

Craigslist 1979 Yamaha Rd400 Daytona Special For Sale

Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for Sale: A Classic Motorcycle Treasure If you're a vintage motorcycle enthusiast or a collector seeking a rare and iconic bike, the Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for sale might just be the perfect addition to your collection. This classic motorcycle epitomizes the golden era of two-stroke sport bikes, blending performance, style, and nostalgia. The Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special is renowned among vintage motorcycle aficionados for its unique design and spirited performance, making it a sought-after item on the used bike market. In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore everything you need to know about this remarkable motorcycle, including its history, features, current market value, and tips for purchasing.

Understanding the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

Historical Background and Significance

The Yamaha RD400 series was introduced in the mid-1970s as a response to the rising popularity of lightweight, high-performance motorcycles. The 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special stands out as a special edition, celebrating Yamaha's racing success and engineering prowess. It was designed to appeal to sport riders and enthusiasts who wanted a bike that combined speed with style. During its production run, the RD400 was considered one of the most powerful 2-stroke street bikes of its time, thanks to its 399cc twin-cylinder engine. The Daytona Special version, in particular, featured unique trims, color schemes, and minor performance enhancements, making it a collector's favorite.

Key Features of the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

- Engine: 399cc, two-stroke twin-cylinder, air-cooled - Power Output: Approximately 45 horsepower - Transmission: 5-speed manual - Frame: Steel double-cradle - Suspension: - Front: Telescopic forks - Rear: Twin shock absorbers - Brakes: - Front: Drum brake - Rear: Drum brake - Design Highlights: - Unique Daytona Special paint scheme (often featuring metallic blue with gold accents) - Racy, aerodynamic fairings - Classic two-stroke exhaust note

The Market for the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

Why Is It So Popular Today?

Vintage motorcycle collectors and riders highly prize the Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for several reasons: - Historical Value: Represents a significant era in motorcycle racing and street bike evolution. - Performance: Despite its age, the bike offers thrilling acceleration and handling. - Design: Classic two-stroke styling with racing-inspired aesthetics. - Rarity: Limited production run, especially for the Daytona Special edition, increases its desirability. - Restoration Potential: Many enthusiasts enjoy

restoring these bikes to their original glory.

Current Market Trends and Pricing

On platforms like Craigslist, eBay Motors, and specialized vintage motorcycle marketplaces, the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special typically fetches prices ranging from \$4,000 to \$8,000, depending on condition, originality, and modifications. Well-maintained, original examples tend to command higher prices, especially if they come with documented history and minimal rust or damage. Factors influencing price include:

- Overall condition (restored vs. unrestored)
- Original paint and parts
- Mechanical health and running condition
- Presence of rare accessories or original documentation
- Location and market demand

How to Find a 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for Sale on Craigslist

Searching Tips and Strategies

Finding a good deal on Craigslist requires patience and careful scrutiny. Here are some tips:

1. Use Specific Search Terms: Search for "Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special" or "1979 Yamaha RD400" to narrow results.
2. Set Alerts: Use Craigslist's alert feature to get notified when new listings appear.
3. Check Multiple Locations: Vintage bikes are often sold by enthusiasts in various regions; expand your search beyond your local area.
4. Review Photos Carefully: Look for signs of rust, corrosion, and previous repairs.
5. Ask Questions: Contact sellers for detailed history, maintenance records, and reason for sale.
6. Request a Test Ride and Inspection: Always inspect the bike in person or hire a professional mechanic to assess its condition.

What to Look for When Buying a 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

Condition Assessment Checklist

Before making a purchase, evaluate the bike thoroughly:

- Frame and Bodywork: Check for rust, cracks, or signs of crash damage.
- Engine: - Listen for unusual noises during startup. - Check for smoke, oil leaks, or excessive exhaust smoke.
- Electrical System: Ensure lights, signals, and gauges function properly.
- Suspension and Tires: Inspect for wear, cracks, or leaks.
- Brakes: Confirm they operate smoothly and effectively.
- Documentation: - Verify title and registration status. - Seek maintenance records or restoration history.
- Original manuals or accessories add value.

Restoration and Maintenance Tips

If you're purchasing a bike needing restoration, consider:

- Sourcing original parts for authenticity.
- Consulting vintage Yamaha forums and clubs for advice.
- Setting a budget for repairs and upgrades.
- Prioritizing safety upgrades, such as new brakes or tires.

Why Choose a 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special?

