

what drives us?

GLEN MACDONALD'S 1997 Aston Martin DB7 Volante



Glen and Joanne

What Drives Us ...

Name: Glen MacDonald

Name of Family Members? Joanne MacDonald, Alex MacDonald, Hilary MacDonald

What type of vehicle is it and what makes it special? 1997 Aston Martin DB7 Volante.

What makes it special? It's an Aston Martin! Isn't that enough? Ok - here is a bit more. The DB7 was both a whole new direction for Aston Martin and also a return to their roots. It broke with the V8 engines and squared-off lines of the 1980's Aston Martins. Designed by Scotsman Ian Callum, the DB7 offered sophisticated engineering and materials but returned to a more sensuous shape that echoed the classic DB4-DB6 series Aston Martins of the 1960s. It also featured an inline six-cylinder engine like those earlier cars, but with the addition of a supercharger. It was a smashing success and became the highest produced Aston Martin automobile ever.

When did you get the car or how did you come to own it? I have owned and restored various British cars over the years, but never an Aston Martin. I noticed that DB7 prices were relatively reasonable a couple of years back. I had just finished the restoration of a 1960s Jaguar E-type, which I then sold at auction. I saw that the profit from the Jag could get me into an Aston Martin - so the hunt was on. I searched nationwide for several months and finally saw my DB7 for sale right here in the Los Angeles area.

Is there a special reason why you choose this vehicle? It's an Aston Martin! They are just such classy British grand tourers. Members of the Royal Family from Prince Charles to Prince William and his wife the Duchess of Cambridge have owned and driven them. In addition, my whole family is crazy about the James Bond movies. Aston Martin is the signature Bond car - and that DB5 featured in *Goldfinger* was my boyhood dream car. In the case of this particular Aston Martin - the color and interior are so beautiful and it was in fantastic shape with less than 25,000 miles on the clock. It was the one for me!

Are you part of a group of similar auto enthusiasts? I have belonged to the Aston Martin Owners Club, but that is on hold

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while the pandemic has locked us down. I am a member and judge for, the Rolls Royce Owners Club/Bentley Drivers Club. I also belong to the Central Coast British Car Club.

What do you love about this vehicle? It's an Aston Martin! No other sports car has that air of purposeful driving coupled with refinement and noble bearing. It is a gentleman's and gentlewoman's ultimate automobile. I think my wife, Joanne, loves it as much as I do. Oh, and, of course, there is also a fellow names Bond, James Bond ...

Other info or advice for auto enthusiasts? I have friends who pine after a fun classic car, but never get the nerve to pull the trigger. The ones who have bought are having a blast. So, don't sit on the sidelines – get in the game!



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