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## Aston Martin DB2 Vantage

Byron International



<b>colour</b>	Orient Blue
<b>interior colour</b>	Beige
<b>drive</b>	RHD
<b>type</b>	Saloon
<b>year</b>	1952
<b>Chassis No.</b>	LML/50/248
<b>Engine No.</b>	LB6B/50/588
<b>price</b>	45.000 GBP
<b>VAT</b>	No

The original factory records show this car being delivered to its first owner, Captain Wilson, in Norfolk on 31st October 1952. Its original delivery colour was Orient Blue with Beige upholstery and the engine was uprated to Vantage specification on 5th October 1953 when the recorded mileage was 5,458. By the time of the next record of service history, October 1957, the car had covered 49,907 miles and there was substantial refurbishment with a new rear axle, other service items and paint repair to the bonnet. The car moved to London for its second owner, W Slocombe of Neasden and then to SP Windfield of Bruton Street London W1. A copy of the old style log book shows the car being with a James Cooke in Dorking before coming into the ownership of Robin Willett in Biggin Hill in 1970. It was shortly after this move, that the current owner first came across the car in 1972. The car was in daily use as every day transport for its owner and finally came into the ownership of the current owner in 1981. The car has been dry stored since that date and the owner, with the assistance of specialists appropriate to the work in hand, has undertaken a painstakingly detailed restoration project on the car. That restoration is only part way complete. It means that this represents an outstanding and unusual opportunity for an enthusiast or collector to acquire a car that has the foundations of restoration complete, but retains the scope to apply their own individual skills, choices and detail to the finished car. In outline terms, progress of the restoration to date includes:

- Chassis : Seats, carpets, floor sections, engine and gearbox removed. Chassis sandblasted to remove all rust, painted using an etch primer (Armourbond) and cellulose semi-matt top coat.
- Rear Axle: Stripped, cleaned and painted, new inner bearings, oil seals and gaskets.
- Rear Suspension : Stripped, cleaned and painted. New steel eyes (chassis end) bushes and bolts (both ends) and new check straps.
- Steering, Front Axle and Suspension: Stripped, cleaned and painted. New eccentric spindles and bushes, trailing link pins, needle rollers outer tracks and seals.
- Brakes: New wheel cylinders, knifer pipes and flexible hoses. Master cylinder refurbished.
- Petrol Tank: Cleaned and inside tank coated with tank sealer.
- Pedal assembly: Stripped, cleaned and painted.
- Wiring loom: New loom purchased but not fitted. New battery/ isolator leads.
- Instrument panel: Varnish removed, wood polished, instruments cleaned and refitted.
- Lights: New side, indicator and brake lights. Headlights cleaned.
- Engine: Turned over on a regular basis – new starting handle dog.
- Heater: Stripped, cleaned and painted.
- Body: Paint removed, corroded areas cut out and new aluminium panels shaped and welded in. Wired edges of front inner wheel arches reformed using aluminium wire. Front inner wheel arches to be fitted to bonnet.
- Seats: Treated with hide food at various intervals. New stainless steel seat back pivot screws made up and fitted.
- Various parts: Steering column, washer bottle, pedal assembly, horns, air filters, engine fan, petrol pumps, wiper motors, starter solenoid, isolator switch, prop shaft, under-floor, aerial all cleaned and/or painted as appropriate and ready for re-assembly into car. What those key points cannot express is the meticulous approach that the owner has taken to this job. Whilst the photographs show near perfect shut lines on the refurbished bonnet, they cannot adequately show the care taken in the shaping of all the other panels including the front and rear valances. They can't show the choices for a future owner – the seats with the central panels with wear but no damage, just a small tear in an outer panel – renew the lot or retain that wonderful patina of age and history. The owner has other projects taking him away from this project and he is keen to see the car completed by a new owner. As a memento, he has the handcrafted model he has made of LML/50/248 – it will act as a reminder of the project and a symbol of his own craftsman's skills.

✓ Petrol

