

The Mazda6 Sport Tourer Delivers

by Ian Lynas

Many will recall the term estate car or shooting brake, now seldom used, but to my surprise I recently discovered that a certain German carmaker has re-introduced a shooting brake to their range.



It is more fashionable to use such words as Avant or Tourer and it was refreshing to take the wheel of a Tourer amidst a seas of SUVs which have recently come my way.

The vehicle in question was a Mazda6 Tourer and like the rest of the range from this Japanese manufacturer there is a theme re style and handling, they all score well in these departments.

The model I had on test to give it the full title the 175PS Sport Nav Diesel, a well proportioned and handsome set of wheels.

Clearly there is still a market for such and this Mazda would appeal to a family

or a business user.

This front wheel drive with a 2.2 litre diesel engine delivers adequate performance, rest to 62mp in eight seconds and on to a top speed of 137mph (where legal to do so).

On economy I did meet a person who achieved a wallet pleasing 55mpg, he did admit that this was accomplished on a long drive. Official figures from Mazda state 61.4mpg re the combined figure.

My test example was finished in a shade of blue described as Reflex with a metallic finish (an option at just under £600) and the interior well appointed with black leather.

An automatic transmission is available as an option, but on this occasion I had to work with a slick six speed manual.

Giving the exterior an air of chunkiness, 19 inch bright alloy wheels. I was surprised to discover equipped with such large wheels the handling was good even over the bumps; often such wheels will take away from comfort and handling over our roads.

LED headlights with LED daytime running lights, LED front fog lights, adaptive front lighting system and reversing camera are also part of the package.





Comfort is well catered for, with an eight way power adjustable driver's seat with memory and lumbar adjustment, six way power adjustable front passenger seat, and heated front seats and steering wheel for those frosty early morning starts.

The colour active driving display combines with traffic sign recognition and memory linked to smart key. I found the nav screen a trifle on the small side.

Audio and Communication, again well catered for courtesy of a premium Bose sound system with 11 speakers.

The on the road price of this model is £27,195. However on this occasion I was in charge of a Tourer with a number of options bringing the final tally to £28,555.

Amongst the options included, a safety pack which comprised of, the already noted adaptive LED highlights, blind spot monitoring with rear cross traffic alert, lane-keep assist system and rear smart city brake support. Would I opt for the safety pack, yes without a hesitation?

In keeping with the rest of the Mazda family, a three year 60,000 mile warranty and service intervals come at every 12,500 miles.

A good all rounder, very satisfying to drive and with the added bonus of being extremely practical.

driven November 2017