Advantages of Owning a Vintage Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

- Unique Styling: Classic racing-inspired aesthetics. - Riding Experience: Exciting two-stroke sound and performance. - Investment Potential: Appreciating value among collectors. - Community and Events: Join vintage motorcycle clubs and participate in meet-ups or rallies. - Customization: Opportunities to restore or modify to personal taste.

Potential Challenges

- Parts availability can be limited; sourcing original components may require effort. - Maintenance expertise needed due to the bike's age and two-stroke engine complexity. - Not suitable for daily commuting without modifications.

Conclusion: Is the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special Right for You?

The Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for sale presents an exciting opportunity for vintage motorcycle enthusiasts to own a piece of two-stroke racing history. Whether you're a collector, a rider seeking a nostalgic thrill, or an investor looking to add a rare bike to your portfolio, the RD400 Daytona Special offers a compelling package. However, due diligence is key—careful inspection, proper research, and understanding of the bike's condition will ensure a satisfying purchase. If you find a well-maintained or restorable specimen, owning a Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special can be a rewarding experience, both as a ride and as a collectible. Keep an eye on Craigslist and other vintage motorcycle marketplaces, and don't hesitate to dive into the passionate world of classic Yamaha motorcycles. Remember: Always prioritize safety, authenticity, and thorough inspection when considering vintage motorcycle purchases. Happy riding!

Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for Sale: A Comprehensive Guide to This Classic Muscle Bike

The Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for sale has become a sought-after listing among vintage motorcycle enthusiasts and collectors alike. Known for its distinctive style, impressive performance, and nostalgic value, the RD400 Daytona Special from 1979 embodies Yamaha's golden era of two-stroke sport bikes. Whether you're a seasoned rider, a collector seeking a rare piece, or an enthusiast looking to restore a classic, understanding the history, features, and buying considerations of this iconic motorcycle is essential. In this guide, we'll take an in-depth look at the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special, its unique characteristics, market value, and what to consider before making a purchase through Craigslist.

The History and Significance of the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

The Evolution of Yamaha's RD Series

Yamaha's RD series has a storied history dating back to the early 1970s, with the RD350 and RD400 models establishing themselves as powerful, lightweight, and agile sport bikes. The RD400, introduced

in the mid-1970s, gained fame for its two-stroke engine, aggressive styling, and racing-inspired performance.

The Daytona Special's Unique Position

The 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special was a limited edition, designed to commemorate Yamaha's racing success, particularly its performance at the Daytona International Speedway. It featured exclusive styling cues and some performance upgrades, setting it apart from standard models. Limited in production, the Daytona Special has become a collector's item over the years, appreciated for its historical significance and aesthetic appeal.

Key Features of the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

Engine and Performance

1. Engine Type: 399cc, two-stroke, twin-cylinder
2. Power Output: Approximately 45 horsepower
3. Lubrication: Autolube system, a hallmark of Yamaha's two-stroke engines
4. Transmission: 5-speed gearbox
5. Performance: Capable of reaching speeds over 100 mph, with quick acceleration and nimble handling

Styling and Design

1. Color Scheme: Typically features a distinctive white, red, and blue paint scheme, often with Daytona-specific decals
2. Bodywork: Aerodynamic fairings, sporty seat design, and sleek lines
3. Badge and Emblems: Special Daytona badges and unique badging on the tank and side covers
4. Wheels and Tires: 18-inch wheels with performance tires designed for sport riding

Suspension and Brakes

1. Front Suspension: Telescopic forks
2. Rear Suspension: Twin shock absorbers
3. Brakes: Drum brakes on both wheels, typical for the era

Market Value and Collectibility

Factors Influencing Price

1. Condition: Restored, original, or modified
2. Mileage: Lower mileage models tend to command higher prices
3. Originality: Original paint, parts, and accessories increase value
4. Location: Market demand varies geographically
5. Documentation: Service records and ownership history add desirability

Typical Price Range (as of 2023)

1. Restored or mint-condition models: \$8,000 – \$12,000+
2. Good, original condition: \$5,000 – \$8,000
3. Project bikes or need restoration: \$2,500 – \$4,500

Why Invest in a Daytona Special?

The 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special is more than just a vintage motorcycle; it's a piece of racing history and a symbol of Yamaha's engineering prowess during the late 1970s. Its limited production

status and iconic styling make it a desirable collector's item, often appreciating in value over time.

