

## The Return of the Impreza

Like a blast from the past the Subaru Impreza is once again available and in order to keep things simple, one trim level, one non turbo petrol engine and a transmission choice, five speed manual or the lineartronic automatic.

A car for all seasons and conditions, this Subaru of course has all wheel drive and is the only car in its class to be equipped with such. The system is the very latest from this Japanese carmaker.

On sale in the highly competitive C-segment of the market, according to a Subaru

spokesperson the favourable exchange rate has enabled the reintroduction of the Impreza.

This model has been on sale in the Japanese home market and the USA since 2012 where it has enjoyed considerable sales success and Subaru are confident that here in Northern Ireland there will be several who will fully appreciate the attributes of the latest Impreza.

I can say without a single doubt that in the handling department this car is legendary. First introduced on the world

market back in 1992 the name Impreza is the best known in the entire Subaru line up.

The high-tech symmetrical AWD system and the four-cylinder horizontally-opposed Boxer engine are key to the car's road-going abilities and appeal. I tried the new Impreza over a variety of roads in County Fermanagh and I must say its crab-like roadholding impressed.

The power unit is a modest 1.6 litres capacity and is a new generation version, power output is 114PS and that delivers top speed of 114mph with the manual transmission and three miles per hour less with the automatic.

Rest to 62mph is 12.3 seconds (manual) and 12.6 seconds (automatic) and on the economy front Subaru claim just over 46mpg on the combined cycle for the automatic version and two miles per gallon less for the manual version. The Boxer engine also delivers that familiar Subaru note that many will instantly recognise.

The all-round independent suspension ensures a high level of refinement and driving agility with the car absorbing impacts from poor road surfaces while allowing a linear, predictable response to steering inputs.

A wide anti-roll bar improves the stability, while vibrations throughout the cabin are kept to a minimum thanks to a highly rigid cross-member.



The electrically-assisted power steering ensures linear responses at all times, as well as a natural steering feel.

Vehicle Dynamics Control is standard, further improving stability and hazard avoidance and it also features an emergency brake-assist function, while a brake override control system eliminates the risk of unintended acceleration by ensuring that braking always takes precedence if both brake and throttle pedals are pressed at the same time. This is just an example of the emphasis which Subaru place on safety.

Standard equipment is good, automatic on/off headlamps and rain-sensing windscreen wipers, front fog lamps, power-folding heated door mirrors with LED turn signals, windscreen wiper de-icer system, 16-inch alloy wheels, tyre repair kit and daytime running lights.

Further comfort is provided by dual-zone air-conditioning, rear passenger heating and ventilation ducts, six-way manually-adjustable driver's seat, heated front seats, 60/40 split-fold rear seats, leather-wrapped steering wheel and gear knob, two 12V power outlets, USB and aux-in jacks, and a reversing camera.

Customers can further upgrade with leather seating and a Pioneer satellite navigation system. Colour choice Satin White, Ice Silver and Quartz Blue.

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