

The New Toyota Yaris

THE Yaris takes around 35 percent of sales and is the best seller for Toyota in the UK and now the latest model arrives which builds on the previous offering with even more style, features and improved driver engagement.

With more than 1,000 new parts the latest version is sure to preserve its strong presence in the ultra competitive B segment of the market.



In bringing the latest Yaris to the market, Toyota took onboard customer, press and dealer comments and this is no small way provided the design team and the engineers with clear directions.

I was able to take the wheel of the new Toyota and immediately I was impressed with the quality of the interior, which by the way offers a lot of room for a compact car.

The exterior is very trendy and with a strong frontal styling rather like that of the recently introduced new Aygo; could this be the face of future Toyota models? When a Toyota spokesperson was asked he did not say yes or no, a case of wait

and see.

The Yaris was first introduced in 1999, followed in 2005 and 2011 by further generation models with the Hybrid arriving in 2012.

The secret to its sales success lies with the fact that it offers choice for the buyer, engine choice, two petrol, one diesel and the Hybrid.

Emission levels can be as low as 75g/km and the all important economy. Figures provided by Toyota for the Hybrid are very impressive, well into the 70 and 80mpg bracket and even 91.1mpg is quoted.

I suspect that here in Northern Ireland the power choice may rest with the 1.4 D-4D; this diesel can deliver 72.4mpg on the combined fuel cycle and performance is reasonable, rest to 62mph in 10.8 seconds with a top end speed of 109mph.

Trim levels and there is one to suit just about every buyer, Active, Icon, Sport and Excel and Toyota is confident that Icon will be the top seller.

The Sport version is extremely desirable and should bring even younger drivers to Yaris while the high spec Excel would be ideal for those who are downsizing.

The aim of any manufacturer when producing a small car is to provide the quality of a much larger vehicle, one offering a good level of equipment, surefooted handling and a high level of safety.



The new car ticks all the boxes; behind the wheel the ride is vastly improved from the outgoing version, there is better steering feel thanks to the improved power assisted steering.

We all like comfort and all too often this can be sacrificed in a small car, not the case with this Toyota. The ride is firm without being choppy and noise levels are much lower than before.

Equipment levels across the range depend on the version selected and there are packs available so that the buyer can customise his or her Yaris.

Prices start at just under £10,000 and rise to £15,695.

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