

CLASSIC DRIVER



1959 Mercedes-Benz SL 190 - 190 SL

190 SL

Lot sold	USD 0	Condition	Used
Year of manufacture	1959	Location	
Lot number	283	Exterior colour	Other
		Car type	Other

Description

To Be OFFERED AT AUCTION WITHOUT RESERVE at RM Sothebys' Amelia Island event, 6 - 7 March 2020.

Estimate:

\$110,000 - \$140,000

- Exquisitely restored, numbers-matching example
- Elegant and desirable original color combination
- Originally delivered to Paris for an American with dual citizenship
- Exceptionally well cared for, with only 46,650 miles

Please note that this lot is titled as a 1960.

The brainchild of legendary European car importer Max Hoffman, the first Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Roadster was designed to serve as a more lifestyle-oriented complement to the high-performance 300 SL 'Gullwing' coupe. Building on the Gullwing's racing-oriented, curvaceous shape, both the coupe and the subsequent roadsters shared in their design elements. The six-cylinder 300 SL and four-cylinder 190 SL models were both marketed to the well-to-do, but the latter vastly outsold its "big brother," proving that Hoffman's knack for success was unparalleled among automobile importers.

This stunning 190 SL is beautifully presented in its original color scheme of black over a tan leather interior, topped with a matching tan canvas convertible soft top. The attractive combination personifies class and accentuates the car's elegant and understated design. The first owner is

reported to be an American woman who held dual citizenships, as well as residences, in France and the United States. According to the Mercedes-Benz data card, the roadster was purchased new in Paris on 13 November 1959, but was also factory-equipped for US specification. The original owner would put the car's first miles on the odometer in Paris before eventually shipping the car to the States.

The 190 SL would make its way into a serious Mercedes-Benz collection where it and its 300 SL stablemate were treated to comprehensive, nut-and-bolt restorations. Since the restoration was completed, the car has lived a pampered life and has seen very limited use. Today the roadster is in outstanding condition. The paint and brightwork are impeccable, while the interior and engine bay are equally as impressive. Recently, the marque experts at European Auto Solutions performed a service and proper sorting to ensure continued reliable enjoyment of this classic Mercedes-Benz.

Exceptional in design, drivability, restoration quality, and collectability, this charming and elegant Mercedes-Benz roadster presents an exciting opportunity to acquire one of the finest 190 SLs available. To view this car and others currently consigned to this auction, please visit the RM website at rmsothebys.com/en/auctions/am20.

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