COMING SOON

Antonov An-2

Kiel, Germany



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LOT	AUCTION	BRAND	CATEGORY
#89	#72	Antonov	Aircraft

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DESCRIPTION

The Antonov An-2 is one of the most recognizable utility aircraft ever built, a large single-engine biplane designed for strength, simplicity, and exceptional low-speed performance. First flown in 1947 and mass-produced from 1949, the Antonov An-2 became a true workhorse of post-war aviation, serving in passenger transport, cargo operations, agricultural flying, parachute dropping, remote-area supply, and rugged field operations.

Unlike many aircraft designed around speed or refinement, the Antonov An-2 was built around access. Its mission was to connect remote places, operate from short and rough fields, carry meaningful loads, and remain dependable in demanding environments. That practical design philosophy is exactly what gives the aircraft its long-lasting collector appeal today.

Powerplant, Systems & Technical Highlights

At the heart of the Antonov An-2 is the Shvetsov ASh-62IR / ASz-62IR radial engine, a nine-cylinder, air-cooled, supercharged piston engine producing approximately 1,000 hp. This engine gives the Antonov An-2 its unmistakable radial sound, strong low-speed pull, and the muscular character expected from a large utility biplane.

Key technical highlights:

- Configuration: Large single-engine biplane
- Engine: Shvetsov ASh-62IR / ASz-62IR
- Engine type: Nine-cylinder, air-cooled radial piston engine
- Power output: Approx. 1,000 hp
- Crew: 1–2
- Maximum payload: Approx. 1,500 kg / 14 passengers depending on configuration
- Maximum speed: Approx. 250–258 km/h
- Range: Approx. 845–900 km

The technical appeal of the Antonov An-2 lies in its rare combination of huge wing area, radial-engine power, and rugged structural simplicity. It is famous for operating at very low speeds and from short, unimproved airfields, making it one of the most capable large utility biplanes ever produced.

Exterior & Cockpit

The Antonov An-2 has a visual presence unlike almost any other aircraft in general aviation. Its enormous biplane wings, tall tailwheel stance, large radial-engine nose, fixed landing gear, and broad fuselage give it an unmistakable silhouette. Even on the ground, the Antonov An-2 looks powerful, practical, and full of purpose.

The exterior is not delicate or decorative. It is built around work. The large wing area supports exceptional low-speed handling, while the fixed landing gear and robust airframe support operations from grass strips, remote fields, and less-developed runways.

Inside, the Antonov An-2 offers a cabin far larger and more useful than most single-engine aircraft. Depending on configuration, it can carry passengers, cargo, parachutists, agricultural equipment, or mixed mission loads. This flexibility is one of the strongest reasons the aircraft remained so widely used across different countries and operating environments.

The cockpit reflects the aircraft's practical military-utility background. It is mechanical, functional, and designed for pilots who value direct systems understanding over modern luxury. For collectors and aviation enthusiasts, this gives the Antonov An-2 a strong authenticity factor.

Review-style highlights:

- Best for: Collectors, museums, adventure operators, parachute operations, and historic aviation enthusiasts
- Main strength: Rugged utility, short-field ability, and radial-engine presence
- Flying character: Slow, stable, powerful, and highly distinctive
- Ownership appeal: Rare, historic, visually impressive, and mission-flexible
- Not ideal for: Buyers seeking speed, low fuel burn, compact hangar storage, or modern private-aircraft refinement

Pros and considerations:

Key Point

Why It Matters

Strong historical identity

The Antonov An-2 is one of the most recognizable Soviet-era utility aircraft.

Large cabin and payload

Useful for passengers, cargo, parachuting, and special missions.

Short-field capability

The aircraft can operate from very short and basic airfields.

Radial-engine character

Creates strong collector appeal and emotional aviation value.

Large size and fuel demand

Best suited to experienced operators with suitable facilities and maintenance planning.

The Perfect Airplane For

The Antonov An-2 is ideal for buyers, collectors, museums, and specialist operators seeking a historic utility aircraft with unmatched character and presence. It is especially well suited for aviation collections, heritage flights, parachute operations, promotional flying, adventure aviation, and operators who want an aircraft that immediately attracts attention.

This aircraft is a strong match for those who value:

- A historic large biplane with global recognition
- Radial-engine sound and mechanical authenticity
- Short-field and rough-field capability
- Large cabin flexibility
- Strong visual presence for events and media
- Utility heritage with collector appeal
- A rare aircraft that tells a powerful aviation story

For the right collector or operator, the Antonov An-2 is more than transportation. It is a statement aircraft with presence, story, and unforgettable character.

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Model	**An-2**

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	**1 × Shvetsov ASh-62IR**
Engine Type	**9-cylinder air-cooled supercharged radial piston engine**
Propeller Type	**4-bladed constant-speed propeller**

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	**190 km/h (120 mph, 100 kn)**
Range	**845 km (525 mi, 456 nmi)**
Passengers	**12 passengers / 2,140 kg**

PHOTOGRAPHS

7 of 8 photographs reproduced here. The complete gallery is on the listing page.

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EXTERIOR




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HOW TO BID ON THIS LOT

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