
1953 Jaguar XK 120 - Roadster

Roadster

Estimate	USD 120 000 - 140 000	Drive	LHD
Year of manufacture	1953	Interior colour	Other
Chassis number	671968	Condition	Used
Lot number	767	Location	
		Fuel type	Petrol
		Exterior colour	Other

Description

To be OFFERED AT AUCTION at Auctions America's Fort Lauderdale event, April 1-3, 2016.

Chassis No.

671968

Estimate:

\$120,000 - \$140,000 US

During the war years, Jaguar's Coventry factory turned out trailers and aircraft components; yet work continued by Sir William Lyons and his engineering staff on a new postwar engine. When peace returned, the designs were built and tested. After testing more than a half-dozen configurations, the modern XK powerplant evolved. Features included chain-driven twin overhead camshafts and a hefty crankshaft carrying seven oversize main bearings. The six-cylinder engine boasted an aluminum head and pistons along with steel connecting rods - output of this first engine was a healthy 160-hp at 5,200-rpm. The unit debuted in a slightly changed Mark V Jaguar of prewar design that helped generate cash flow while the new design for a new automobile was being finalized.

The XK 120 was originally nothing more than a holding place for the new engine. Just 200 were to have been built as the aluminum-bodied roadster was conceived as a low-volume sports car rather than a serious production vehicle. However, when the XK 120 made its debut at the Earls Court Motor Show in 1948, it created nothing short of a sensation in the automotive world.

The XK 120 offered a rare combination of astonishing speed, racecar handling, and the pleasure of driving a beautiful machine . . . all at a price of around \$4,000; substantially less than other cars that couldn't claim half its attributes. A total of 12,055 XK 120 roadsters, coupes, and drophead coupes were produced from 1948 to 1954 including 7,374 steel-bodied roadsters.

The elegant, curvaceous styling was the work of Sir William Lyons. The XK 120 got its name from the 120-mph top speed attained by prototypes including a top-speed run of 132.6-mph on the Jabbeke Highway in Belgium on May 30, 1949. Trend setting nearly 60 years ago, the car remains a milestone vehicle on either side of the Atlantic today.

Wearing a classic combination of British Racing Green over biscuit leather, this XK 120 is properly fitted with wheel discs and rear wheel spats. It benefits from a frame-off restoration over the last five years and the invoices and records from the restoration are included and available for inspection. The beautiful restoration features a gorgeous leather interior and is described as having great paint and chrome. This XK 120 is ready to show and tour at JCNA events.

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