# Antiques Roadshow reveals Louis Vuitton trunk worth up to £3,500 hidden in garage



A recent episode of *Antiques Roadshow* provided a striking reminder of the hidden treasures that often lie neglected in our homes. A guest was astonished to discover that a seemingly unremarkable piece of luggage, long abandoned in her garage, was in fact a valuable Louis Vuitton trunk. Expert Marc Allum evaluated the piece at Beaumaris Castle, noting its scruffy appearance but acknowledging its historical significance and craftsmanship. He remarked, “It’s a pretty kind of grotty looking old piece of luggage this... it looks like it's had a really hard life.” The guest, who inherited the trunk from a family friend, initially believed it to be just another item in a house clearance.

Upon closer inspection, Allum dated the trunk to around 1890, highlighting its unique components, including an “unpickable lock.” Though the trunk required significant restoration, he confidently placed its auction value between £2,500 and £3,500. The viewer’s reaction of disbelief—wowed by the item's worth—underscored the treasure-like findings that often surprise *Antiques Roadshow* participants.

The interest in Louis Vuitton trunks is hardly a new development. An article discussing the brand's enduring allure highlights that these vintage trunks have been sought after since the company’s inception in 1854. Their reputation has been bolstered through representation in films and by modern celebrities, with recent auctions generating remarkable sums. A 1925 Louis Vuitton wardrobe trunk sold for €189,000 at a high-profile auction, demonstrating the potential for immense value in well-preserved pieces.

The significance of provenance plays a crucial role in antiques valuation. Experts agree that items with distinct pedigree indicators, such as unique labels and identifiers, are particularly desirable. The secondary market for Louis Vuitton items remains robust, making even battered pieces potentially lucrative investments when they come to auction. In recent discussions, collectable vintage trunks were noted to sell for substantial amounts, with many pieces capturing the imaginations of collectors and enthusiasts alike.

Another fascinating story from *Antiques Roadshow* featured a piece of jewellery made of ten gold nuggets, presented by a guest who had no idea of its high value. Expert Joanna Hardy engaged the audience with her description, declaring, “Gold has never been higher than today,” which led to an appraisal of around £5,000. Such revelations are emblematic of the surprising finds that have made the series a staple of British television.

For many viewers, *Antiques Roadshow* offers a blend of nostalgia and intrigue, revealing the stories behind everyday objects that often hold significant financial and emotional value. This recent episode exemplifies the show's ability to connect families with their history through tangible artefacts, reminding us of the treasures that could exist in our own homes, waiting to be rediscovered.

