

# AMELIA ISLAND AUCTIONS – 2017



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I drove the 350 miles from home to Amelia Island last week, to take a look at the auction scene. The Concours itself, the highlight of the weekend, was moved from Sunday back to Saturday as heavy rain was expected on Sunday.

Of the three auctions that I attended, Bonhams, Goodings and RM Sothebys, all went pretty much as expected. The conclusion I draw is that prices have more or less stayed up for the really good cars, whilst there has been a softening at the bottom/middle of the market, although not by a lot. For me, the highlights were that a 1987 BMW M6, with just 7,000 miles on it sold at Bonhams for over \$70k, whilst a Porsche GT1 (street version) sold at Goodings for \$5.3 million. They also sold a Mazda 767B Group C car for \$1.62m and this wasn't the 1991 Le Mans 24 Hours winning 787B!

Goodings also had a 1957 Jaguar XKSS, which was bid up to \$11.9m but did not sell. The estimate was \$16 to 18m. RM/Sothebys saw a 1974 Porsche RS3.0 that I had acquired for the consignor some years ago (and had accompanied him in on the Tour Auto) sell for \$1.25m and, by comparison, Goodings also sold a 1977 Porsche 934/5 for \$1.25m. All these prices are before commission, usually around 10%.

It got me to thinking: Ever heard of a Dutch auction? That's the one where the auctioneer starts with the highest estimated price and then gradually reduces the price until someone raises their bidding paddle. That would create some sweaty brows on both sides of the seller/buyer equation, methinks...

Photos of some of the cars seen at Amelia can be seen below.

















































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