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## 1948 Bentley 4 1/4 Litre

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Lot sold	<b>USD 93 174 - 133 106</b> GBP 70 000 - 100 000 (listed)	Drive	LHD
Year of manufacture	1948	Condition	Used
Chassis number	B38EY	Location	
Number of seats	2	Fuel type	Petrol
Drivetrain	2wd	Exterior colour	Other
Lot number	633		

### Description

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1948 Bentley Mark VI 4¼-Litre Drophead Coupé

Coachwork by Park Ward Ltd

Registration no. GUS 732

Chassis no. B38EY

The Autocar magazine was highly impressed with their Mark VI test car in the spring of 1950. 'Perhaps the outstanding thought from extensive driving of the Bentley MkVI built by the world's premier car manufacturers, Rolls-Royce, is that it has no single predominant feature but gains its unique position from a combination of superbly matched qualities that raise it above the level of other cars. Years of painstaking research and development with mechanical perfection as the goal show their results unmistakably. Smoothness and quietness and sheer quality are in the superlative.'

Despite the popularity of the standard steel body, a coachbuilt alternative remained the preferred choice of many customers. Indeed, anyone desiring a soft-top Rolls-Royce or Bentley had no alternative but to commission one from an independent coachbuilder, there being no factory-built alternative at this time.

With the passage of time many Mark VIs have lost their original bodywork, in many cases because it had deteriorated beyond economical repair. Not so this particular example, chassis number 'B38EY', which retains its original drophead coupé coachwork by Park Ward Ltd, a company that had been wholly owned by Rolls-Royce since 1939. Chassis number 'B38EY' is an early example of Park Ward's

well-balanced design, which unlike some contemporary offerings manages to maintain its sleek appearance with the top raised. It is estimated that only some 23 cars were completed in this particular style. The current vendor has owned 'B38EY' since March 2014.

The Bentley is attractively finished in silver metallic with a contrasting red coachline, and most unusually retains its original Navy Blue/grey leather interior. Described by the private vendor as in generally good condition, this handsome and rare coachbuilt Mark VI is offered with sundry bills and a V5C Registration Certificate.

## Bonhams 1793

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