

citroen c5 automoto

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Introduction

The automotive landscape is constantly evolving, and manufacturers are always pushing the envelope to deliver vehicles that combine style, comfort, and performance. Among the latest contenders, the **Citroën C5 Automoto** has captured attention for its distinctive design, advanced technology, and impressive driving dynamics. Whether you're a seasoned Citroën enthusiast or a newcomer looking for a premium family sedan, this review explores every facet of the C5 Automoto to help you decide if it's the right fit for your lifestyle.

What Is the Citroën C5 Automoto?

The Citroën C5 Automoto is a premium midsize sedan that builds on Citroën's heritage of innovation and French styling. Launched as part of the automoto lineup, the model emphasizes a balance between everyday practicality and sporty refinement. The term "automoto" reflects Citroën's focus on creating vehicles that feel like a natural extension of the driver's personality, blending automotive engineering with motorcycling influences in terms of agility and responsiveness.

Under the hood, the C5 Automoto is powered by a range of efficient engines, including turbocharged gasoline and diesel options, as well as a plug-in hybrid variant that caters to eco-conscious drivers. The vehicle's architecture is based on Citroën's CMF-D platform, which offers a lightweight yet rigid chassis, enabling precise handling and a comfortable ride. With its contemporary styling cues—sleek LED headlights, a sculpted hood, and a panoramic glass roof—the C5 Automoto stands out on the road while maintaining a sophisticated presence.

Key Features and Specifications

Exterior Design

The Citroën C5 Automoto showcases a modern aesthetic that marries French elegance with a hint of sportiness. The front fascia features a bold, angular grille framed by sharp LED strips, while the side profile is accentuated by a subtle, swooping roofline that gives the sedan a dynamic silhouette. The rear of the vehicle boasts a distinctive taillight design that extends across the width of the car, adding both visual interest and functional illumination. The overall dimensions—approximately 4.8 meters in length and a 2.8-meter wheelbase—provide ample interior space while ensuring the car remains maneuverable in urban environments.

Interior Comfort and Technology

Inside, the C5 Automoto offers a driver-centred cabin that prioritises ergonomics and connectivity. The seat layout is spacious, with supportive upholstery that can be customised with a range of premium materials. A high-definition 10-inch infotainment display sits at the centre of the dashboard, featuring Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, and a voice-controlled navigation system. The steering wheel is equipped with multifunctional controls for audio, phone, and cruise control settings, allowing the driver to keep focus on the road.

Additional comfort features include climate-controlled seats, a panoramic sunroof, and a quiet cabin thanks to advanced noise insulation materials. For tech-savvy users, the C5 Automoto offers a head-up display, wireless charging pads, and a suite of driver-assist technologies such as adaptive cruise control, lane-keeping assist, and a

360 degree camera system that enhances safety and convenience.

Engine and Performance

The Citroën C5 Automoto is available in multiple powertrain options, each designed to meet different driving needs. The most common configurations include:

- 1.6 litre Turbocharged Gasoline: Produces around 180 horsepower and 250 Nm of torque, delivering a smooth yet responsive acceleration curve.
- 2.0 litre Turbocharged Diesel: Generates 140 horsepower and 400 Nm of torque, offering strong low end pulling power and efficient cruising.
- Plug in Hybrid (PHEV): Combines a 1.6 litre engine with an electric motor, delivering a combined output of 200 horsepower and a pure electric range of up to 50 kilometres.

All variants are paired with an 8 speed automatic transmission that optimises fuel economy and enhances driving comfort. The C5 Automoto's suspension system, featuring MacPherson struts at the front and a multi-link setup at the rear, ensures a balanced ride that absorbs road imperfections while maintaining stability during cornering.

Fuel Efficiency and Emissions

Citroën has placed a strong emphasis on environmental responsibility with the C5 Automoto. The plug in hybrid version boasts a CO₂ emission rating of approximately 90 g/km, while the gasoline and diesel models achieve emissions below 100 g/km. Fuel economy is impressive across the board, with the 1.6 litre gasoline engine achieving around 6.5 L/100 km in combined driving conditions, and the diesel variant reaching 5.2 L/100 km. The PHEV's electric only mode allows drivers to cover short distances—such as daily commutes—without consuming any petrol or diesel, further reducing operating costs.

