

ASKING
£7995
PRICE



CHASING CARS

1971 DATSUN BLUEBIRD

ENGINE 1595cc/4-cyl/OHC **POWER** 96bhp@5600rpm **TORQUE** 100lb ft@3000rpm
MAXIMUM SPEED 98mph **0-60MPH** 13.9sec **FUEL CONSUMPTION** 27-34mpg
TRANSMISSION RWD, four-speed man **MoT** 12 months on sale **ODOMETER** 19,657km

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO DRIVE?

The engine starts instantly and runs extremely well with no sign of overheating or leakage even in stop-start traffic. This car is something of a revelation to drive. The engine feels torquey and flexible and the steering, ride and roadholding are very good. All of this suggests that this is an extremely fine example of the breed. It's more than happy in traffic and cruises well. The brakes inspire confidence and bring the car to a quick, dignified halt. The transmission appears to be in first class order with no unexpected clunks. Gear changes aren't notchy and there's no judder or slip on the rather light pedal. In fact we could find absolutely nothing amiss with the way that this car drives.

BODYWORK CHECK

This car has been restored to a high standard. The Olive Green paintwork positively gleams and is free from any noticeable blemishes. It looks great underneath with not the slightest hint of corrosion and we could find no signs of any welding. The brightwork

EXTERIOR
Excellent resto
No signs of corrosion

INTERIOR
Recent new carpets and headlining

MECHANICALS
Immaculate engine and bay

looks original and has stood up extremely well to 54 years of existence. There's a small amount of pitting on the vents on the rear quarter panels but this is nothing and we understand that replacements are available. All of the panel gaps are perfect and there are no obvious ripples in the bodywork.

HOW'S THE INTERIOR?

How has this interior survived so well? We gather that the carpets and headlining have been replaced but everything else is as Datsun dispatched from the factory. The vinyl seats are unmarked and the rears have the added bonus of badges incorporated into them. The door trims are

excellent, the dashboard is free from cracks and scratches and all of the instruments appear to be working as they should.

UNDER THE BONNET

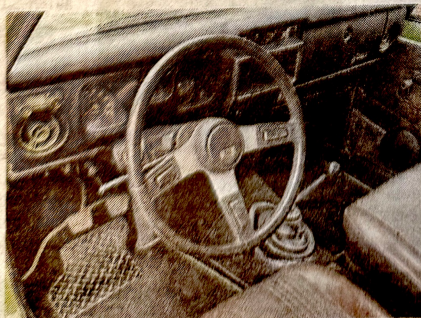
This car's engine bay is in first class order with no signs of corrosion or deterioration. There are no cracks or other evidence of wear in any of the wiring or rubber components. These cars have a global enthusiast following so there shouldn't be a huge problem with getting most parts.

THE CCW VIEW

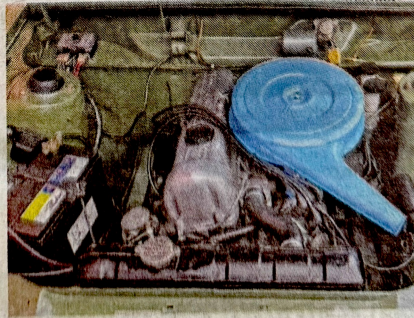
We can't help but love this Datsun, which spent 49 years with a family in Patras, Greece, before being sold to a collector in 2020 who drove the car 300 miles home. It's great fun to drive, being surprisingly responsive and refined and has an agreeable habit of attracting attention, often from people asking if it's Italian. A great car for shows which could easily be pressed into use if required. Incidentally it has been issued with a UK registration number since our test.

Nick Larkin

- ✓ **PROS** Great condition and loads of period charm
- ✗ **CONS** Left-hand-drive, minor chrome pitting



Interior is in mostly original, excellent condition.



Overhead-cam engine is torquey and responsive.

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