

Unique opportunity for the serious collector:  
**ONE OF ONLY TWO DISCOVERY 2  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY MODELS EVER MADE**



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**AT LEOMINSTER  
MONDAY  
25 MAY 2020  
BIDDING OPENS  
10:00 HOURS**

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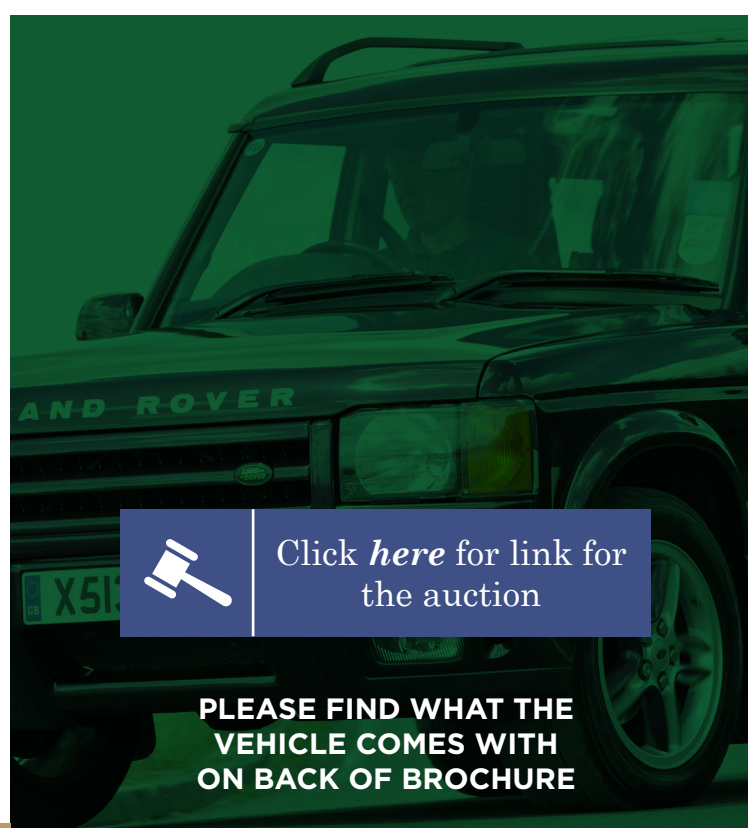
Bidding Opens Monday 25 May at 10am

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**LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 2  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY**



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the auction

**PLEASE FIND WHAT THE  
VEHICLE COMES WITH  
ON BACK OF BROCHURE**





# Land Rover Discovery 2

## Autobiography



This is one of only two Land Rover Discovery 2 *Autobiography* models ever made. It was conceived by Land Rover Special Vehicles as a promotional/feasibility vehicle to promote the planned Discovery *Autobiography* programme, and first registered on 7 November 2000. The other Discovery *Autobiography*, finished in dark green metallic, also with a V8 engine but mated to an automatic gearbox, was registered a month later on 7 December 2000.

The intention of the Discovery *Autobiography* programme was to capitalise on the success of the Range Rover P38A *Autobiography* which had sold enormously well in the 1990s. In addition to the two Discovery *Autobiography* examples, three Freelander *Autobiography* models were also produced.

The October 2000 press release offered a huge specification

for Discovery and Freelander *Autobiography* models: it is believed that this example would have retailed at around £62,000 – taking it well into Range Rover territory.

Following Ford’s acquisition of Land Rover, it was decided not to proceed with the *Autobiography* programme for either the Discovery or the Freelander. The reasons for this are unclear: one story is that after hawking both models around dealers in the UK, Canada and the USA, the retail view was that there wasn’t a market for an *Autobiography* version of either vehicle. Dealers apparently pointed out that whilst potential Range Rover buyers had almost limitless budgets for “personalised” vehicles of this type, the Discovery and Freelander clientele were further down the financial ladder, with the result that a Discovery costing as much as some Range Rovers would not sell.

The other story is that Ford’s initial goal was to integrate Land Rover into the Ford empire and that they did not want to embark on entrepreneurial, but potentially risky, projects at that stage in their ownership of Land Rover.

Whatever the reasons, the project was terminated in March 2001 and the vehicles sold off. The other Discovery – VRN X 518 JOH – is somewhere in the UK and is said to have been converted to LPG. It is believed to be currently on SORN.

*Autobiography* X 513 JOH has covered less than 166,000 miles in the hands of its 6 owners (including Land Rover Special Vehicles and the present owner) – an average approximately 8,500 miles per year. A replacement engine with top hat liners was fitted at 112,303 miles. Following this work, it has been serviced and maintained for the last 6.5 years by Guy Salmon Land Rover Northampton.

This *Autobiography* is entirely original in specification apart from the rear parking sensors fitted by the present owner and the rear VEBA DVD player and screens. At launch the vehicle was fitted with a VHS player for the rear seat passengers together with Necvox colour monitors in the rear of the front head restraints. When the present owner purchased the vehicle in 2013 the VHS player had been lost and one of the Necvox monitor was faulty and not repairable. The VHS player manufacturer had ceased trading and Necvox no longer produced monitors of the correct size. It was therefore decided to install a VEBA DVD system which is as close to the original ICE as is possible to achieve.

 Click [here](#) for link for the auction



### KEY MILESTONES IN THE LIFE OF X 513 JOH:

- 24 May 2000** Date of build
- 20 October 2000** Launched at British International Motor Show Birmingham (actual launch vehicle)
- 7 November 2000** Date of first registration
- 21 March 2002** Acquired from Land Rover by Mr Bruce Pike of Billingshurst
- 30 October 2003** Acquired by Mr Lionel Greaves of Richmond
- 10 February 2007** Acquired by Mr Glenn Everest of Uckfield
- 1 February 2008** Acquired by Mr Stephen Powell of Tunbridge Wells
- 10 September 2013** Acquired by present owner
- 21 October 2013** Replacement engine (top hat liners) and clutch fitted at 112,303 miles
- December 2015** Special feature article by James Taylor in *Land Rover Owner International* magazine
- 9 July 2016** Selected by Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) for 60th Anniversary line-up Gaydon
- 5 August 2017** Selected by IAM for Members/Family Day line-up Silverstone
- 30 June 2018** Participated in Guinness World Records largest parade of Land Rovers/Range Rovers Great Billing, Northamptonshire.





## THIS VEHICLE COMES WITH:

- 01** Full service history documented in Land Rover Service Record Book, supported by detailed invoices from both the current and immediate previous owners.
- 02** Large presentation folder with comprehensive documentation and photographs.
- 03** All past MoT certificates (with the exception of 2008 and 2012).
- 04** £17,000 independent valuation report by IAEA Assessor 14 November 2019.
- 05** BMIH Certificate
- 06** Detailed Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) history
- 07** Original Launch Press Release and 2 original Launch photos.
- 08** Guinness World Record Certificate and souvenir items for largest parade of Land Rover and Range Rover vehicles, Great Billing, Northamptonshire 30 June 2018.
- 09** Feature article from Land Rover Owner International magazine December 2015.



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