



1972 Mercedes-Benz 600

Some Interesting Facts...

- 1 The Mercedes-Benz 600 (W100) was the flagship car of the range. It was coach built to order and was the most awe-inspiring, luxurious car of its time. Production started in September 1964 and by 1981 2,190 of the standard wheelbase cars and 487 of the long wheelbase cars had been produced.
- 2 It was an immensely strong unitary construction model, with front and rear crumple zones. 50 bhp of the engine's output was used to run the auxiliary systems. Three compressors for the air conditioning, brakes and air suspension, plus a pump for the high pressure hydraulic circuit needed to power all the interior adjustments.
- 3 The M 100 engine is a 6,332 cc V8, with an OHC on both cylinder banks. Power of 250 bhp at 4,000 rpm and torque of 369 lb/ft at 2,800 rpm gave an incredible top speed of 130 mph. The car weighed 5,445 lbs, so at those speeds, its 10 mpg was quite reasonable until the fuel crisis of 1973, when sales dropped sharply.
- 4 Only four 600s were imported to Ireland, three of which are still in the country and all in running order. The first car was imported in 1969 and sold by the Ever-Ready Garage in Donnybrook, to a Mr Tommy McLoughlin. The second and fourth (1972) were for the founder of Motor Distributors Ltd., Mr Stephen O'Flaherty. The third car was sold by MSL Ballsbridge Motors to Mr Tom Roche of Roadstone.
- 5 This 1972 car, originally owned by Mr Stephen O'Flaherty, was sold to a Mr Kevin McNamee and it was kept parked outdoors under trees in Clonskeagh, Dublin where its condition deteriorated. The ownership then changed to a Mr John McHugo in Rathgar, Dublin who used it for a couple of years. In 1986 it was bought by Motor Distributors Ltd. and in 1990 a major programme of restoration work was carried out at Europa Cars, in preparation for the upcoming wedding of Karenina O'Flaherty, eldest daughter of Mr Nigel O'Flaherty.