



Imperial War Museum Duxford (182)

Wed, 19th Jun 2019

Lot 30

1990 Mercedes-Benz 500 SL ex-Sir Stirling Moss OBE

Registration No: H7 SMX

Chassis No: WDB1290662F019194

Mot Expiry: May 2020

- Ordered new by Sir Stirling Moss OBE and registered as 7 SM , now carrying H 7SM X

- Pictured with Sir Stirling in the book of great drives in the Lakes and Dales

- Special order to Sir Stirling's requirements which is documented

- Only 62000 warranted miles

- All Mots on file from the 1st in 1993

- Soft top and factory hard top with stand

- Finest colour combination of Silver with Blue leather interior

Owning a car formerly the property of no less a motor racing legend than Sir Stirling Moss OBE, has got to be a bonus for any motoring enthusiast, and Mercedes aficionados in particular. Certainly, many motorsport historians still rate his victory in the 1955 Mille Miglia aboard the mighty 300 SLR as the greatest racing feat yet achieved - he beat the reigning World Champion Fangio into second place by a staggering 32 minutes, by completing the 992 mile course in a disdainful 10 hours, 7 minutes and 48 seconds. That's an average speed of 97.95mph (157kph)!

Hopefully his pace aboard this lovely 500 SL was a shade gentler - it is certainly in fine order and has still only covered 62,798 warranted miles. It originally wore his personal registration '7 SM', but retains a link through its current plate 'H 7SM X'. The car is finished in the pleasing combination of Silver bodywork matched to Blue leather interior trim and features in Stirling's book of 'Great Drives in the Lakes and Dales'. It was built to order for him, and his personal requirements are documented in the history file that also contains all the car's old MOTs from the first in 1993, plus a current one valid into June 2020. The Benz comes complete with both a soft top and a hard top with stand and, of course, that priceless connection to one of the greatest racing drivers of all time.

The fourth (R129 Series) SL was unveiled at the Geneva Motor Show of 1989. It was a beautifully-engineered car that bristled with technical refinement and innovative safety features. The specification included independent suspension all round (double wishbone at the front/five link system at the rear), adaptive damping, ventilated disc brakes with ABS, electronic stability control, integral roll-over bar and front air bags.