

## Skoda's Greenline Range

SKODA has the Greenline range of cars and included in the line up, the new Fabia Greenline II which is the most environmentally-friendly car ever to wear the famous Skoda badge.

Over a test course one colleague managed to squeeze 90.7 miles out of a gallon of fuel; I put my hands up I was well off this mark, but I nudged close to 70mpg.

At some stage I hope to get my chance to drive this car on the roads of Northern Ireland and I have no doubt I can approve on my figure.



The second generation Greenline is powered by a new three-cylinder turbo charged 1.2 TDI CR 75bhp DPF common rail (high-pressure direct injection) engine which returns an impressive 83.1 mpg (combined cycle) and produces exceptionally low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of only 89g/km, which means it is exempt from road tax.

Customers can choose between hatch or estate, my test car was in hatch guise. One of the biggest technological changes to boost fuel efficiency and reduce exhaust emissions is the introduction of the stop-start system. More and more car

manufacturers are fitting such a system.

The system operates automatically, turning the engine off when the driver stops the vehicle, engages neutral and releases the clutch. The engine restarts when the driver has engaged the clutch. This system can improve fuel consumption by up to 4.2 mpg on a combined cycle or 7.7mpg in city traffic.

On a single 45 litre tank of fuel, the Greenline II delivers an impressive range of 932 miles (combined cycle), meaning London to Prague is achievable without the need to refuel.

Other technologies introduced on the Greenline II which improve fuel economy are energy recuperation; which uses the vehicles kinetic energy for battery recharging, a gear recommendation system, which helps the driver make optimum use of the engine's potential, a lowered and aerodynamically-covered chassis and low-rolling resistance tyre.

Energy recovery working in partnership with stop/start and in company with other measures help to make this Fabia as green as possible. The Energy Recovery system alone has aided in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2-4 g/km.

Of course it goes without saying; both the estate and hatch versions of this Fabia are exempt from road tax; all in the aid of lowering motoring costs.

With the ever increasing threat of more and more taxes been laid on the motorist, car manufacturers like Skoda are leading the fight to keep motoring within the reach of most.

Full marks to them; I have to admit I quite enjoyed my brief time behind the wheel of this Fabia and while it may not appeal to the sporty driver there are far more who yearn to have cheaper motoring.

Greenline has become quite a family of cars within the Skoda brand, apart from the Fabia, you can choose a Roomster, Yeti, Octavia or Superb.

Ian Lynas