-end Porsche contingent ([as we previously mentioned](#)), including the very [Rothmans-liveried Porsche 956 that clinched the 1983 24 Hours of Le Mans](#) in one of the most dramatic finishes in the history of the race. There's also [one of the 24 Ford RS200 Evolutions](#) built ('possibly the finest example' due to its rare factory options and performance upgrades, according to Gooding), a [1998 Ferrari 333 SP](#) with a significant two-season race history, and a [2004 Maserati MC12 GT1](#) campaigned in 2004/5 with support from the factory. But if you prefer your Trident-bearing competition car to have a little more dirt under its nails, so to speak, take a look at the [1956 Maserati A6G/2000 Coupé](#) - the only example that left the factory in full rallying regalia.

The dusty, the sandy, and the downright stunning



Other notable entries include two Lagonda Rapides: an [LG45](#) and a stunning, [two-tone V12](#), both of which have appeared at the Pebble Beach Concours in recent years. There's also a Fiat 600 Edén Roc by Pinin Farina, one of the two known examples in existence (the other was Gianni Agnelli's personal shuttle) – a rare opportunity, as it's finally being released from the ownership of the same family that bought it new. Meanwhile, those looking for a project car with prominence have the option of a [1958 Porsche 356 A Speedster](#), a [Touring-bodied Hudson Italia](#), a [1961 Ferrari 250 GTE Series 1](#), or the [Bentley R-Type Continental](#) recently found in a Californian garage, which was [ordered new by Ian Fleming for his spy friend](#). Alternatively, if you're looking for an iconic car at the other side of a complete restoration, how about a desert-spec (soft top; no heater) 1965 Toyota FJ40 Land Cruiser? If the estimate proves correct, you'll need to fork out \$100,000 – \$150,000 for the privilege...

Photos: Gooding & Company

Gallery



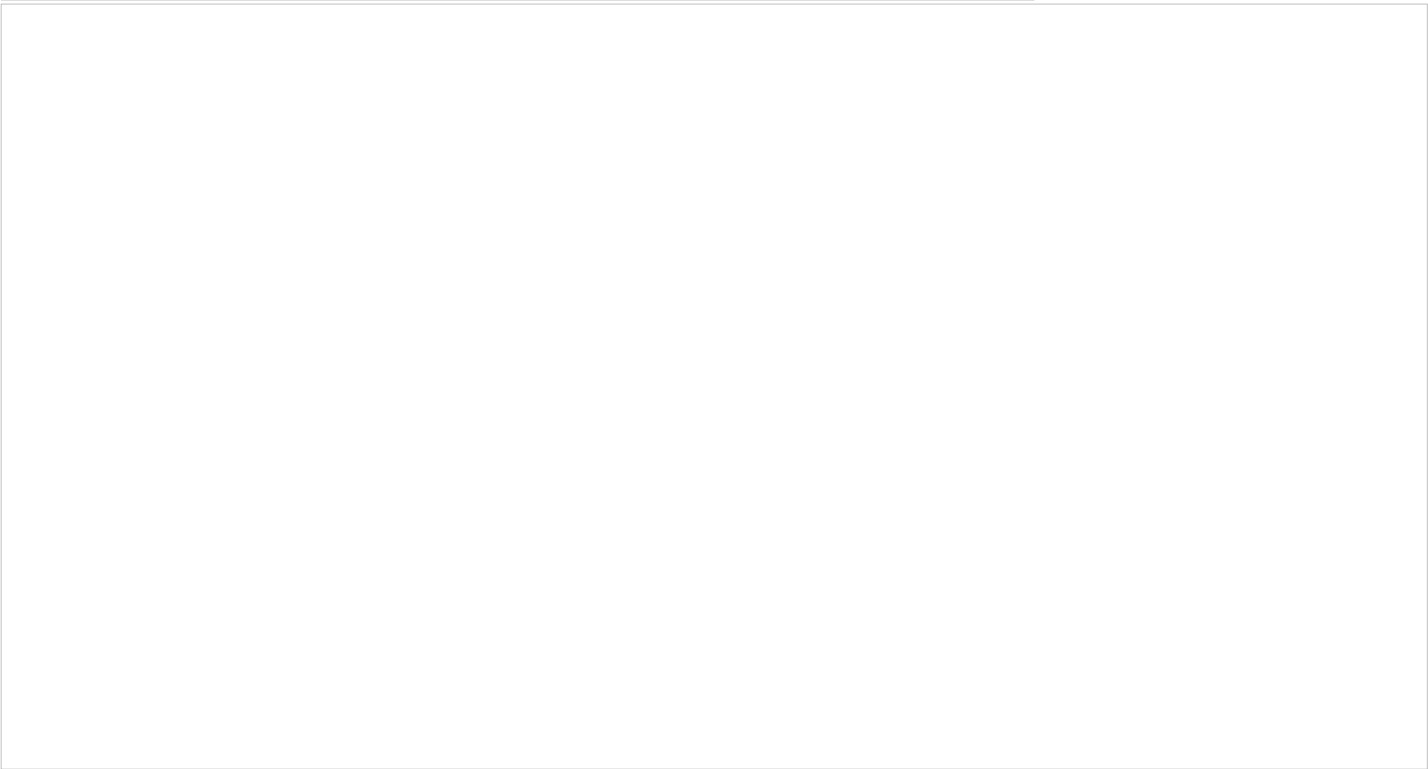
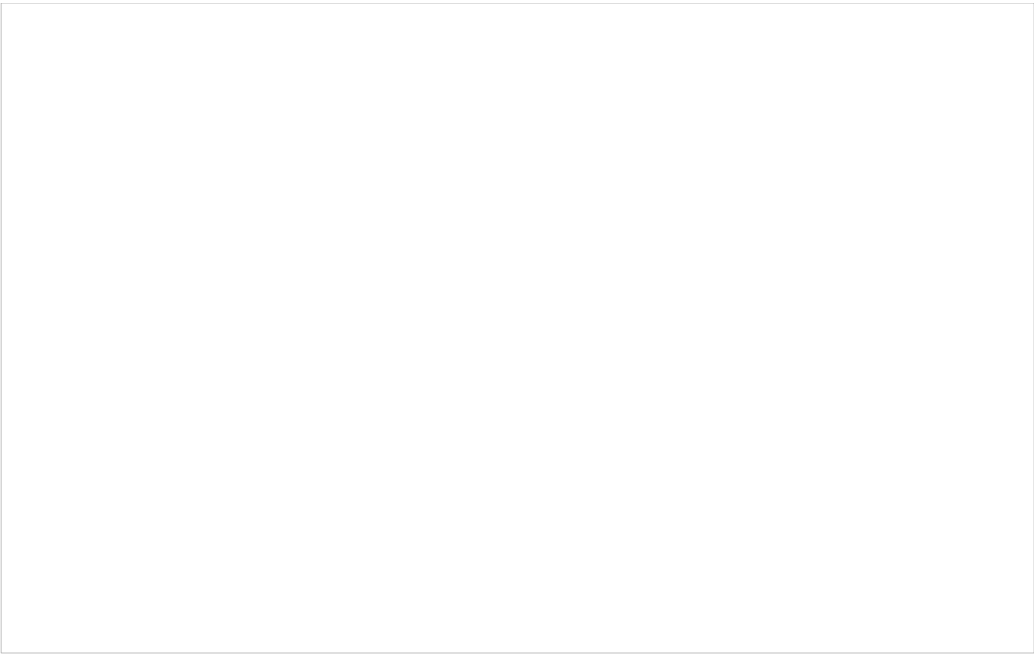














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