
1979 Maserati Khamsin

Price	USD 172 499 GBP 125 000 (listed)	Drive	RHD
Year of manufacture	1979	Condition	Used
		Location	
		Exterior colour	Red
		Car type	Coupé
		Exterior brand colour	red

Description

Just like you can't find a Black Cab in London when it's raining, and then 3 pass you all in one go - well so it is for us with Maserati Khamsin's

Haven't had a good Maserati for years (think the last was our Bora, again in Red and RHD about 4 years ago) and then 2 Khamsin's come along, both at the same time

When only 22 were destined for our shores, and some of those were auto's, it makes our two seem rather precious

This one came to me through an old chum, who went to school with the last owner

He bought her about 15 years ago and hasn't done much mileage, although he has heaped quite a few quid on keeping her in excellent mechanical condition

The Khamsin shared garage space with another Maserati and he used a local Citroen / Maserati specialist in deepest Sussex to keep her tiptop

All hydraulic systems have been serviced and are up to speed, with strong brakes, a smooth, easy clutch and correctly powered steering with immediate self centering

The engine has been removed from the chassis recently and has been completely rebuilt, and whilst only a couple of thousand miles have been covered since, she absolutely flies.....and the stainless steel exhaust system emits the most evocative whale

We collected her from deepest Sussex and trundling along the single country lanes enabled me to get comfortable with her, filling her up with some super unleaded before some serious blasting along the local A & B roads before we connected with the A3

Easy performance is quickly at hand, with super sharp handle and instant acceleration, in any gear she has so much torque

The ZF 5 speed gearbox is almost unburstable and much like the unit in the Aston Vantage V8, although much easier to use with the smooth clutch and the movement between gears seems more fluid too

Cruising along you have to keep an eye on the speedo, as 100mph jumps at you so quickly and the lack of wind noise again, leaves you thinking you are using a much more modern motorcar

In town, with heavy rush hour traffic, she didn't miss a beat, temperature gauge didn't flutter at all and the electronic fans cut in, whenever they were needed

All in all, a most satisfying manner in which to travel

Original interior is really nice, with softly patinated leather to the seat faces, most comfortable to ride on as the stuffing has been replaced and whilst all carpets have been completely replaced by our own trim experts and are brand new

Outside the cosmetic condition is rather less sumptuous - Drummond, as the last owner, was more content that she ran well and to be fair she looks great on the other side of the Mews, although close up and against all of our other cars, she's not as smart

So a really usable Khamsin, in her original colours, with the last owner keeping her for the last 15 years, with lovely authentic interior, very strong mechanically whilst the bodywork is not good for a Concours event, except in the Patina section

The asking price indeed does reflect this, and I reckon this makes our Khamsin a real snip, especially as "Super Cars" of ilk, must outperform their market sector in the near future

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