

The Peugeot 308 Feline on Test

THE new Peugeot 308 has signalled the start of a new era for the French carmaker with a greater focus on design-led desirable cars, outstanding environmental performance and best-in-class driving dynamics.

Recently I spent some time behind the wheel of the Feline version and I was taken by the German-like build quality, certainly one of the best cars I have driven from this long established carmaker.



The newcomer is lighter, up to 140kg compared to the previous model and coupled with a number of advanced engines; the result is segment-leading environmental performance.

Depending on the model you choose, fuel economy can be as high as 91.1mpg with CO₂ emissions as low as 82g/km. One of the outstanding features which makes this new Peugeot so desirable is its premium i-Cockpit interior. Driver-focused and with a notably uncluttered dashboard, it offers one of the most technically advanced touch-screen

infotainment systems on any new car.

I really appreciated the large 9.7 inch screen size; this intuitive interface allows you to control everything from the climate control to the audio system. I found the touch screen so easy for all the functions and what really pleased was the fact that the Feline has such features as Bluetooth and a very user friendly sat nav.

Overall the list of standard equipment is impressive, dual zone air con, rear parking sensors, leather steering wheel and gearstick and auto headlamps with follow me home function.

The chunky 18 inch alloy wheels deliver a nice helping of road presence and the use of chrome on the exterior adds a quality touch. A bright and airy feel is provided by the glass panoramic roof. I must add that the steering wheel is smaller than you will find on most cars and it feels as if you are in control of a competition vehicle. Within a few minutes behind the wheel I was at ease with the smaller diameter.

Boot space with the rear seats upright is the largest in the segment, and supplemented by generous-sized cup holders and storage spaces located around the cabin makes this Peugeot a very practical car.



Running costs are a key consideration when choosing a car and the good news is that



the new 308 scores just as highly there as it does everywhere else.

The fuel-efficient range of engines means less time spent filling up on forecourts, while the CO₂ classifications means low VED road tax bandings.

The model tested had a 1.6 litre petrol engine with 156bhp and it was certainly not lacking in the performance department.

Top speed 132mph with rest to 62mph in 8.4 seconds and on the combined fuel cycle 48.7mpg. Looking at emissions and for this 308, 134g/km.

Ian Lynas