



ANTIQUE MOTORCYCLES - ACCESSORIES AND RELATED ITEMS

**NIMBUS 1940 746CC 4 CYL OHV 2903**



**SOLD**





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### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

#### **Nimbus 1940 "Special" 746 cc OHC four frame & engine # 5897**

Nimbus motorcycles were manufactured by the firm of Fisker & Nielsen of Copenhagen.

This company was formed in 1905 to manufacture electric motors; in 1910 the Nilfisk electric vacuum cleaner was marketed.

This product was a great success and it was soon sold in many countries all over the world. In 1919 the first Nimbus four motorcycle was brought out.

It was a remarkable design, since no steel tubing was used in the frame.

Instead flat steel strips were used with the long, cylindrical petrol tank welded in place. Front and rear springing were available.

This remarkable design was soon dubbed "the stove pipe" because of the distinct shape of the petrol tank. In 1928 the firm was no longer able to cope with large scale production of both motorcycles and vacuum cleaners, so it was decided to end motorcycle production, after some 1,300 machines had been made. This decision was soon regretted: in 1934 a new building was commissioned and the "Nimbus II" was brought out in April of that year.

The flat steel strip frame was in common with the "stove pipe", but most other features were totally new: the top half of the crankcase was cast in one piece with the ribbed air cooled cylinder block.

The iron cylinder head sported an overhead camshaft.

The crankshaft drove the overhead camshaft through the upright mounted dynamo via sets of bevel gears.

The engine delivered 18 HP and the total weight of the motorcycle was around 180 kg.

Minor modifications were made in the years before the war and around 1940 the customer could choose from 4 different specifications: the utilitarian "Standard" that was still fitted with hand change and had little chrome plating, the "Sport" with upswept exhaust, bigger 180 mm front brake and more powerful engine, the "Luksus" with more elaborate finish and finally the "Special". This machine had the 22 HP engine and the bigger front brake of the "Sport" but also featured a slightly different front suspension.

Nimbus motorcycles were mainly sold in Denmark and were extensively employed by the Danish army and postal service.

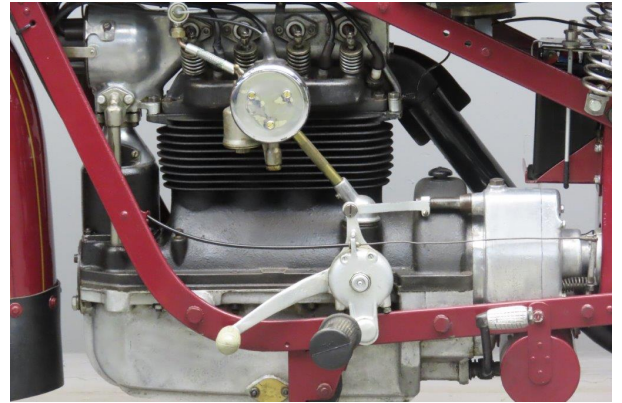
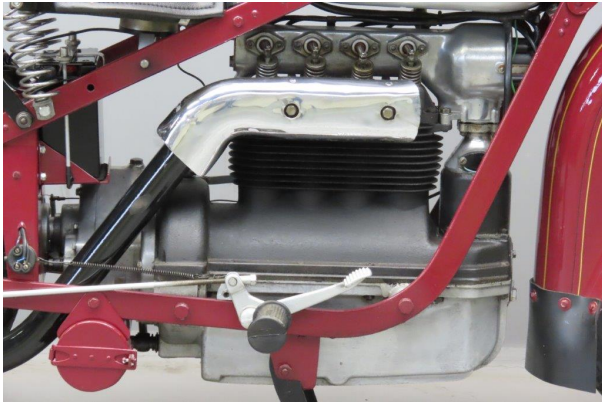
Many were fitted with a sidecar and gave long and faithful service as a delivery combination. In all 12,715 were produced between 1934 and 1959.

It's a pleasant and unusual design with a good spares situation.

The machine we offer here has been restored with care and is in excellent running condition.



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