

# Truly Superb

Ian Lamming test drives the Skoda Superb

**A**T THE end of a long week it's probably the last thing you fancy, a 60-mile cross country jaunt to the Lakes.

There's nothing wrong with the roads, they are more interesting than most; there is nothing wrong with the countryside, it's beautiful; and, as it turns out, there is nothing wrong with the car.

When you are not in the mood, really not up for the drive, the last thing you want to do is get behind the wheel.

So the strength of a good car, the appeal of a brilliant car, is that seconds into the journey all is well and you start to enjoy the ride.

That's what happens with the brand new Skoda Superb. In fact, come to think of it, the impact of the car starts even before you slip inside.

The new Superb looks, well, superb. I mean really very striking, smart and sporty. The new lights and grille and sleek estate bodywork make the Skoda one of the best looking cars on the road today – fabulous.

What makes this big comfortable estate car your best friend when you are tired is not only its ease of use but also how fun it is to drive.

The 2.0 litre diesel is stunningly good with 190PS offering startling performance with 60+ economy. The six speed DSG automatic gearbox is the best there is being stupendously quick, smooth and responsive.

Then there's the ride; superbly controlled and reactive but cossetting at the same time.

Superb is a very big and accommodating car.

If you have any doubts then try sitting in the back seats where the legroom is incredible and the boot behind your back is gargantuan. Yet, overall, the car feels nimble, sharp and sporty.

Superb also feels plush inside and is extremely well specified – it wants for nothing in the luxury stakes.

The dashboard is excellent, dominated by a large and easy to use touch screen.

The ergonomics are faultless, the materials high quality.

Arriving at journey's end, rather than feeling more tired, the Superb leaves me feeling rejuvenated, reinvigorated, restored and ready for the weekend.

It's a veritable tonic. How many cars can you say that about?

## Fact File

- Skoda Superb
- Engine: 2.0 turbo diesel
- Power: 190PS
- 0-62mph: 7.8 secs
- Top speed: 145mph
- Combined miles per gallon: 61.4
- Transmission: six-speed DSG
- CO2 g/km: 120

