
1966 Mercedes-Benz SL Pagode

Lot sold	USD 56 815 - 79 541 EUR 50 000 - 70 000 (listed)	Drive	LHD
Year of manufacture	1966	Condition	Restored
Country VAT	FR	Location	
Lot number	61	Exterior colour	Red
		Car type	Convertible / Roadster

Description

French registration papers

- Important file of invoices and user manual
- Sold with her hard top
- Nice patina

Crowned with the international success of its 300 SL and 190 SL versions, Mercedes-Benz caused a sensation by unveiling its new roadster at the 1963 Geneva Motor Show: the 230 SL. Its elegant line tinged with sportiness seduces and highlights the talent of the young French designer Paul Bracq. In view of its hard top with a concave roof reminiscent of Buddhist monuments, the nickname "Pagoda" is added to the surname SL. It is automatically equipped with a 2.3-liter in-line 6-cylinder engine powered by Bosch direct injection which develops 150 hp and 22 mkg of torque. Regarding the transmission, it was fitted as standard with a 4-speed manual gearbox (5-speed optional) or a 4-speed automatic. With a top speed of 200 kph at the time, it was the embodiment of a performance GT without claiming the status of a true sports car. Nevertheless, the performances were there, as she won the Spa-Sofia-Liège rally in 1963 with Bohringer-Kaiser at the wheel. In addition, its first-rate habitability and the quality of finish were surprising for the time. Produced in 19,831 units until 1967, this small roadster was a real commercial success that will be confirmed for its little sisters with 2.5 and 2.8 liter engines.

The only car that was not produced before the Second World War, this Mercedes 230 SL Pagode is also the last to join the collection. This was the idea of Madame, she will acquire this car in 2007, to give it to her husband. Delivered new in France by the importer Royal-Elysées, this 230 SL is a coupe

version with hard-top and soft top. It was registered for the first time on December 6, 1966, this copy still bears its first registration to this day, 177 HF 86! She has therefore probably never left the department of Vienne for 54 years. This Mercedes has a beautiful patina, and seems to have been very well preserved over the years. Its signal red 568 paint seems to be original, the interior and in particular the leatherette upholstery is in good condition. Note that it is fitted with the ZF 5-speed manual gearbox, available as an option from August 1966.

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