



HERITAGE TRUST

1963 Jaguar E-Type Series 1 Coupé

Sir William Lyons' favourite version of the E-type

This car was built on 8 October 1963 and was originally finished in Opalescent Silver Blue with Dark Blue interior trim. It was sold in London, with an original registration mark of GS 55 but was later re-registered under 410 PE before finally being allocated the age-related mark YKE 374A. Although the mileage of 61,000 is believed genuine, it was completely restored in previous ownership and was then re-finished in Red with Biscuit trim. It was bought by Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust in January 2003.

The E-type created a sensation when it was launched at the Geneva Motor Show in March 1961. Here was a beautiful sports car with the promise of a top speed of 150mph, available for little more than £2,000 in the home market. The open car was the work of aerodynamicist Malcolm Sayer and was derived from his D-type racing car. However, Sir William Lyons insisted that there should also be a fixed-head coupé version of the car. This design was created by Bob Blake, and became Sir William's favourite E-type.

In mechanical terms, the E-type continued to use the three-carburettor 3.8 litre XK engine with a 9:1 compression ratio and 265bhp (gross) which had been introduced in the XK150 3.8S model. Similarly, the four wheel disc brake system was by now an established Jaguar feature. New was Bob Knight's independent coil spring rear suspension, and while the body was basically of monocoque construction, it had a front subframe for the engine.

At launch, the E-type coupé cost £2,197 but by 1963, with a reduction in Purchase Tax, this had actually come down to £1,913. While the top speed of the original press car 9600 HP on test with The Autocar in 1961 had been measured as 150mph, few standard production cars would reach the magic figure - but they came close!

From 1961 to 1964, Jaguar made 7,671 3.8 litre coupés, of which 1,799 had right-hand drive, and 1,559 were sold in the home market, where the coupé was more popular than the open two-seater.

Registration mark:	YKE 374A	Engine:	3,781 cc, 6 cyl
Chassis number:	861301	Price new:	£1,913
Owner:	The Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust	Inventory no:	139/J.83