

Take a walk on the wild side

Ian Lamming takes a quiet ride in the Infiniti Q70 Hybrid

Fact File

Infiniti Q70 Hybrid

Engine: 3.5 litre V6 petrol with electric motor

Power: 364PS

0-62mph: 5.3

Top speed: 155mph

Combined miles per gallon: 45.6

Transmission:

seven-speed auto

Insurance: 43E-T1

CO2 g/km: 145

HALF a dozen baby bunnies play on the verge enjoying the spring sunshine oblivious to the car passing by.

Two crows feast on some breakfast road kill barely lifting a beady eye as the Infiniti whispers on. By the flattened feathers it had been a hawk. I wonder how it met its end?

Thinking about it, it might have fallen victim to a Q70 Hybrid.

I'm not sure whether a car this quiet is good for wildlife and the environment or will ultimately lead to its demise.

Hybrid packs a 3.0 V6 petrol but also a powerful electric motor. Some pretty impressive electronic brains then decide which powers the rear wheels.

The only thing the driver notices is the rev counter needle suddenly plummet to zero and a little EV sign illuminate in green – everything else is seamless.

Bunnies, birds or even pedestrians just can't hear you coming – it's eery, spooky and very very satisfying.

When duty calls the V6 is only too willing to enter the fray and it does so with a glorious growl. When sparky and combustion engine work together the effect is startling. This thing really motors.

What looks and feels like a limo suddenly develops attitude and the Q70 comes alive with incredible mid-range and

sprinting ability.

The power is potent yet because the Hybrid has electric backing, fuel consumption is mid-to-high-30s, which is impressive too.

Cruising through town or on the motorway Q reverts to sublime limo.

The interior is plush with sumptuous leather and wood veneer. Dash and clocks are attractive, specification off the chart and the overall ambience serene and opulent – it even has double-glazing for goodness sake.

Q70's looks are striking, particularly from the front.

I lost count of the number of people who approached and asked me exactly what the Infiniti was; it's a thoroughly modern, fresh and great looking car.

Even the wildlife likes it really because it doesn't intrude on their daily lives.

Now that has to be a good thing.

