



LOTUS CARS LIMITED

Potash Lane, Hethel,
Norwich, Norfolk,
NR14 8EZ England

t +44 (0) 1953 608 000
lotuscars.com

23rd November 2023

Dear Mr Banyard,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding your 1973 Lotus Europa Special. Please find enclosed your Classic Certificate of Provenance. These documents provide the detail from the original record from when the car left the factory, held against the VIN supplied. They do not cover any changes made since leaving production and do not verify the current condition.

The VIN supplied for your Lotus Europa was 73023089R which can be broken down into the date of manufacture (7302=1973, February), the unit number (3089) and the market/model specification (R=type 74 Federal/North American Europa). The original engine number was S29109 which can be broken down into the engine specification (S=big valve, standard compression engine for the Federal specification Europa) and the serial number (29109). The transmission number was 1572 which was a 5-speed gearbox.

The original body colour was Tawny metallic, Lotus paint code L16 (for some reason L15 was incorrectly stamped on the VIN plate) and being a 'Special' model, it would have the 'Special' gold pin striping as standard. The interior trim was black vinyl. Factory optional extras recorded are metallic paint, 5-speed gearbox, 'Brand Lotus' alloy wheels and tinted glass all round. The car was factory assembled in LHD to Federal specification and was signed from production on the 21st of February 1973. The car was invoiced from Lotus on the 23rd of February 1973 under invoice number 12553 as part of a consignment to distributor Lotus Canada who were based in Toronto, Ontario and they would retain any further history once the car enters Canada.

The Federal Lotus Europa Special was introduced in September 1972 from unit number 2684R with the last unit number being 4710R, but this unit number sequence covers the following markets: USA, Canada and Japan (all recorded being LHD).

Prior to 1970, all Lotus VIN consisted of type number/unit number. The date of manufacture section of the VIN was added to meet legislation in certain territories and adopted by the factory worldwide, however many admin staff and distributors still used the old shorthand format, which for this car would be 74/3089R. Therefore, any paperwork with 3089R at the end, all relates to this one car as this unit number was unique.

I hope you find this information of interest and you enjoy your Europa ownership.

Regards,

Andy Graham
Lotus Archives