TVR TASMIN / 280i / 350i / 390SE (WEDGE)

Engine: **Ford 2.8L Cologne V6 (Tasmin/280i) / Rover 3.5L & 3.9L V8 (350i/390SE)**
Chassis: **Tubular Steel Spaceframe w/ Bonded GRP Wedge Body**

PRE-PURCHASE BUYER'S FIELD INSPECTION SHEET (1980–1990)

VEHICLE REGISTRATION	CHASSIS / VIN NUMBER	RECORDED MILEAGE	ASKING PRICE
.....	.....	.....	£ .....

1. CRITICAL STRUCTURAL & CHASSIS TRAPS

MULTI-TUBE SPACEFRAME & GRP WEDGE

PASS	INSPECTION POINT	SPECIFIC WEAR INDICATOR & DEFECT SIGN
☐	**Chassis Outriggers & Backbone Rails**	CRITICAL: Tubular steel spaceframe. Road spray thrown from front tyres rots the main central backbone tubes and the perimeter floor outriggers internally.
☐	**Rear Trailing Arm & Diff Cradle Welds**	Jaguar-type independent rear suspension. Check the tubular differential cradle and trailing arm chassis mounting brackets for stress cracking and rot.
☐	**Body-to-Chassis Mounting Tabs & Sills**	Wedge GRP body bolts to steel perimeter tabs. Inspect where the fiberglass floor and sill returns bolt to the chassis tubes for torn mounting holes and shell cracks.
☐	**Pop-Up Headlamp Pods & Cowl**	TR7-derived pop-up headlamp pods. Check motor linkage pivots, vacuum switches, and check sharp fiberglass nose cone edges for gelcoat starburst crazing.

2. MECHANICAL TRIAGE & RUNNING GEAR

COLD START TO OPERATING TEMP

PASS	SYSTEM / COMPONENT	TARGET TOLERANCES & OPERATIONAL CHECKS
☐	**Cologne 2.8i V6 vs Rover V8 Health** **Spec: 40–50 Cold | 20+ Hot**	On 280i (Cologne V6): check Bosch K-Jetronic warm restart behavior. On 350i/390SE (Rover V8): listen for camshaft lobe clatter and dry hydraulic lifters on cold crank.
☐	**Rover LT77 / Ford Type 9 5-Speed**	Check 2nd and 3rd synchros on rapid downshifts; listen for mainshaft bearing rumble in neutral that stops when clutch is depressed; check reverse selection.
☐	**Inboard Rear Disc Brakes**	Jaguar-based rear axle with inboard discs. Inspect calipers for seized handbrake mechanisms and check diff output shaft seals for oil soaking the brake pads.
☐	**Cooling System & Nose Cowl Clearance**	Severe under-bonnet heat. Check twin electric cooling fan operation, radiator matrix cleanliness, and check expansion bottle for boiling after hot shutdown.

Model & Identity Verification: Stamped chassis plate in engine bay on passenger firewall. Prefix: TAS... (Tasmin), 280..., or 350.... If genuine 390SE: verify Andy Rouse / Rover 3.9L blueprinting paperwork, high-lift camshaft, and factory flared sills.

3. DEFECT LEDGER & NEGOTIATION DEDUCTIONS

UK MARKET BENCHMARKS

OBSERVED DEFECT / REQUIRED WORK	ESTIMATED UK REMEDY	DEDUCTION APPLIED
Corroded Tubular Spaceframe Rails & Outrigger Welding	£2,500 – £4,500 (Body lift & chassis jig restoration)	£
Rover V8 Camshaft, Hydraulic Lifters & Timing Kit	£750 – £1,200 (Engine front teardown & parts)	£
Inboard Rear Brake Caliper Overhaul & Diff Drop	£950 – £1,500 (Rear diff drop, calipers, discs & seals)	£
Bosch K-Jetronic Fuel Injection Overhaul (280i)	£650 – £1,100 (Metering head, injectors & regulator)	£
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ASKING PRICE	MAX REVISED OFFER:	£