

1956 Meteor Rideau Models & Specifications

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

Meteor Niagara at 1956-meteor-niagara-models-and-specs.pdf (6 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

"**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 Niagara Two-Door Sedan**
- **Meteor Niagara Four-door Sedan**
- **Meteor Niagara Victoria** 2 dr, pillarless hdtp
- **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 Rideau automobiles are named for the historically significant **Rideau River**, that flows north from Upper Rideau Lake to the Ottawa River at **Rideau Falls** in Ottawa, Ontario—146 kilometers (91 miles). **Samuel de Champlain** (1567-1635) a French explorer and founder of Quebec and New France (1608) wrote that Rideau Falls was given the name "Rideau," with English translation "curtain," because of the curtain-like appearance of the

falling water. Rideau River was later named after the waterfall.

1956 Meteor Rideau Club Sedan



2 dr, 6 pass

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion, jet exh design, & flash** contrasting paint colour
Single-Tone, Two-Tone, or Tri-Tone, *plus* flash colour ext paint Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)
Production (6-cyl) **0** + (V-8 292 & 312) 1,431 = total **1,431**

Std Model 270C \$2,584 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 1,431 Shipping wgt 3,250 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, 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**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 270C \$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production _____ Shipping wgt _____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed, if any w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr (required), 3.22 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 570C \$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production **0** Shipping wgt _____ 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 none installed 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 Rideau Town Sedan



4 dr, 6 pass

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion**, **jet exh design**, & **flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (6-cyl) 1 + (V-8 292 & 312) 5,336 = total **5,337**

Std Model 273C

\$2,639 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 5,336 Shipping wgt 3,290 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, 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**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 6.70 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 273C

\$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production _____ Shipping wgt _____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed, if any w/ required

Merc-O-Matic Dr (reqd), 3.22 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 573C

\$2,508 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 1 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 one installed 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 Rideau Victoria



2 dr, 6 pass, pillarless hardtop

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion, jet exh design, & flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (6-cyl) ____ + (V-8 292 & 312) ____ = total **2,110**

Std Model 264C

\$2,759 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production ____ Shipping wgt 3,350 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, 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**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 264C

\$ ____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production ____ Shipping wgt ____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr (reqd), 3.22 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 564C

\$ ____ CAD FOB Oakville (st trans) Production ____ Shipping wgt ____ 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 few installed, if any 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, 7.10 x 15" tires

1956 Meteor Rideau Four-Door Victoria



mid model-year

4 dr, 6 pass, pillarless hardtop

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion, jet exh design, & flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (V-8 292) ____ + (V-8 312) ____ = total **545**

Promoted as a V-8 eng & Merc-O-Matic Drive powered car

Std Model 257A

\$2,849 CAD FOB Oakville Production ____ Shipping wgt 3,440 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/
Merc-O-Matic Dr, 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 257A

\$ ____ CAD FOB Oakville Production ____ Shipping wgt ____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh
mid model-year few installed, if any w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr, 3.22 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires

Victoria and **Crown Victoria** automobile names reflect the **Victorian era** (approx. 1820-1914 and Queen Victoria's reign 1837-1901) and the **horse-drawn carriages** that feature a front open raised two-coachman seat, and a rear low-slung forward-facing two-passenger sofa seat protected by a prominent (hooded and folding) **calash top**. They were hired by **fashionable English ladies** for city, park, and countryside outings guided by **one or two uniformed coachmen**. This example is from the **Hammann Twistringten Workshop**, Germany (1890-1895).



1956 Meteor Rideau Crown Victoria



2 dr, 6 pass, "**Crown of chrome**" molding over steel top

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion**, **jet exh design**, & **flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (6-cyl) **0** + (V-8 292 & 312) 206 = total **206**

St Model 264A

\$2,936 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 206 Shipping wgt 3,330 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, 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**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 264A

\$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production _____ Shipping wgt _____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr (reqd), 3.22 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 564A

& _____ CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production **0** Shipping wgt _____ 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 none installed 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, 7.10 x 15" tires

1956 Meteor Rideau Sunliner



2 dr, 6 pass, convertible

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion**, **jet exh design**, & **flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (6-cyl) **0** + (V-8 292 & 312) 479 = total **479**

Electro-hydraulic unit (a motor & oil pump) powered convertible top

Std Model 276B

\$3,007 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 479 Shipping wgt 3,450 lb

Meteor V-8 - 292-cid, 200-hp @ 4600 rpm, 285 lb-ft tq @ 2600, 8.0:1 cr, 155 psi, 4-bbl, dual-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**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.22 (opt 3.55) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 276B

\$ ____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production ____ Shipping wgt ____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr (reqd), 3.22 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 576B

\$ ____ CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production **0** Shipping wgt ____ 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 none installed 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, 7.10 x 15" tires

1956 Meteor Rideau 6-Passenger Country Sedan



4 dr, station wagon

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion**, **jet exh design**, & **flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (6-cyl) 173 + (V-8 292 & 312) 1,605 = total **1,778**

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

Std Model 279D

\$2,900 CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 1,605 Shipping wgt 3,560 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" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 10" clutch, 4.27 (opt none) axle, 6.70 x 15" 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 279D

\$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production _____ Shipping wgt _____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr (reqd), 3.54 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Opt Model 579D

\$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production 173 Shipping wgt 3,530 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 few installed, if any 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

1956 Meteor Rideau 8-Passenger Country Sedan



4 dr, station wagon

Bodyside bright-metal **meteor-bolt** molding w/ **medallion, jet exh design, & flash** contrasting paint colour

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

Pumper ported dual-exh (V-8)

Production (6-cyl) _____ + (V-8 292 & 312) _____ = total **933**

Stowaway back seat divided 2/3 left & 1/3 right. Divided bottoms fold up, forward, & down as level-floor loadspace, & divided backs fold forward & down as level-floor loadspace. As well, with the back folded forward, the whole Stowaway back 1/3 right seat tilts up & forward for rear seat access. **Removable Rear Seat (2-pass)** w/ back & bottom cushions removed the seatback folds forward & down as level-floor loadspace, length 82.9."

Std Model 279B \$**3,070** CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production _____ Shipping wgt 3,610 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, 7.10 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 10" clutch, 4.27 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, (**202-hp**, 289 lb-ft tq, 8.4:1 cr, 160 psi), 3.54 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Std Model 279B \$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (Merc-O-Matic Dr) Production _____ Shipping wgt _____ lb

Meteor V-8 - 312-cid, 225-hp @ 4600 rpm, 324 lb-ft tq @ 2600 rpm, 9.0:1 cr, 165 psi, 4-bbl, dual-exh

mid model-year few installed w/

Merc-O-Matic Dr (reqd), 3.54 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires, or

Std Model 579B \$ _____ CAD FOB Oakville (std trans) Production _____ Shipping wgt _____ 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 few installed, if any w/

- **Standard**, 9-1.2" clutch, 4.09 (opt 4.27) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires
- Opt **Overdrive**, 9-1/2" clutch, 4.27 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires
- Opt **Merc-O-Matic Dr**, 3.54 (opt none) axle, 7.10 x 15" tires

Also see these (printable) PDFs at website 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)