

The Peugeot 2008 Unique in Many Ways

by Ian Lynas



Mention Peugeot and for many thoughts turn to the sporting side of the marque, but that is only part of the story; today this French carmaker has something for virtually everyone in their range. The 2008 is a Crossover, an ideal form of family transport and recently I spent a week with one; not only did it deliver good economy, but it turned out to be a very practical mode of transport. Peugeot claim that in bringing the 2008 to market they have created an urban transporter; that may be so, but I found it equally perfect for the rural lifestyle.

Earlier I mentioned Peugeot and its sporting side; with the 2008 you get an innovative cockpit combines high-quality instrumentation and touch screen are reminded of such with the small steering wheel which meets with full approval from; full marks to a very user friendly sat nav system. This Peugeot has another trick the ability to deal with varying road conditions with raised ground clearance, protection and Grip Control.

The compact dimensions of the 2008 make it easy to park in town, yet somehow its interior dimensions are generous.

The market is more and more becoming crowded with SUVs and the 2008 has the robustness of an SUV.

So the 2008 is something of an escape artist as it is equally at ease in town and on the road, it can escape the restrictions of a city with confidence and ease due to its enhanced traction courtesy of Grip Control.

You may ask the question, what is Grip Control? It is available either as standard or as an option on selected models and is an advanced traction control system which allows these cars to grip



the road in all conditions by optimising the traction of both front wheels. Five modes are available: standard, snow, all terrain, sand and ESP.

There is a wide range of petrol and diesel engines and further good news emissions are low, a positive point as taxation is more and more based on such.

My test example had a diesel engine and while it did not deliver sportscar-like performance, it was more than adequate for such a vehicle. Power band for the diesels 75-120bhp.

The new family of diesels are known as BlueHDi and have benefitted from lessons learned in racing at Le Mans. Of course there is an excellent choice of trims, four in total, Access A/C, Active, Allure and GT Line.

Safety is a key element of this crossover and it is fully equipped to keep driver and passengers safe.

In many ways the latest version of the 2008 with its bolder frontal styling is quite unique and I really have to think who are its key competitors.

I have to admit I have been something of a Peugeot fan for many years and many will recall those early saloons which seemed to go on for ever and ever.

The 2008 is a very different type of vehicle, one that is very much for the times we live in.



driven October 2016