



1969 Jaguar 240 Saloon

One of the last 240 Saloons built

This Warwick Grey car, fitted with the optional overdrive, was built in March 1969 and is only about 130 cars from the last 240. It was originally sold through Mann Egerton to an owner in Burton-on-Trent.

By September 1967, Jaguar was rationalising its saloon car range, which meant that the existing Mark II models were re-designated as the 240 and the 340, falling in line with the new 420 model. Changes included the fitting of slimmer bumpers as seen on the S-type, and a new design of hubcaps. The fog and spot lamps were deleted, being replaced by a pair of chromed grilles. Ambla upholstery was standard, with leather as an option. On the whole, the revised cars were not as generously equipped as before.

The 3.8 litre engine was discontinued, and only the 2.4 litre and 3.4 litre versions were available (although a few 340 models were delivered with the larger, 3.8 litre engine to special order). The engines were modified with straight port heads. The 240 now had twin SU carburettors, which meant that power of 133bhp and performance were improved over the 2.4 litre Mark II. Top speed was 106 mph (171 km/h), and the car reached 60 mph in 12 seconds.

The prices of the cars were £1,365 for the 240 - described as 'the best Jaguar bargain of all time' - and £1,422 for the 340. The 340 stayed in production until September 1968, with 2,800 vehicles being produced, whilst the 240 continued until April 1969, with 4,446 vehicles being built.

Afterwards, Jaguar concentrated on the new XJ range, of which a 2.8 litre version was the nearest replacement for the Mark II. The compact Jaguar temporarily passed into history, after total production of almost 146,000 cars of all the different models in the 'Mark I' and Mark II ranges from 1955 to 1969. Compact sports saloons were not re-introduced to the Jaguar range until thirty years later, with the S-TYPE in 1998 and the X-TYPE in 2001.

Registration mark: XRE 138G (01/04/1969)
Chassis number: 1J/4585-DN
Owner: The Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust

Engine: 2,483 cc, 6 cyl
Price new: £1,365
Inventory no: 066/J.26