



Spring 2021 Classics & Collectables Auction

Wed, 28th Apr 2021

Lot 38

Estimate: £12000 - £13000 + Fees

1998 Mercedes-Benz SL 500

Chassis No. - WDB1290672F166144

Registration - R959 XWO

M.O.T. - August 2021

Odometer – 73,000

This truly superb-looking early 129-Series model was manufactured in 1998 and first registered in the UK in February 2004. It is finished in an attractive shade of blue and upholstered in cream beige leather, the effect of which is enhanced by the subtle use of polished wood trim on the doors, centre console and steering wheel. The footwells have the added protection of Mercedes-Benz logoed carpet mats. A remarkably tidy example, 'R959 XWO' is thought by the vendor to be 'one of the best SL 500s in the country' and he assures us that it 'drives very well'. He believes it was once part of private collection and has been maintained to a high standard. Certainly it possesses a good service history from new, the last addition to which was in September last year, when the odometer read 72,100 miles; since when it has travelled a mere 800 miles. The big Benz is now being offered complete with both hard and soft tops and an MOT valid into August of this year. The combination of comfort, build quality and performance offered by the model are hard to beat at today's values.

Mercedes has long been renowned for the inherent safety of its vehicles, and the R129 model was the first roadster to feature the automatic deployment of a rollbar in the event of a rollover accident, and the first passenger vehicle to have seat belts integrated into the seats. Ultimately powered by no less than 13 different engines, the R129 was launched with the choice of a 3.0-litre six-cylinder unit (the SL 300) or the 5.0-litre V8 powerplant of 322bhp as fitted to the sale car. SL 500 owners of note include Diana, Princess of Wales.

In summary:

- Exceptional condition
- Hard and soft tops
- Good service history from new