What to Look for When Buying a Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

Key Considerations

1. **Authenticity:** Verify that the bike is a genuine Daytona Special, not a standard RD400 with aftermarket decals
2. **Condition:** Check for rust, corrosion, frame damage, and engine condition
3. **Engine and Transmission:** Listen for unusual noises, check compression, and ensure smooth shifting
4. **Original Parts:** Confirm the presence of original badges, paint, and components
5. **Service History:** Review maintenance records and previous restorations
6. **Title and Documentation:** Ensure clear ownership and proper registration

Common Issues in Vintage Yamaha RD400s

1. **Carburetor Problems:** Clogged jets and gummed fuel lines
2. **Worn Seals and Gaskets:** Leading to oil leaks
3. **Frame and Fork Damage:** From past crashes or neglect
4. **Electrical Components:** Faded wiring, faulty lights, or switches
5. **Exhaust Corrosion:** Especially on older models

Tips for Inspecting a Craigslist Listing

1. Request detailed photos from multiple angles
2. Ask for a ride or a test drive if feasible
3. Inquire about maintenance history and any recent repairs
4. Be wary of significantly underpriced listings, which could indicate issues

Restoring and Maintaining a 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special

Essential Maintenance Tips

1. **Regular Oil Changes:** Two-stroke oil and engine oil
2. **Carburetor Tuning:** Regular cleaning and synchronization
3. **Brake and Wheel Checks:** Ensuring safety and optimal performance
4. **Chain and Sprocket Maintenance:** Lubrication and tension adjustments
5. **Electrical System Upkeep:** Replacing old wiring and bulbs as needed

Restoration Considerations

1. Use OEM or high-quality reproduction parts for authenticity
2. Preserve original paint and decals where possible
3. Consider professional restoration for major issues
4. Join online forums and local clubs for support and resources

Buying Tips for Craigslist Purchases

1. **Research the Market:** Know the typical prices and common issues
2. **Communicate Clearly:** Ask detailed questions about the bike's history
3. **Meet in Safe Locations:** Preferably public places or motorcycle shops
4. **Bring a Knowledgeable Friend or Mechanic:** To assess the bike's condition
5. **Negotiate Wisely:** Use condition and market value as leverage

Final Thoughts: Is the Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special Right for You?

Owning a Craigslist 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for sale offers a unique opportunity to connect with vintage motorcycle history and enjoy classic two-stroke performance. Its rarity, historical significance, and sporty aesthetics make it a prized addition to any collection or rider's garage. However, prospective buyers should approach such listings with due diligence, understanding the importance of condition, authenticity, and maintenance history.

Whether you're looking to restore a piece of Yamaha's racing legacy or seeking a vintage motorcycle that delivers both style and thrill, the RD400 Daytona Special remains a compelling choice. With proper care and informed purchasing decisions, this iconic bike can provide decades of enjoyment and become a shining centerpiece in your vintage collection.

Remember: When exploring Craigslist for this classic Yamaha, patience and thorough research are key to finding a well-maintained, authentic Daytona Special that meets your expectations and investment goals. Happy riding!

Questions & Answers About craigslist 1979 yamaha rd400 daytona special for sale

No	Question	Answer
1	Is the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special a rare collector's item?	Yes, the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special is considered a sought-after collector's item due to its limited production run and unique features.
2	What are the key features of the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special?	The Daytona Special features a distinctive paint scheme, upgraded suspension, and a tuned engine for enhanced performance, making it a standout in the RD series.
3	How is the condition of a typical 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special for sale on Craigslist?	Most listings range from fair to excellent condition, often highlighting recent restorations or maintenance, but it's important to review each listing carefully.
4	What is the typical price range for a 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special listed on Craigslist?	Prices can vary widely based on condition and originality, but generally range from \$4,000 to \$8,000 for well-maintained or restored models.
5	What should I check when buying a 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special from Craigslist?	Inspect the motorcycle's overall condition, engine compression, frame integrity, and verify its originality. It's also wise to request maintenance records and, if possible, have a mechanic evaluate it.
6	Are there any common issues to look out for in the 1979 Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special?	Common issues include rust in the frame or exhaust, worn suspension components, and engine wear. Proper maintenance history can help identify potential problems.
7	Is buying a vintage Yamaha RD400 Daytona Special on Craigslist a good investment?	Yes, if the bike is in good condition and properly restored, it can be a valuable collector's piece and a rewarding vintage motorcycle to own, but always do thorough research and inspection before purchasing.

Yamaha RD400, Daytona Special, motorcycle for sale, vintage motorcycle, classic Yamaha, 1979 Yamaha, sportbike, used motorcycle, motorcycle classifieds, Yamaha RD models