



A|B|C Live Auction Online (608)

Wed, 22nd Jul 2020

2005 Ford Thunderbird '50th Anniversary' No Reserve

Registration No: PL54AEV

Chassis No: 1FAHP60A85Y102784

Motor Car Location: Cheshire

- Entered from a deceased estate
- Current family ownership from new and just 29,000 miles (supported by MOT history and sundry bills)
- Fitted with an uprated Pioneer Satellite Navigation and Stereo system
- Reportedly 'only driven in dry weather and kept in a heated garage'
- Supplied new by American Car Imports of London at a cost of £35,995
- Medium Steel Blue with Black Ink heated leather bucket seats and a Black soft-top

Vendor Condition Ratings:

Bodywork: 'Very Good'

Engine: 'Very Good'

Electrical Equipment: 'Very Good'

Paintwork: 'Very Good'

Transmission: 'Very Good'

Interior Trim: 'Good'

Entered from a deceased estate, 'PL54 AEV' was supplied new to its late owner by American Car Imports of London at a cost of £35,995 which included UK SVA testing and road registration. As a 2005 model year car, the T-Bird came with '50th Anniversary' badges to each front wing and an associated book pack, while its Premium specification entailed heated seats and chrome aluminium alloy wheels. Reportedly 'only used in dry weather and always stored in a heated garage', the Ford's warranted low mileage of 29,000 is also attributable to the fact that its owner lived abroad for much of the time. Fitted with an uprated Pioneer Sat Nav and Audio system prior to delivery at a cost of an additional £3,300, almost all of the T-Bird's service history has been lost. Known to have been treated to eight new ignition coils and spark plugs by Karwowski Motors of Southport at 26,000 miles in July 2014, the Ford's modest odometer reading also tallies with its MOT history; certificates being issued at 8,915 miles (2008), 13,570 miles (2009), 15,945 miles (2010), 19,592 miles (2011), 23,611 miles (2012), 25,832 miles (2013), 26,316 miles (2014), 27,160 miles (2015), 28,065 miles (2016), 28,775 miles (2017) and 29,094 miles (2018).

Refused a MOT certificate when submitted for testing on 6th March 2020 at 29,121 miles, the following faults were noted: Driver's seat backrest cannot be secured in the upright position, incorrect coloured rear indicator lenses (never previously a failure point), passenger's seat backrest cannot be secured in the upright position, leaking offside rear shock absorber, slight play to the offside rear upper anti-roll bar linkage ball joint, slightly perishing tyres (x4) and eight suspension component dust covers which are no longer preventing the ingress of dirt. The engine passed the emissions part of the test and started readily during our

recent photography session. The T-Bird has amassed some minor dents and scratches over the years and the plastic chrome to its windscreen surround has started to bubble due to oxidation underneath. There is some wear to the driver's seat squab and the convertible hood is in working order. The generous specification encompasses cruise control, traction control, electric windows, air-conditioning, power seats and power mirrors etc. Offered for sale with UK V5C Registration Document, book pack, sundry invoices, MOT history and the original stereo unit should a new owner wish to reinstate it.

Model Background:

Overseen by Ford's Vice President of Design, Jack Telnack and previewed in prototype guise at the 1999 North American Auto Show, the eleventh generation Ford Thunderbird was awash with self-consciously retro styling cues. Based on the same Ford DEW98 rear-wheel drive platform as the Jaguar S-Type and Lincoln LS, the newcomer was equipped with all-round independent suspension, four-wheel disc brakes and power steering. Envisaged as more of a cruiser than a sports car, the T-Bird was powered by a 3.9 litre DOHC V8 engine allied to five-speed automatic transmission. Early versions boasted 252bhp and 267lbft of torque. However, the introduction of a revised AJ-35 unit complete with variable valve timing in 2003 saw outputs increase to 280bhp and 286lbft of torque. Performance improved too with Car and Driver magazine finding one capable of 0-60mph in 6.5 seconds and over 150mph. Despite starring in the 2003 James Bond film 'Die Another Day', the eleventh generation Thunderbird achieved just 68,098 sales over four years of production. Needless to say they remain a rare sight on UK roads.