

# Live Online Auction Buying Guide

## INTRODUCING COTTONS ONLINE AUCTIONS

Our Live Online Auction is a new, innovative and pioneering platform for buying and selling property. It provides all the benefits synonymous with traditional room auctions, including: speed, certainty of sale and transparency but with the added advantage of being able to bid pressure-free from the comfort of your own home or office via the Internet, telephone or using a pre authorised proxy bid in order to secure a purchase.

The auction will be held behind closed doors with no public attendance and whereby our Auctioneer's, will conduct the Auction as normal and you will be able to watch and listen to the sale in real time via the 'watch live' stream on our Website.

## A STRAIGHTFORWARD PROCESS FROM START TO FINISH WITH STRESS-FREE BIDDING FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME OR OFFICE

### REGISTRATION

We offer a remote bidding services as follows:

- **By telephone** - we will call you from the auction room
- **By proxy** – the auctioneer bids on your behalf
- **By Internet** - follow the auction via our website and place bids online

In order to take part and bid at our Live Online Auction, you must submit your telephone, proxy or internet bid by completing the form contained in both our catalogue and our website, providing ID documents, proof of funds and the required payment all of which shall be refunded in full in the event your bid is unsuccessful. Once you submit your form, a member of our team will call you to guide you through the process, ensuring all ID documents satisfy our Anti Money Laundering checks and taking payment of your bidding security and once completed they will confirm your bidding approval. All internet bidders will be provided with a unique PIN number enabling them to log on to our bidding platform on the auction day. Unfortunately, any incomplete forms or forms not accompanied with the required documentation or payment will not be processed and you will be unable to bid.

### ACCEPT TERMS

By completing your Bidding registration form you are deemed to accept all terms & conditions contained in both the auction catalogue and contents of the legal pack applicable to the lot you are interested in and in doing so, you instruct Cottons to bid on your behalf and acknowledge that if your bid is successful you are legally bound by the terms of the sale contract/conditions including payment of the auction deposit along with any fees which are the responsibility of the buyer and you must complete this transaction within the timescale specified.

### BIDDING SECURITY

Upon completion of our anti money laundering checks, we require payment of £5,950 equating to £950 auction administration fee and £5,000 bidding security all of which shall be refunded in full if your bid is unsuccessful. If your bid is successful you agree to pay the contractual auction deposit equating to 10% of the purchase price by bank transfer within 24 hours of the auction and your bidding security payment (£5,000) will be credited against the deposit due. Payment must be in cleared funds, made by bank transfer into our account in order to complete you bidding and our bank details will be provided once we have processed your bidding form.

### DUE DILIGENCE

#### Recommended Due Diligence Before Bidding

In general terms, you are strongly advised to view the property and take professional advice as to its condition and suitability. You should also ensure that you thoroughly read and understand all of the documents contained within the legal pack, the auction marketing particulars, the auctioneer's terms and conditions and advice contained within the catalogue and any other associated documentation available online, and take proper legal advice accordingly. You should note in particular, any fees or costs which you will be responsible for if your bid is successful. Finally, in the event your bid is successful, you are the purchaser whereby you have entered into a legal binding contract and by bidding understand the legal importance of the contract you are entering into and the financial commitment that you will be liable for.

**GUIDES &  
RESERVES**
**Understand the Guide and Reserve Price**
**What is a Guide Price?**

The Guide Price is an indication of the seller's current minimum price expectation at auction and the guide price, or range of guide prices, is given to assist prospective purchasers. It is not necessarily what the auctioneer expects to sell the lot for, and should not be taken as a valuation or estimate of sale price. The guide price can be adjusted by the seller at any time up to the end of the auction in light of the interest shown during the marketing period and bidders will be notified of this change on our website.

**What is a Reserve Price?**

The Reserve Price is the seller's minimum acceptable price at auction and is the minimum price that the Auctioneer is currently authorised by the vendor to sell the property for. Please note that Reserve may change throughout the course of marketing. Whilst the Reserve Price is confidential it will usually be set within the quoted guide range and in any event will not exceed the highest quoted guide price.

**THE AUCTION  
DAY**
**What happens on the day of the auction?**
**Addendum**

Before you bid it is essential that you check the Addendum on our website detailing any amendments or last-minute changes to the catalogue particulars or legal pack contents, that may have been made. These changes will form part of the Contract.

**Start of the Auction**

The auction will start promptly at the time stated on our website. The auctioneer will make a number of announcements about the auction procedure before commencing with the sale in numerical lot order.

**Bidding**

- The auctioneer will announce each lot and refer to any Addendum comments (last minute changes).
- The current lot being offered will be displayed on the 'watch live' stream on our website, which will also display the last bid taken for the lot being offered.
- All lots will be offered for sale subject to an undisclosed reserve price. The auctioneer will invite a starting bid and once received, will regulate the bidding increments and the property will be 'knocked down' to the highest bidder, assuming that the reserve is met or exceeded.
- Please note that questions will not be taken by the auctioneer once the auction is in progress. If you do have any last-minute queries, you should speak to a member of the auction team. Ultimately, our advice is, if you have any doubts, do not bid.

**FALL OF THE  
HAMMER**
**On the fall of the hammer**

When the hammer falls, if you are the highest bidder at or above the reserve price, you will have bought the lot. The properties offered for sale on our Online Auction Platform are sold on immediate, unconditional contracts. This means that the fall of the hammer constitutes an exchange of contracts between the buyer and seller. Both parties are legally bound to complete the transaction – usually within 20 working days following the close of the auction but this will be confirmed within the legal documentation.

The property is usually at your insurable risk from this point. Please ensure that you arrange your building insurance immediately after the sale.

Please Remember: Properties are not sold 'subject to contract', 'subject to finance' or 'subject to survey' when you buy at auction. They are sold unconditionally on the fall of the hammer. If you are the successful bidder, you or the named buyer are legally obliged to complete the sale.

**POST  
AUCTION**

If you are the successful purchaser, we'll be in touch following the auction to discuss the next steps.

**DEPOSIT**

You agree to pay both the contractual auction deposit equating to 10% of the purchase price along with the Buyers Administration Fee usually £950 (including Vat) by bank transfer within 24 hours of the auction ending. Your bidding security payment will be credited against the monies due. The contract/memorandum of sale will then be signed on your behalf by the auctioneer with copies being sent to both your solicitor and the seller's solicitor.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT [auctions@cottons.co.uk](mailto:auctions@cottons.co.uk) OR 0121 247 2233**