

## The New Vauxhall Cascada

Cascada a new name added to the motoring vocabulary, and which adorns a very attractive full size, four seat convertible from Vauxhall.

Where Vauxhall could score with this newcomer is on pricing, starting at £23,995 it is almost £8,000 cheaper than its main rival in the premium drop-top sector of the market.

Vauxhall see the Audi has their main rival, but with the new Cascada comes affordability paired with excellent levels of equipment, technology and luxury.

There are two trim levels to choose from, the entry level SE with 18 inch alloy wheels, a sports chassis, LED tail lamps and aux-in/USB, all as standard.

The Elite includes leather trim, heated front seats and steering wheel and front fog lamps.



I had the latter on test and it certainly delivered luxury plus excellent economy.

There is a broad range of efficient engines. The line-up consists of a 1.4-litre (140PS) turbo petrol, with a manual gearbox, which can deliver 44.8mpg and 148g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, and a two (165PS) diesel engine with manual and automatic transmissions, achieving up to 54.3mpg combined and 138g/km CO<sub>2</sub>.

Highly praised is the all-new 1.6 SIDI turbo ECOTEC petrol engine. This is the first production engine from Vauxhall's MGE family and it offers major improvements in torque, linearity and overall efficiency.

With a maximum 170PS from 1650-3200rpm and up to 280Nm of torque, giving a 0-60 time of 9.2 seconds and top speed of 135mph.

This engine will be available with a new, low-friction automatic six-speed gearbox that contributes towards combined fuel consumption of 39.2mpg and emissions of 168g/km.

A high-performance 2.0 (195PS) Bi-Turbo diesel engine with manual transmission is also offered and it achieves a combined 138g/km and 54.3mpg and accelerates from rest to 60mph in just 8.9 seconds up to a top speed of 143mph.

I found that the Cascada offered both good comfort and handling and the front suspension system first used in the 325PS Insignia VXR is standard across the range.

The system separates damping and steering functions, reducing torque steer, while also improving steering feel and cornering control and the electric power steering has been tuned specifically for our market.

There are ten colours and Cascada can be ordered with solid, two-coat metallic or two-coat pearlescent paint, and a choice of three roof colours, depending on exterior colour.

The vehicle's fabric roof opens in a mere 17 seconds at driving speeds of up to 30mph.

As with all Vauxhalls, first Cascada owners will benefit from Lifetime Warranty, lasting the life of the car or up to 100,000 miles, whichever comes first.

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