

# Paul McCartney's long lost bass found

The original 1961 bass guitar, which featured in some of the most iconic moments in music history, went missing in 1969 but has finally been reunited with its owner and is now worth up to £10 million

Paul McCartney with Höfner Violin Bass 500/1

The Beatles Apr 1963



George Harrison

Ringo Starr

Producer George Martin

John Lennon

## ORIGINAL 1961 BASS

Left-handed, made to order

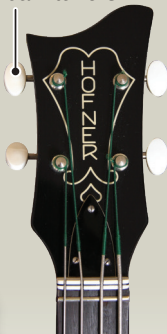
1961

**Apr:** Four-month residency at **Top Ten Club**, Hamburg

**Jun:** McCartney becomes bass player after **Stuart Sutcliffe** quits band – buys bass guitar from **Steinway** shop for £30

**Jul-Dec:** Beatles play 173 UK gigs, many at Liverpool's **Cavern Club**

Van Gent "rugby ball" tuners



Solid spruce

**Before 1964:**

Mother-of-pearl pick guard

Pick guard removed in 1964 repairs

Three-part sunburst respray

Two diamond logo pickups, no poles, mounted on black wood block

Maple back and sides

One-piece flat back



**1963** Höfner gifts replacement bass

**1964** Well-worn '61 bass sent for repairs

**1968** Seen in video for single, **Revolution**

**1969** Last seen during filming of **Get Back**

**1972** Stolen from van in Notting Hill, sold to pub owner

**2024** Stayed in family for 51 years. Found in Hastings, south east England

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