

Technological Triumph



Ian Lamming drives the new Peugeot 5008

I DON'T know whether you have noticed but it's the 21st century and it's only right and proper that any new vehicle that tiptoes onto our roads reflects the current technological revolution.

The pressure on automotive designers as a result must be immense but Peugeot has managed to remain ahead of the game with the brand new 5008 – Luddites beware, shop elsewhere!

This large SUV is a veritable laboratory, a gadget testbed, a virtual feast of touch screen, camera operated, radar-using, electronics, which will delight, protect and bewilder in equal measures.

The 5008 comes with the brilliant i-Cockpit but on higher spec models this is amplified.

Designed to stimulate and delight the senses, Peugeot i-Cockpit® Amplify can boost or relax dynamics depending on your mood.

Changes can be made to lighting in the head-up digital instrument panel and touch-screen to change ambiance.

The 5008 can also amplify the engine sound through the speakers to stimulate aurally.

It will even alter the scent with different fragrances to arouse the senses, developed in collaboration with Scentsys® and Antoine Lie, an internationally renowned perfumer. Choose from Cosmic Cuir, Aerodrive or Harmony Wood. Unreal.

Not forgetting touch, for the ultimate in relaxation, the driver can enjoy a multipoint seat massage with five programmable modes to suit all tastes.

Dynamic data is also displayed in the Configurable 12.3in head-up digital instrument panel. It's all incredible.

The interior is stunning too and light as day thanks to a panoramic sunroof. Dash curves into doors and there is a superb amount of storage for your bits and pieces.

With seven individual seats, 5008 can be configured in a way to meet every need. Intelligent features include removable seats in row three and flat folding front passenger seat help to increase practicality even further.

Rear seat passengers get oodles of leg and elbow room and the rear twin seats whip out of the boot floor in a flash, made easier still by the electrically operated rear door.

The new 3008 turned heads with its rugged good looks. I think the 5008 even trumps that thanks to its extra length, girth and bigger road presence.

Despite being a big fella, it is incredibly easy to pilot even in tight spaces and parking couldn't be simpler thanks to 180 degrees of vision from the rear camera.

On the open road it shrinks again and is surprisingly sharp through the bends and over rises. The levels of relaxed comfort it offers

make it a supreme mile muncher and the modest 1.2 litre turbo three cylinder is surprisingly peppy and reasonably economical given the lump it has to propel.

The new 5008 is very much a car of its day, an SUV that embodies perfectly the very best of automotive development. It is living the sci-fi dream.

Fact File

- Peugeot 5008 GT Line
- Engine: 1.2 turbo petrol
- Power: 131hp
- 0-62mph 10.4 secs
- Top speed: 117mph
- Combined MPG: 54.3
- Transmission: six speed manual
- CO2 g/km: 120
- Price: £28,195.00