

New from BMW the 2 Series Coupe

The new model onslaught continues from BMW with the arrival of the new 2 Series Coupe.

Born out of the successful 1 Series Coupe the newcomer is more elegant with its dynamic styling and the choice from a raft of highly efficient engines both petrol and diesel which all feature turbocharging.

The new model has a good deal more road presence and it is slightly larger than the outgoing 1 Series Coupe and one important plus point is boot space which has been increased by 20 litres.

With a wider wheelbase and track handling has been improved and I was able to prove this over some very demanding roads in the South of Spain and with precise roadholding abilities this BMW will be appreciated by drivers in Northern Ireland.

From launch three models will be available, 220i, M235i and 220d and to follow shortly afterwards a 218i and a 225dAT and further down the line a 228i.

Transmissions manual and the impressive eight speed automatic and the use of Stop/Start is a great fuel saver.

Power outputs range from 143 – 326bhp, the latter is the figure for the M235i. I was able to try the 220d and the M version; two very different cars, one for the diesel fan with all its attributes while the M235i will truly satisfy the driver who yearns for a performance car.



Just like the wide choice of power units in true BMW fashion the trim level choice is equally good, SE, Sport, Modern and M Sport.

The trend in recent years from BMW has been to offer a higher level of standard specification and this continues with the 2 Series Coupe.

The halo model of the range the M235i comes with a very impressive list of goodies, in addition to the M sport model for £34,250 the buyer gets Dakota leather, Xenon headlights, great stopping power with the M Sport braking system,

18 inch alloy wheels which are unique to this model, variable sport steering and on the cosmetic front very special M Performance body styling.

BMW will offer a comprehensive range of M Performance options across the range and if you have enough in your bank account you could go motor racing with a very

special version, the M235i racing and I am reliably informed that already BMW has received some 50 orders for this go faster racing version.

By the way you would need just shy of 60,000 euros if you want to take to the track with an M235i Racing; it strikes me that it would be a perfect choice for Track Days.

However in our market we like our diesels and I expect to see the bulk of the orders going to the diesel versions which can be further enhanced with the array of options available.

The range starts with the 218d priced at £24,265.



Ian Lynas