

## **Rolls-Royce 40/50 Tender 1914-1920**

During the 1st World War, *Rolls-Royce Motor Cars* supplied several hundred cars to the British War Office for VIP transport, ambulances, and general purpose vehicles. Among these, were around 60 fully armoured cars that were sent to France, Russia, Africa, Gallipoli, and the Middle East.

The *Rolls-Royce* Admiralty Pattern Armoured Cars were among the most effective fighting vehicles of the war. In the Hejaz and Syria, they deployed behind enemy lines sabotaging railways and attacking Ottoman-Turkish fortifications. Because the cars were so far from friendly lines, they needed a vehicle to carry additional men, weapons, explosives, ammunition, food, water, and fuel. The only vehicle that could keep up with the armoured *Rolls-Royces* was another *Rolls-Royce*.

To meet the need, the *Rolls-Royce* Tender was born. Several armoured cars were stripped of their heavy steel plate to create 'Tenders' - naval talk for a support vehicle. Because of their speed, agility, and reliability they were employed alongside the armoured cars in attacks and often mounted Vickers Machine Guns.

Notably, the Hejaz Armoured Car Battery served with "Lawrence of Arabia" in the 1916-1918 Arab Revolt as part of British Operation HEDGEHOG. The battery included five armoured cars and four tenders. After the war, they were sent to British-administered Iraq.

This car is an original 1919 *Rolls-Royce* 40/50 "Alpine Eagle" (Speed Model) with a recreated Tender body as it would have appeared in the Hejaz.

Engine: 7,428cc Straight 6 - (453.3ci)

Power: 120 BHP

Torque: 445 ft-lbs

Transmission: 4-speed manual

Rear Wheel Brakes

Top Speed: 80 mph+

1914 Price £1,450 (2019 \$87,775)