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Bristol Brabazon



Synopsis

A pictorial history of the futuristic Bristol Brabazon using original manufacturer's illustrations and photographs. The Brabazon's name evokes the immediate post-war optimism of civil aviation. The giant airliner was built by Bristol Aircraft in 1949 to fly transatlantic routes from the UK to the United States. However, the plane proved to be a commercial failure when airlines felt that it was too large and expensive to be useful. Large and luxurious, it carried only 60-80 passengers, and had a range of 5,000 miles, a 225 foot wing span, and eight engines buried in the wings. Now, with previously unpublished material and illustrations from the original Bristol Brabazon sales brochure among other sources, the Brabazon's 1930s-style elegance is displayed once again, celebrating its design, construction, and sheer luxury—a fitting outcome for such a paragon of post-war optimism and an aircraft still considered by many to be the foremost in propeller-driven civil aviation.

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Customer Reviews

Graham M. Simons is an aviation writer and historian. His titles include Concorde Conspiracy, Mosquito: The Original Multi-Role Combat Aircraft, and Valkyrie: The North American XB-70.

This is a plane whose very existence (never mind history) has been largely ignored, until now. This is a shame, because the Brabazon was in many ways a truly remarkable craft. Graham M. Simons' 'Bristol Brabazon' ably brings the whole story to life. It is an excellent balance of worthy photography

and text. For anyone with a penchant for aircraft design and the evolution of piston-driven airliners, this book is a must. Mr. Simons is to be commended for his efforts. Derek Thompson Toronto, Ontario

Like his book on the DeHavilland Comet, Mr. Simons has done a highly credible job in describing the technology and history of this fascinating aircraft. It is well-illustrated, highly readable, and I give it high marks for his detailed analysis of this aircraft.

An excellent review of a rare subject. Author Simons offers wonderful insight into the logic of the design as well as the political realities of technology and national purpose of those times. I appreciated the technical detail and the pictures that accompany the text. Well done and a great value.

Tain't bad. If you're looking for something on the Brabazon it's the only game in town. Some of the pictures were excellent and the text is okay.

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