

NISSAN FIGARO

RETRO, RARE AND RELIABLE

The Figaro is a 2+2 cabriolet 'retro fashion car' introduced at the 1989 Tokyo Motor Show under the slogan 'Back to the Future'.

The four original colours were Emerald Green, Pale Aqua, Topaz Mist and Lapis Grey, representing spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Design details can be seen in the 'fleur de lys' motif on the bonnet, which is repeated on the interior switches, heat control panel, door sill tread plates, steering wheel centre boss, CD player knobs, window operators, and door handle surrounds.



The name came from the favourite opera of the chairman of Nissan, 'The Marriage of Figaro' by Mozart.

It was born out of the Japanese 'boutique' movement in car design, and pre-dated the industry's retro design trend by a full decade.

The base price in 1991 was 1.87 million yen.

The Figaro includes many quirky items such as a Breakdown Flare!



Initially a run of 8,000 was planned, but demand was overwhelming so an extra 12,000 were produced. Even so, prospective purchasers were entered into a lottery to buy one and over 200,000 people applied!

All the cars were released between February and December 1991 and were only sold in Japan, although many of them have now been exported all over the world.

As Japan is right-hand drive, they have been particularly popular in the UK. In 2016 the DVLA confirmed there were 3,933 registered.

