

# 1956 Meteor Niagara Models & Specifications

**Meteor** at 1956-meteor-models-and-specs.pdf (incl'd engs & trans) (8 pages)

**Meteor Rideau** at 1956-meteor-rideau-models-and-specs.pdf (10 pages)



A **meteor** is a **meteoroid**—a piece of rock, dust, or other mater from outer space—that has entered the earth's atmosphere at high speed and is hot, burning, and crumbling from friction with the atmosphere as it falls to earth. It is incandescent and with its glowing wake of shredding material can be seen streaking across the sky. It is colloquially called a "**shooting star**" or a "**falling star**." A **meteorite** is a particle that has reached the ground.

Meteor automobiles were offered by **Ford Motor Company of Canada**, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ford Motor Company, from:

- 1948-1954, Mercury-Meteor-Lincoln Division, Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited, Walkerville, Ontario
- 1954-1961, Mercury-Meteor-Lincoln Division, Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited, Oakville, Ontario
- 1961-1963, Meteor part of Mercury line
- 1963-1976, Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited, Oakville, Ontario.

The 1956 Meteors, herein, were manufactured at the **Oakville Assembly Plant**, Oakville, Ontario, Canada and sold through **Canadian Mercury-Lincoln-Meteor dealerships** as low-priced products in their lineup. They were built on Ford chassis and bodies, with limited Ford running gear, but with notably different grille and molding.

**1956 Meteor, Meteor Niagara, and Meteor Rideau** are "foremost in style with new bold V-sweep grille, long, low sleek lines." **Niagara** and **Rideau** models have a bodyside full-length bright-metal molding of "**meteor-bolt**" design with a mid "**flash**" contrasting paint colour—*Alaska White*, **Black**, **Torch Red**, or **Gold** [est]—on Single-Tone, Two-Tone, or Tri-Tone paint schemes. The **Rideau** molding also has an impressed black-painted "**jet exhaust**" design at rear. Striking! **Web page** [1956-ford.com/1956-meteor-niagara-rideau-brochure.html](http://1956-ford.com/1956-meteor-niagara-rideau-brochure.html)

"**Safeguard Design**" is the Meteor name for the installed Ford "**Lifeguard Design**" safety features.

## ALL MODELS

- **Meteor Two-Door Sedan**
- **Meteor Four-Door Sedan**
- **Meteor Ranch Wagon** 2 dr, 6 pass
- **Meteor Sedan Delivery** 2 dr, 1 pass panel
- **Meteor Nagara Two-Door Sedan**
- **Meteor Niagara Four-door Sedan**
- **Meteor Niagara Victoria** 2 dr, pillarless hdtp
- **Meteor Niagara Ranch Wagon** 2 dr, 6 pass
- **Meteor Rideau Club Sedan** 2 dr
- **Meteor Rideau Town Sedan** 4 dr
- **Meteor Rideau Victoria** 2 dr, pillarless hdtp
- **Meteor Rideau Four-Door Victoria** 4 dr, pillarless hdtp
- **Meteor Rideau Crown Victoria** 2 dr, (steel top)
- **Meteor Rideau Sunliner** 2 dr, convertible
- **Meteor Rideau 6-Pass Country Sedan** 4 dr, stn wagon
- **Meteor Rideau 8-Pass Country Sedan** 4 dr, stn wagon

## Serial Number Location

1949-1954, stamped on identification plate on cowl and on frame right side under hood

1955-1967, stamped on identification plate attached to left front door pillar post

1968-1973, stamped on plate attached to left front corner of dashboard, viewed through windshield

## Engine Number Location

1949-1954, stamped on identification plate on cowl

1955-1967, stamped on identification plate attached to left front door pillar post



**Meteor Niagara** automobiles are named for **Niagara Falls**, the waterfalls and waterways at the southern end of Niagara Gorge, spanning the border between Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada and Niagara Falls, New York, United States. Unfortunately, after much research of historical documents, the meaning of the word **Niagara** itself is not definitive.

## 1956 Meteor Niagara Two-Door Sedan



6 pass

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ mid **flash** contrasting paint colour

Single-Tone, Two-Tone, or Tri-Tone, *plus* flash colour ext paint

Production (6-cyl) 819 + (V-8) 3,466 = total **4,285**

### Std Model 270B

**\$2,446** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 3,466 Shipping wgt 3,250 lb

**Meteor V-8 - 272-cid, 173-hp** @ 4400 rpm, 260 lb-ft tq @ 2400 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 160 psi, 2-bbl, single-exh, w/

- **Standard**, 10" clutch, 3.20 (opt 3.89) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 10" clutch, 3.89 (opt 3.20) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, (**176-hp**, 264 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 165 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires, or

### Opt Model 570B

**\$2,315** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 819 Shipping wgt 3,220 lb

**Meteor I-6 - 223-cid, 137-hp** @ 4200 rpm, 202 lb-ft tq @ 1600-2600 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 150 psi, 1-bbl, single-exh,  
*mid model-year* w/

