
1937 Rolls-Royce Wraith

Lot sold	USD 13 276 - 15 931 GBP 10 000 - 12 000 (listed)	Drive	LHD
Year of manufacture	1937	Condition	Used
Chassis number	WXA5	Location	
Number of seats	2	Fuel type	Petrol
Drivetrain	2wd	Exterior colour	Other
Lot number	728		

Description

1937 Rolls-Royce Wraith Limousine Project

Registration no. RC 4624

Chassis no. WXA5

Development of the pre-war 'small' Rolls-Royce, which had begun in 1922 with the introduction of the 20hp, culminated in 1938 with the arrival of the Wraith. Replacement for the 25/30hp model, the Wraith retained its predecessor's engine dimensions for a capacity of 4,257cc, but almost every other aspect of its overhead-valve, six-cylinder engine was new, the most obvious difference being the adoption of a superior, cross-flow cylinder head, first seen on the 4¼-Litre Bentley. This extensively revised power unit was mounted in an equally new chassis. Like that of its larger sibling, the Phantom III, the Wraith's frame featured cruciform bracing and independent front suspension based on a General Motors design. It need hardly be stated that the Wraith improved on its predecessor's already high standards of silence and smoothness, though the benefits of the new engine's extra horsepower were largely offset by heavier coachwork. Sadly, production was curtailed by the outbreak of WW2 after just 491 cars had been built.

The fifth production chassis completed which is believed to be one of just 7 in this configuration, was purchased as a restoration project around eight years ago from the Realcar Co, Wales and has remained in dry storage since acquisition. The engine has been rebuilt but the car has not been run in as the electrics need rewiring it does however run. Offered for re-commissioning/restoration and sold

strictly as viewed, the car comes with copy chassis cards, a logbook, and a Certificate of Title.

Bonhams 1793

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<https://www.bonhams.com/auctions/25455/>

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