

6 May 2005

By:

[A 1999 Volkswagen Golf costs 244,000 USD](#)

Because it belonged to the Pope



You can imagine this doesn't apply to all cars from the Golf series produced that year. Actually, the only reason the car was sold for such a huge amount of money is that it belonged to ... Pope Benedict XVI. And this is not a small thing. The metallic grey Golf produced in 1999 was auctioned for 189,000 Euros, a record for a standard Golf. The car was acquired for a price 20 times bigger than the one paid by a young man who bought the car in January from a park of used cars. Only later did he find out that the car belonged to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. Shortly after Ratzinger was appointed Pope, the 21 year old man whose name is Benjamin Halbe auctioned the Golf which apparently was never driven by the Cardinal. In fact, if the information from Vatican is correct, he doesn't even have a driver's license. Still, this thing didn't decrease the value of the car. eBay Germany has never had a sale that attracts so many people, the page containing this auction being accessed 7.4 million times.