As interest in vintage items continues to rise, programmes like *Antiques Roadshow* not only entertain but also educate the public about the investment potential of such heirlooms. With the luxury market thriving, the allure of brands like Louis Vuitton is likely to sustain, igniting a passion for collecting that transcends generations.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tv/article-14740113/Antiques-Roadshow-whopping-value-grotty-item-abandoned-garage.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/appraisals/louis-vuitton-trunk-ca-1925/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tv/article-14740113/Antiques-Roadshow-whopping-value-grotty-item-abandoned-garage.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.ft.com/content/ffa8ed09-ad80-4e7f-a0e0-d8c39b140fe9), [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/6ba79990-6f08-4b71-af01-b634df83e73a)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.ft.com/content/ffa8ed09-ad80-4e7f-a0e0-d8c39b140fe9), [[6]](https://www.express.co.uk/showbiz/tv-radio/1490824/Antiques-Roadshow-valuation-Louis-Vuitton-trunk-3000)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.kpbs.org/news/arts-culture/2014/12/17/antiques-roadshow-manor-house-treasures), [[7]](https://www.newsweek.com/old-storage-box-turns-out-rare-louis-vuitton-case-worth-thousands-1728346)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tv/article-14740113/Antiques-Roadshow-whopping-value-grotty-item-abandoned-garage.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.express.co.uk/showbiz/tv-radio/1490824/Antiques-Roadshow-valuation-Louis-Vuitton-trunk-3000)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tv/article-14740113/Antiques-Roadshow-whopping-value-grotty-item-abandoned-garage.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ft.com/content/ffa8ed09-ad80-4e7f-a0e0-d8c39b140fe9> - This article discusses the enduring appeal and high demand for classic Louis Vuitton trunks, which have been iconic since 1854. These luxury items, featured in films and modern celebrity culture, retain their value due to their historic significance and brand prestige. New versions, including contemporary collaborations and limited editions, can fetch high prices, up to hundreds of thousands of dollars. The secondary market remains strong for well-aged pieces, with collectors emphasizing the importance of original, untouched items and knowledge of pedigree indicators like labels and unique numbers. Auctions at prominent houses like Christie’s often yield record sales, with unique items drawing high interest. Collectors find pieces through various methods, including online marketplaces and auctions, always seeking authentic and historically significant trunks.
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/6ba79990-6f08-4b71-af01-b634df83e73a> - This article explores the investment potential of luxury luggage, particularly antique trunks from brands like Louis Vuitton, Goyard, and Hermès. Originally functional items, these trunks have become highly collectible and often serve as decorative pieces. Notable collectors include celebrities like Zlatan Ibrahimović and Tyler the Creator. Auction houses like Christie's frequently feature these vintage trunks, which can fetch high prices; for instance, a 1925 Louis Vuitton wardrobe trunk sold for €189,000. While demand and prices are high, the market is influenced by collectors' tastes and emotions, and the provenance of an item can be difficult to verify. Despite the high auction prices, vintage trunks remain cheaper than new models, although the latter often lack the quality and charm of their antique counterparts.
4. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/appraisals/louis-vuitton-trunk-ca-1925/> - This appraisal from Antiques Roadshow features a Louis Vuitton trunk from around 1925. The trunk was appraised at a value of $3,000 to $5,000 in 2018. The appraisal highlights the trunk's historical significance and craftsmanship, noting its design and materials characteristic of the period. The expert emphasizes the trunk's value as a collectible item, reflecting the enduring appeal of Louis Vuitton's vintage luggage. The appraisal provides insights into the factors that contribute to the trunk's worth, including its age, condition, and design elements.
5. <https://www.kpbs.org/news/arts-culture/2014/12/17/antiques-roadshow-manor-house-treasures> - This article discusses an episode of Antiques Roadshow titled 'Manor House Treasures,' which aired in 2014. The episode featured extraordinary objects from various periods, including a Louis Vuitton steamer trunk from around 1915. The trunk was appraised at $3,000 to $5,000 in 2012, with an updated value of $4,000 to $6,000. The appraisal highlights the trunk's historical significance and craftsmanship, noting its design and materials characteristic of the period. The expert emphasizes the trunk's value as a collectible item, reflecting the enduring appeal of Louis Vuitton's vintage luggage.
6. <https://www.express.co.uk/showbiz/tv-radio/1490824/Antiques-Roadshow-valuation-Louis-Vuitton-trunk-3000> - This article reports on an episode of Antiques Roadshow filmed at Ham House in Richmond-upon-Thames, London, where a guest presented a vintage Louis Vuitton trunk. The trunk, purchased by the guest's father for £12 in a junk shop, was appraised by expert Mark Hill. Despite its worn condition, the trunk's authenticity and historical significance led to an appraisal value of £3,000. The article highlights the enduring appeal and value of vintage Louis Vuitton trunks, even those that have been well-used over the years.
7. <https://www.newsweek.com/old-storage-box-turns-out-rare-louis-vuitton-case-worth-thousands-1728346> - This article tells the story of a man who purchased a battered storage box for $14 from a junk shop in 1984, which turned out to be a rare Louis Vuitton steamer trunk. The trunk, authenticated by Louis Vuitton, was originally sold between 1909 and 1914. After being stored and used for years, the trunk was appraised at £3,000 to £5,000 ($3,600 to $6,000) on Antiques Roadshow. The article highlights the enduring value and appeal of vintage Louis Vuitton trunks, even those that have been well-used over the years.