- **Standard**, 9-1/2" clutch, \_\_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 9-1/2" clutch, \_\_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, \_\_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires

# 1956 Meteor Niagara Four-Door Sedan



6 pass

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ mid **flash** contrasting paint colour

Single-Tone, Two-Tone, or Tri-Tone, *plus* flash colour ext paint

Production (6-cyl) 1,805 + (V-8) 10,317 = total **12,122**

## Std Model 273B

**\$2,501** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 10,317 Shipping wgt 3,290 lb

**Meteor V-8 - 272-cid, 173-hp** @ 4400 rpm, 260 lb-ft tq @ 2400 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 160 psi, 2-bbl, single-exh, w/

- **Standard**, 10" clutch, 3.20 (opt 3.89) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 10" clutch, 3.89 (opt 3.20) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, (**176-hp**, 264 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 165 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires, or

## Opt Model 573B

**\$2,370** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 1,805 Shipping wgt 3,260 lb

**Meteor I-6 - 223-cid, 137-hp** @ 4200 rpm, 202 lb-ft tq @ 1600-2600 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 150 psi, 1-bbl, single-exh,

*mid model-year* w/

- **Standard**, 9-1/2" clutch, \_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 9-1/2" clutch, \_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, \_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires

# 1956 Meteor Niagara Victoria



2 dr, 6 pass, pillarless hardtop

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ mid **flash** contrasting paint colour

Single-Tone, Two-Tone, or Tri-Tone, *plus* flash colour ext paint

Production (6-cyl) 4 + (V-8) \_\_\_\_\_ = Total \_\_\_\_\_

## Std Model 264D

**\$2,621** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping wgt 3,345 lb

**Meteor V-8 - 272-cid, 173-hp** @ 4400 rpm, 260 lb-ft tq @ 2400 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 160 psi, 2-bbl, single-exh, w/

- **Standard**, 10" clutch, 3.20 (opt 3.89) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 10" clutch, 3.89 (opt 3.20) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, (**176-hp**, 264 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 165 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires, or

## Opt Model 564D

**\$2,490** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 4 Shipping wgt 3,315 lb

**Meteor I-6 - 223-cid, 137-hp** @ 4200 rpm, 202 lb-ft tq @ 1600-2600 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 150 psi, 1-bbl, single-exh,  
*mid model-year* w/

- **Standard**, 9-1/2" clutch, \_\_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 9-1/2" clutch, \_\_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, \_\_\_\_\_ axle, 6.70 x 15" tires

# 1956 Meteor Niagara Ranch Wagon



2 dr, 6 pass, station wagon

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ mid **flash** contrasting paint colour

Single-Tone, Two-Tone, or Tri-Tone, *plus* flash colour ext paint

Production (6-cyl) 97 + (V-8) \_\_\_\_\_ = Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Stowaway back seat** bottom tilts up & forward, back folds forward & down as level-floor loadspace, length 74"

## Std Model 259B

**\$2,842** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping wgt 490 lb

**Meteor V-8 - 292-cid, 200-hp** @ 4600 rpm, 285 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 155 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh, w/

- **Standard**, 10" clutch, 4.09 (opt 4.27) axle, 6.70 x 15" 4-ply tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 10" clutch, 4.27 (opt none) axle, 6.70 x 15" 4-ply tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.54 (opt none) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires, or

## Opt Model 559B

**\$2,770** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 97 Shipping wgt 3,480 lb

**Meteor I-6 - 223-cid, 137-hp** @ 4200 rpm, 202 lb-ft tq @ 1600-2600 rpm, 8.0:1 cr, 150 psi, 1-bbl, single-exh,

*mid model-year* w/

- **Standard**, 9-1.2" clutch, 4.09 (opt 4.27) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 9-1/2" clutch, 4.27 (opt none) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, 3.54 (opt none) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires

**Also see these (printable) PDFs at website [1956-ford.com](http://1956-ford.com)**

**(or search & find with Google)**

- [1956-ford-mainline-and-customline-models-and-specs.pdf](#) (incl'd engs & trans) (11 pages)
- [1956-ford-mainline-and-customline-color-schemes.pdf](#) (4 pages)
- [1956-ford-fairlane-and-crown-vic-models-and-specs.pdf](#) (8 pages)
- [1956-ford-fairlane-and-crown-vic-color-schemes.pdf](#) (10 pages)
- [1956-ford-station-wagon-and-courier-models-and-specs.pdf](#) (9 pages)
- [1956-ford-ranch-wgn-parklane-6pass-country-sdn-color-schemes.pdf](#) (6 pages)
- [1956-ford-8pass-country-sdn-squire-courier-color-schemes.pdf](#) (6 pages)
- [1956-ford-all-colors-list.pdf](#) (5 pages)
- [1956-meteor-models-and-specs.pdf](#) (incl'd engs & trans) (8 pages)
- [1956-meteor-niagara-models-and-specs.pdf](#) (6 pages)
- [1956-meteor-rideau-models-and-specs.pdf](#) (10 pages)
- [1955-meteor-ext-paint-colours.pdf](#) (5 pages)