COMING SOON

1950 Ryan Navion B

Aachen, Germany



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LOT	AUCTION	BRAND	CATEGORY
#87	#70	Ryan	Aircraft

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DESCRIPTION

A charismatic 1950 Ryan Navion B , representing one of the most distinctive post-war personal aircraft designs in American general aviation. With its low-wing profile, retractable landing gear, sliding canopy character, and robust military-inspired stance, the Navion captures the optimism and engineering confidence of late-1940s aviation.

Originally designed by North American Aviation and later produced by Ryan Aeronautica l, the Navion was created for the expected post-war boom in private flying. Its design carried a clear connection to North American's broader aviation heritage, with visual and engineering influences often associated with aircraft such as the P-51 Mustang and T-28 Trojan .

This aircraft presents a compelling opportunity to acquire a classic retractable-gear single with meaningful post-war history, strong ramp presence, and lasting collector appeal among vintage aircraft enthusiasts and owner-pilots.

Technical Features & Avionics

The Ryan Navion is a single-engine, unpressurized, retractable-gear, four-seat aircraft. Early Ryan-built examples were commonly powered by Continental engines in the 205 hp class, while later and modified examples may vary depending on aircraft history and upgrades.

Plane & Pilot lists standard Ryan Navion data with a 205 hp Continental engine , four seats, 2,750 lb gross weight, 1,782 lb empty weight, 40 gallons fuel capacity, 155 mph cruise speed, and 500-mile range.

AOPA also highlights the Navion's specialized wing and flap design, noting its strong short- and rough-field capability for an aircraft of its weight.

Exterior & Interior

The exterior of the Ryan Navion B is defined by its muscular low-wing shape, retractable landing gear, broad fuselage, and post-war canopy-style cabin. Its stance is more substantial than many light singles of the same era, giving it a confident, almost military-inspired look on the ramp.

Inside, the Navion offers a practical four-seat cabin with a vintage cockpit atmosphere. The instrument panel typically reflects the aircraft's era, with analog gauges, classic radio equipment, and a straightforward pilot-focused layout. Its cabin character makes it especially appealing to buyers who value authenticity, period design, and a more substantial classic aircraft feel.

Ownership & Legacy

The Navion occupies an important place in post-war general aviation history. It was designed at a time when manufacturers expected returning wartime pilots to continue flying privately with their families and business contacts. Although the civilian aviation boom was smaller than expected, the Navion remained a respected and recognizable aircraft.

Its military use also adds to its appeal. Navion variants served as L-17 liaison and staff transport aircraft with U.S. military operators, and examples were also used by other air forces.

For collectors, the Ryan Navion B offers a strong mix of rarity, usability, post-war design heritage, and classic retractable-gear appeal.

The Perfect Airplane For

This 1950 Ryan Navion B is ideally suited to a collector, vintage aircraft enthusiast, or owner-pilot seeking a classic post-war aircraft with strong personality and practical flying capability.

For those who appreciate North American design heritage, retractable-gear singles, and the robust charm of late-1940s aviation, the Navion B represents a highly distinctive ownership opportunity.

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Year	1950
Model	Ryan Navion B

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	Continental 205 hp
Engine Type	Single piston engine
Horsepower	approx. 1 × 205 hp
Propeller Type	2-blade constant-speed propeller

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	approx. 155 mph / approx. 135 kt
Range	approx. 500 miles / approx. 435 NM
Payload	approx. 900–1,000 lb useful load, depending on aircraft configuration and equipment
Passengers	up to 3 passengers + 1 pilot / 4 seats total

PHOTOGRAPHS

5 of 6 photographs reproduced here. The complete gallery is on the listing page.

EXTERIOR



INTERIOR



EXTERIOR


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HOW TO BID ON THIS LOT

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collectairs.com/auctions/1950-ryan-navion-b

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