

The Impressive Audi SQ5 TDI

The pinnacle of the Audi Q5 range is the SQ5 TDI which delivers impressive performance and high comfort levels.

Recently I had the opportunity to take the wheel of this newcomer which is the first S model in the company's history to rely on a diesel engine which produces 313PS from its three litres.



Power translated means that you can sprint from rest to 62mph in 5.1 seconds and onto a top speed of 155mph, you would need a race circuit to explore the top end potential.

Despite being a powerhouse this SUV according to Audi can reward you with 41.5 miles per gallon and this is achieved by such items as a start stop system which is being more and more used by several manufacturers.

Allied to this impressive power unit is an eight speed tiptronic transmission that changes gear quickly and smoothly and power is transferred to the road by a permanent quattro four wheel drive system which is one of the hallmarks of Audi.

Worth noting when I was at the event to simply the SQ5 I also took time to drive an original Quattro and the one thing that I really noticed was the outstanding braking system of the latest generation models.

The permanent quattro system is standard on this vehicle and it is only available with the tiptronic transmission.

I can easily understand the reason, I doubt if any manual system could match the precision of the transmission fitted to the SQ5.

Normally its centre diff distributes engine power to the axles at a ratio of 40:60 in favour of the rear, but it can easily redistribute the power at high speed when necessary.

The elegantly designed exterior of the SQ5 is matched by a quality interior and immediately I stepped on board I got that



Audi feel which is common throughout the product range.

The interior is designed in black with silver headlining which are options. Luxury shouts at you courtesy of the fine Nappa electrically front sports seats, which I must add not only grip well but are extremely comfy.

Instrumentation is crystal clear, the scales are grey and the needles white and the pedals and gearshift pedals are finished in an aluminium look.

The sports style steering wheel has a distinctive shape and the leather that it is bound in is very comfy to the hands.

Controlling the automatic transmission is easy from the gear selection lever and a single button press delivers S.

With Audi they have mastered the art of producing vehicles that are very much driver focussed with superb controls, easy to read instruments and an abundance of driver aids.

The automatic air con is efficient and heated and ventilated seats are options, in fact an array of options is available for this Audi.

The MMI navigation plus system which is also an option performs with just four keys, navigation, radio, telephone and media.

For all who are transported in the SQ5 they can relax and enjoy space aplenty and for their various trappings there is 540 litres of basic boot capacity. The extended cargo space is 1,560 litres.

Summing up a very attractive, well designed and engineered vehicle and with a starting price of £44,055 pounds.

