

VOLVO V70

OVERVIEW

The award-winning Volvo V70 continues to dominate the premium large estate car market, and defines the parameters by which estate cars are judged by mixing practicality and design with quality, comfort and desirability.

Produced in both of Volvo's plants in Gothenburg, Sweden and Ghent, Belgium, the V70 echoes the design cues introduced by the Volvo S80 and subsequently continued in the XC90 and Volvo's compact sportswagon, the V50.

Inside, the V70 is equally well designed with crisp Scandinavian style and an ergonomically efficient fascia, plus room for a quintet of adults – with the option of two extra rear-facing seats in the load area.

The V70's rear seats easily and conveniently fold down to create a vast, completely flat load bay that's enhanced by clever design features, such as head restraints that neatly fold away instead of needing to be removed, plus a pop-up shopping bag holder available to keep items in place during travel.

Couple all this with an outstanding safety, security and environmental package, and it's little wonder that the Volvo V70 has achieved such critical acclaim.

- Award winning 'Best Estate'
- Class-leading, premium large estate car
- Smart, clean Scandinavian design
- Modern Volvo design combined with classic Volvo estate style
- Öko-tex standard emissions-free interior, with versatile, flat load area
- High Volvo safety standards – fully crash tested in Volvo Safety Centre
- Wide range of powerful engines (in Diesel and Bi-Fuel) from 140bhp to 300bhp

The latest, award-winning Volvo V70 was launched in 2000 and updated in 2004, and is the market leader in the large estate car market. Building on over half a century of Volvo experience in producing estate cars, the V70 has all the qualities expected of a Volvo estate, has defined the parameters by which estate cars are judged, and also reflects the quality, design, versatility and charisma that characterises Volvo's latest models.

Style and Desirability

Styled under Volvo's then Director of Design, Peter Horbury, the V70 is instantly recognisable as a Volvo with a V-shaped bonnet, low grille and prominent shoulder lines that echo the

acclaimed style introduced in the Volvo S80 and continued in subsequent models such as the Volvo XC90 and V50 compact sportswagon.

The rounded curves of its side profile are a particular highlight and disguise the square, practical design of the V70's rear. The vertical tailgate is another feature synonymous with large Volvo estates and helps to provide a spacious, well-shaped load area.

Power and Performance

A broad range of engines ensures there's a Volvo V70 to suit every customer. The petrol engine line-up consists of five-cylinder transverse configurations, ranging from a 2.0T petrol engine offering 180bhp and a 140bhp 2.4-litre to the latest 260bhp T5 and the awesome 300bhp of the 2.5-litre V70 R.

In addition, there is a 210bhp 2.5T and Volvo's refined and frugal 163bhp, D5 common rail turbodiesel, both of which are available with All Wheel Drive using the electronic Haldex coupling used in the XC90 and XC70.

Volvo also offers Bi-Fuel engines for the V70. These are produced on the same production line as the rest of the range and sold with a full Volvo warranty, and at the push of a button change between running on petrol or (cheaper) gas (either LPG or CNG) for lower, cleaner emissions and fuel cost savings.

Chassis, Ride and Handling

The Volvo V70's ride and handling belies the view that choosing an estate car means sacrificing driving pleasure. MacPherson strut front suspension and a sophisticated Multi-link system at the rear provide an entertaining drive with a high level of active safety.

An optional Sports Handling pack is available offering larger 18in BBS split rim alloy wheels, speed dependent steering and Volvo's advanced, second generation active Four-C (Continuously Controlled Chassis Concept) chassis, featuring two dynamic chassis modes: Comfort and Sport.

The Four-C system continuously analyses huge amounts of information up to 500 times a second and responds instantly by adjusting each of the Monroe-Öhlins shock absorbers individually to suit the road and driving conditions. It also interacts with the DSTC (Dynamic Stability and Traction Control) system – the engine brakes, steering and other functions – to maximise response and handling.

All models come as standard with a 'Dynamic chassis', while the Volvo V70 R features Volvo's unique active performance 'Four-C' chassis technology as standard, enabling the

suspension to be switched between Sport, Advanced Sport or Comfort settings at the touch of a button. This model, like the Volvo XC90, V70 AWD and XC70, also features All Wheel Drive electronically controlled by a Haldex coupling.

Versatile Design

The key to the success of any estate car, though, is its versatility, and the Volvo V70 does not disappoint. The passenger compartment offers plenty of space for five adults plus the option of two rear facing seats in the loadspace. The fascia is an ergonomic masterpiece and uses classical clean and simple Scandinavian design. Naturally, the luggage bay is vast, flat and well shaped. The front passenger seat also folds forward to accommodate items up to 3.05m long.

Great design touches include split folding rear seats (60/40) with two positions for the seat backs, rear head restraints that simply fold away rather than needing to be clumsily removed, and a grocery bag holder to keep shopping in place and upright during travel. Many variants also feature a waste bag holder/bottle holder for rear passengers and it's even possible to specify integrated booster seats for both outer rear seats, and a folding table or child seat that pops out of the centre rear armrest.

There's little wonder that the Volvo V70 has won an array of awards, including being named as *What Car?* magazine's 'Estate Car of the Year' several years running.

Safety

As you'd expect, the Volvo V70 is also packed with the latest safety features, which it shares with the rest of the Volvo range. Volvo's acclaimed SIPS (Side Impact Protection System) and WHIPS (Whiplash Protection System) are complemented by twin front 'intelligent' dual-stage airbags (with the option of a passenger airbag cut-off switch), three-point safety belts with tensioners for all five occupants, and an Inflatable Curtain (IC) to protect against head injuries in a side impact.

To improve the driver's visibility, water repellent glass is available on door mirrors and (laminated) side windows.

In addition, Volvo also has its innovative BLIS (Blind Spot Information System) technology that uses digital cameras in the door mirrors to monitor and alert the driver to vehicles around the rear sides of the car.

Environment

Volvo's 'clean inside and out' programme reflects the company's continuing commitment to the environment. It is built in one of the automotive world's cleanest factories, and 85 per cent

of each car can be recycled and every new Volvo is backed by an environmental declaration examined and verified by Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance Limited (LRQA) of London. Volvo's annual Corporate Citizenship report is available on www.volvocars.com/citizenship.

Like all Volvos, the V70's interior is free from allergy inducing emissions, and an active carbon filter ensures dust and exhaust particles do not enter the cabin, while an Air Quality System (AQS) shuts down the air input if outside air is too dirty.

All Volvo's five cylinder petrol engines in the range already meet the stringent EU 2005 and ULEV (Ultra Low Emission Vehicle) emissions requirements and also feature Volvo's Premair® - a special catalytic coating in the radiator which converts up to 75 per cent of the harmful ground-level ozone passing through it into pure oxygen.