

1973 Buick Riviera

2dr Hardtop Coupe · 8-cyl. 455cid/250hp 4bbl

#1 Concours condition

\$58,000

↗ +5.1%

#2 Excellent condition

\$41,400

↗ +5.1%

#3 Good condition

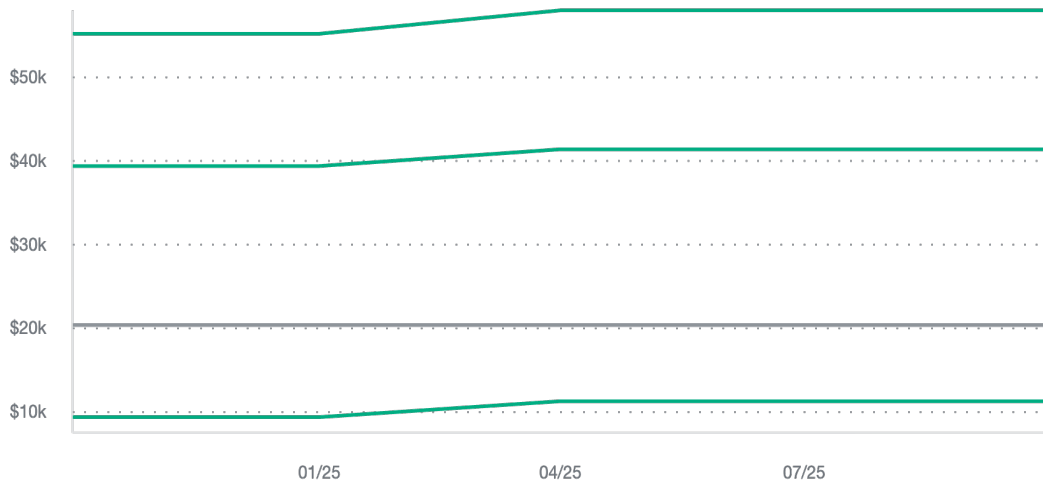
\$20,400*

↔ 0%

#4 Fair condition

\$11,300

↗ +20.2%



NOTE: The chart displays price changes for the last year.

Model description

Federal bumpers came in 1973 models and were grafted onto the Buick Riviera. They added 100 pounds to the car's weight. Front bumpers were required to absorb a 5 mph crash without damage, while the requirement for the rear was 2.5 mph. Next year, both would be 5 mph.

The 1973 Buick Riviera's heavy front bumper obscured the grille, and headlights and turn signals were combined in a heavy block. The rear bumper was smoothed out to a continuous line and the boat tail was foreshortened.

The Arab oil embargo would hit in September 1973 and after that, things would never be the same again. Big cars would have to become a lot smaller. Gas prices quickly doubled and shortages led to long lines at stations. However, Buick's 1973 sales totaled a record 821,165 cars, which would not be surpassed until 1981.

At \$5,221, the '73 Riviera was still Buick's most expensive model and sales remained stable at 34,080 with 3,933 Gran Sports. The GS package added heavy duty suspension and engine dress-up kit and the traction control.

Other 1973 Buick Riviera options included power sunroof, air conditioning, power windows, Strato bucket seats, power seats, tinted glass, cruise control, wire wheel covers, 5-spoke chrome wheels, AM/FM stereo radio, vinyl roof, console and power door locks.

The design continued to polarize buyers, though sales figures remained steady. That would all change in 1974 when Bill Mitchell lost a battle to make the Riviera smaller with the same elegant design. He was overruled by his boss Lee Mays, who insisted on a blocky two-door sedan. As a result, sales skidded to 17,303 in 1975 and the Riviera wouldn't recover until the downsized front-wheel drive V-6 of 1979. Meanwhile, time has been kind to the boat tail, which still has a large following. Excellent examples still draw crowds.

*Please note: All prices shown here are based on various data sources, as detailed in [About Our Prices](#). For all Hagerty clients: The values shown do not imply coverage in this amount. In the event of a claim, the Guaranteed Value(s)[®] on your policy declarations page is the amount your vehicle(s) is covered for, even if the value displayed here is different. If you would like to discuss your policy, please call us at 877-922-3391.

Body styles

2dr Hardtop Coupe

Engine types

8-cyl. 455cid/250hp 4bbl

1971-1973 Buick Riviera stats

| Highest sale | Lowest sale | Most recent sale | Sales |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|------------|
| \$72,600 | \$1,150 | \$25,412 | 160 |

Equipment

Additional Info

Shipping Weight: 4486 lbs

Vehicle Length: 223.4 in

Wheelbase - Inches: 122 in

Vehicle's condition classification

#1. Concours

#1 vehicles are the best in the world. Imagine the best vehicle, in the right colors, driving onto the lawn at the finest concours. Perfectly clean, the vehicle has been groomed down to the tire treads. Painted and chromed surfaces are mirror-like. Dust and dirt are banned, and materials used are correct and superbly fitted.

#2. Excellent

#2 vehicles could win a local or regional show. They might even be former #1 vehicles that have been driven or have aged. Seasoned observers will have to look closely for flaws but will be able to find some. The paint, chrome, glass and finishes will all appear as excellent. The vehicle drives as a new vehicle of its era would.

#3. Good

#3 vehicles drive and run well but are not used for daily transportation. The casual passerby will not find any visual flaws, but these vehicles might have some incorrect parts. #3 vehicles could possess some, but not all, of the issues of a #4 vehicle, but they will be balanced by other factors such as fresh paint or a new, correct interior.

#4. Fair

#4 vehicles are daily drivers, with flaws visible to the naked eye. The chrome might have pitting, the windshield might be chipped and perhaps the body has a minor dent. Imperfect paintwork, split seams or a cracked dash might be present. No major parts are missing, but there might be non-stock additions. A #4 vehicle can also be a deteriorated restoration.