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# 1996 Aston Martin V8 - Vantage V550

Vantage V550

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Lot sold	<b>USD 136 740 - 164 088</b> GBP 100 000 - 120 000 (listed)	Drive	LHD
Year of manufacture	1996	Condition	Used
Chassis number	SCFDAM2S3RBR700	Location	
Number of seats	2	Fuel type	Petrol
Drivetrain	2wd	Exterior colour	Other
Lot number	386	Engine number	590/70027/M

## Description

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1995 Aston Martin Vantage Coupé

Registration no. to be advised

Chassis no. SCFDAM2S3RBR70027

Engine no. 590/70027/M

'What the Vantage is, and what the Virage, Volante and Zagato are not, is a real Aston Martin: a big, very beautiful, very fast, albeit expensive GT with so much appeal and purpose behind it that it is more an experience than it is mere transport...' - Autocar & Motor.

'Brutal' was a word used more than once to describe the fastest Aston Martin ever on its introduction in 1993, but as the Vantage had no less than 550bhp available to propel its two tons, the choice can only be judged fair comment.

After almost 20 years in production, Aston's V8 had been updated for the 1990s as the Virage. A consummate fast tourer, the Virage left room at the top of the range for an out-and-out sports car, hence the Vantage. Although the two models appeared superficially similar few panels were shared, while beneath the skin the Vantage chassis boasted the kind of extensive re-engineering required to cope with the massive increase in performance. The latter came courtesy of a blown version of Aston's 5,340cc V8, twin mechanically driven Eaton superchargers being preferred to turbo-charging

on the grounds of superior throttle response. Quite apart from its stupendous maximum output of 550bhp, remarkable enough in itself, the Vantage engine is monstrously torquey, producing 550lb/ft at 4,000rpm, a figure that made even the mighty the Chrysler Viper V10's 450lb/ft seem puny by way of comparison. And for those who found 550bhp insufficient, there was the Works Service-developed 'V600' enhancement that brought with it an additional 50 horsepower together with upgrades to the wheels, suspension and brakes.

On test with Autocar magazine, a development Vantage raced to 60mph in a Ferrari 512TR-destroying 4.6 seconds, reaching the 'ton' just 5.5 seconds later. The standing kilometre was achieved in 23.1 seconds with the speedometer registering close to 150mph and although a true top speed figure proved unobtainable, the Vantage was reported as having already recorded 191mph while on test in France. Its price at launch was as eye-watering as the performance figures: a cool £177,600.

According to the Aston Martin Car Record Card (copy on file), this stunning Vantage was ordered in the beautiful colour combination of DB7 Brecon Anthracite with a black-piped tan leather interior and Parchment Alcantara headlining. Fitted with the optional automatic transmission, it was sold through Stratstone of Mayfair to its first (lady) owner, who resided in Berkshire.

In recent years the Vantage has formed part of an exclusive collection of fine Aston Martins and other exotica. Currently displaying a total of only 24,200 miles on the odometer, the car is currently registered on a private plate which is not included in the sale. We are advised that an age-related UK registration has been applied for.

## Bonhams 1793

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