Safety and Driver Assistance Systems

The Citroën C5 Automoto is equipped with an extensive array of safety features that earn it high safety ratings from independent testing bodies. Key highlights include:

- Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC): Maintains a set distance from the vehicle ahead, adjusting speed automatically.
- Lane Keeping Assist (LKA): Warns the driver and can gently steer the car back into its lane.
- Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB): Detects potential collisions and applies brakes if the driver does not react in time.
- Driver Attention Monitoring: Uses cameras to detect signs of drowsiness or distraction and alerts the driver.
- Night Vision Assist: Enhances visibility in low light conditions, especially for pedestrians and animals.
- High Definition Camera System: Provides a 360 degree view for parking and low speed manoeuvres.

These features collectively contribute to a safer driving experience, particularly in congested urban settings and on long highway journeys.

Driving Experience and Handling

One of the standout aspects of the Citroën C5 Automoto is its balanced handling. The vehicle's chassis tuning prioritises a smooth ride without sacrificing agility. The steering is lightweight yet precise, offering a clear sense of road feedback. When navigating tight corners, the multi link rear suspension keeps the tires firmly planted, while the front MacPherson struts provide a comfortable yet firm feel.

Acceleration is brisk across all engine options. The 1.6 litre turbocharged gasoline model can sprint from 0 to 100 km/h in roughly 8.5 seconds, while the diesel variant takes slightly longer due to its focus on torque. The plug in

hybrid's electric motor delivers instant torque, making the car responsive during city driving and at low speeds. The transition between electric and combustion power is seamless, thanks to Citroën's refined powertrain management system.

Brake performance is also noteworthy. The C5 Automoto's ventilated front disc brakes and rear disc system provide strong stopping power, even in emergency situations. The anti lock braking system (ABS) and electronic brake force distribution (EBD) work in tandem to maintain stability during sudden stops.

Maintenance and Ownership Costs

Citroën's commitment to affordability extends beyond the initial purchase price. The C5 Automoto benefits from a straightforward maintenance schedule, with routine service intervals that align with industry standards. Key points to consider include:

- Oil Changes: Every 10,000 kilometres or 12 months, whichever comes first.
- Tire Rotation: Recommended every 7,500 kilometres.
- Brake Inspection: Every 15,000 kilometres.
- Battery Check (PHEV): Annual inspection to ensure optimal performance.

Repair costs for the C5 Automoto are moderate compared to other premium sedans, largely due to the availability of widely stocked spare parts. Warranty coverage typically spans 3 years or 100,000 kilometres, with an extended powertrain warranty available for the hybrid variant. Insurance premiums are competitive, especially for drivers with a clean record, and the vehicle's advanced safety suite often leads to lower risk assessments.

Comparisons with Competitors

In the midsize sedan segment, the Citroën C5 Automoto faces stiff competition from models such as the BMW 3 Series, Audi A4, Mercedes B Class, and Volvo S60. Below is a quick comparison of key attributes:

- Price: The C5 Automoto offers a more affordable entry point, typically 10–15% less than its German rivals.
- Interior Quality: While the 3 Series and A4 boast high-end materials, the C5 Automoto's cabin is praised for its spaciousness and user friendly layout.
- Powertrain Options: The PHEV variant provides a distinct advantage for eco friendly buyers, a feature not widely available in the same class.
- Safety Features: The C5 Automoto's standard safety package rivals that of the S60 and often surpasses the base models of its competitors.
- Technology: The infotainment system is comparable to that of the A4, though the BMW 3 Series offers a more integrated digital ecosystem.

Overall, the Citroën C5 Automoto delivers strong value, especially for drivers seeking a blend of affordability, safety, and environmental responsibility.

Customer Reviews and Expert Opinions

Feedback from owners and automotive journalists consistently highlights the C5 Automoto's strengths:

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