



A privileged Perspective

Ian Lamming enjoys the delights of country driving in the Infiniti Q50t

Fact File

Infiniti Q50 2.0t
Engine: 2.0 litre diesel
Power: 211PS
0-62mph: 7.2
Top speed: 152mph
Combined miles per gallon: 44.8
Transmission: seven-speed auto
CO2 g/km: 146

THERE'S nothing quite like living in the country, all that space, all that fresh air, all those empty roads; well mostly anyway.

It's the perfect place to test a car, to drive a car because you want to not out of necessity. Problem is you kind of get used to it, take it for granted a tad and when you are running late it can be frustrating.

Tick, tick, tick; that will be a horsebox then. Tock, tock, tock; that will be a tractor. Tick, tick, tick; that must be a retired person with all day to get to the café.

With no dual carriageway, few straight lines and plenty of bends a useful car must be blessed with certain attributes to give you the confidence and the ability to dispense with slow movers, responsibly and safely of course.

A 2.0 litre turbo-charged motor is never going to be short of breath and the Q50 is no exception. Press the sport button and the kickdown on the seven-speed auto throws you immediately into the big fat power band giving you the ultimate in control when cruising on by the slower movers.

Ironically, it is calm, unhurried controlled and therefore safe. That's the benefit of 211PS at your right foot. Before you can blink you are back on the proper side of the road and on your way.

What this means is that the Q50 makes rapid progress without having to go silly. It also carries plenty of speed through the bends because it handles so well, grips tenaciously and steers magnificently, largely down to ultra-modern airplane-like fly-by-wire technology.

When and if you do have to brake, massive calipers bite deeply into huge discs with all manner of gadgetry retarding the sports saloon with amazing alacrity.

Q50 remains a looker like its diesel cousin. It is curvy, swoopy and never fails to catch the eye of passersby, even if most of them may wonder what the badge is all about.

The interior is simply gorgeous blending the quality of high-end traditional values with the very latest in touch screen technology; not just one but two to handle myriad functions including the satnav.

If you get to ride in the back, it is lavish to the point where the driver really should wear a chauffeur's hat. Boot's a big one too for all the designer luggage or shopping, darling.

Q50 has everything you need to see the world from a privileged perspective that matches perfectly the delights of country living.