

Evoque Goes Topless

by Ian Lynas

The Range Rover Evoque Convertible really does stand out from the crowd, the world's first luxury compact SUV convertible and the first ever convertible production Range Rover.

I ask the question how long will it be until Audi, BMW and Mercedes bring a rival to the market, Range Rover have taken the lead in creating something very different from the norm.

Sitting at the pinnacle of the Evoque portfolio, the newcomer certainly enhances the desirability of the Evoque family, taking the Land Rover brand to a new audience of customers looking for a unique combination of roof-down luxury and refinement.

There are two luxurious specifications; HSE Dynamic and HSE Dynamic LUX, Evoque Convertible provides a four-seat interior, Jaguar Land Rover's next-generation infotainment system,

InControl Touch Pro and unrivalled all-terrain convertible capability.

This interesting newcomer retains the elegant design proportions of the five-door and coupe derivatives with its acoustically-lined fabric hood open or closed, which can be opened and closed on the move up to 30mph.

Interior volume and luggage capacity also remains highly versatile, regardless of the roof's position.

Yes with this new offering from Range Rover it comes as no surprise you get a lot of style, just the sort of vehicle you would expect to find in Chelsea.

However do not be fooled while its style is eye-catching make no mistake it is as capable and strong as the rest of the Range Rover family.

The design team have retained Evoque's bold and progressive exterior design with the convertible roof system either open or closed.

A sophisticated fabric roof with tension-bow architecture creates a crisply defined silhouette that remains faithful to the original design, while the Z-fold mechanism folds flush with the rear bodywork for a sleek, uncluttered appearance and new frameless doors have been developed to ensure a clean profile when lowered.

A wide range of accessories allows customers to add their own stamp of individuality, whether it's for design or



practicality purposes.

Evoque Convertible can be specified with illuminated personalised (with a script of your choice) or Union Jack treadplates. Further personalisation in the cabin comes in the form of machine-polished, anodised gear shift paddles, anodised red rotary Shifter and Union Jack sport mat set.



On the outside, bright-finish side tubes; carbon fibre side vents, bonnet louvres and mirror covers; and stylised valve caps all create a vehicle that stands out from the crowd.

On the practical side Evoque Convertible is capable of towing up to 1500kg and for those needing additional practicality a detachable tow bar can also be specified.

My chance to take the wheel of the most exciting Evoque to date came on perfect driving roads in Scotland, a variety of challenging roads to explore the full potential of the vehicle.

A full suite of lightweight all-aluminium four-cylinder engines to choose from with the powerful and efficient Si4 four-cylinder petrol engine offering 240PS performance.

My test car was fitted with the highly-efficient, all-new Ingenium two litre diesel and mated with a ZF nine-speed automatic transmission and four-wheel-drive drive train; you have the ideal cocktail for sheer driving enjoyment.

driven September 2016