
1993 Bentley Continental

Lot sold	USD 33 873 - 56 455 EUR 30 000 - 50 000 (listed)	Condition	Used
Year of manufacture	1993	Location	
Chassis number	SCBZB03DXPCX427	Exterior colour	Other
Lot number	32		

Description

1993 Bentley Continental R Coupé
Chassis no. SCBZB03DXPCX42711

By the end of the 1970s, Bentleys accounted for a mere 3% of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars' production, clearly a situation that could not be tolerated if the once-famous marque was to avoid extinction. The solution was to seek to re-establish Bentley's credentials as the purveyor of high-performance luxury cars, and in a move calculated to evoke memories of the company's glorious past achievements at Le Mans, the name 'Mulsanne' was chosen for the Rolls-Royce Silver Spirit's counterpart. This strategy would succeed brilliantly. Launched at the Geneva Motor Show in March 1982, the Mulsanne Turbo provoked a rash of headlines in the motoring press hailing the return of the 'Blower Bentley' - the 'Silent Sports Car' was back.

Bentley's 1980s resurgence had hitherto relied exclusively on models whose basic architecture was shared with other Rolls-Royce products, but on display at Geneva in 1985 was 'Project 90': a mocked-up coupé, styled by Messrs John Heffernan and Ken Greenley, which was intended to gauge public response to the idea of a high-performance car unique to Bentley. When the real thing - the Bentley Continental R - was unveiled six years later, the waiting crowd burst into spontaneous applause. Again the work of Heffernan and Greenley, the Continental R benefited from computer-aided design and wind tunnel testing in the devising of its sleekly streamlined shape. Despite the need to incorporate non-traditional features such as doors recessed into the roof, the result looked every bit a Bentley, albeit one restated for the 1990s. Also new was the gearbox: a four-speed automatic with 'overdrive' top ratio, but the main focus of interest was the newcomer's performance. Needless to

say, this was outstanding, the combination of the Turbo R engine in the new wind-cheating shape cutting the 0-60mph (0-97km/h) time to 6.2 seconds and boosting top speed in excess of 150mph (241km/h).

This particular Continental R was delivered new to Switzerland and has had only one owner from new. The car has covered circa 65,000 kilometres and has always been maintained by Bentley main dealer service centres. Finished in green with cream leather interior, it comes with its stamped service booklet and a Swiss Carte Grise.

Bonhams 1793

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