

Tucson Sport ticks the right boxes

 By [Henrie Geyser](#)

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Dressed in go-faster sporty gear, the latest addition to Hyundai's popular Tucson range must rank as one of the sexiest-looking and best-equipped SUVs in its class.



Since its addition to the range in June, the strikingly handsome 1.6 TGD1 turbo Executive Sport has added further fire-power to the third-generation Tucson range which has already clocked up more than 7,500 sales in just over a year.

The stand-out exterior of the Sport version includes four 19-inch low profile tyres, black alloy wheels, black side trim and two twin bazooka-like chrome exhaust outlets. Under its stubby hood is a turbocharged 1,6-litre four-cylinder petrol engine that delivers a spirited 150kW and 295Nm to the front wheels via a slick six-speed manual gearbox.

The spacious living quarters are richly furnished with an eight-inch screen infotainment system with satellite navigation, Bluetooth phone linking and music streaming, as well as a CD player, USB and AUX music input and a several settings for FM and AM radio reception. It also displays a rear view from the park assist camera when reversing the vehicle.



Additional convenience features include cruise control, rain sensors for the automatic windscreen wipers, an automatic air-conditioning system, electrically adjusted leather seats and multifunction controls on the steering wheel.

Among the safety features in the Tucson Sport are an electronic stability programme (ESP), advanced brake system (ABS) with electronic brake distribution (EBD) and a full set of driver, front passenger, side and curtain airbags all contributing to its five-star EuroNCAP rating.

A keenness to trot

On the road, the Sport handles like a smart sedan, thanks to the grip of its fat takkies, fairly direct steering, well-sprung suspension and its keenness to trot. The cog-swopping process is smooth and quick although the sensitive clutch takes a while to get used to. The ride is particularly comfortable, even with five aboard and larger windows provide excellent all-round views.

The Tucson Sport is sure to find increased sales traction, particularly with buyers looking for a practical, comfortable, and well-priced SUV with sporty looks and matching performance.

The Tucson Sport's is priced at R499,900 which includes a seven-year/200,000km warranty, roadside assistance for five years or 150,000km, and a five-year/90,000 km service plan.

ABOUT HENRIE GEYSER

Henrie Geyser joined the online publishing industry through iafrica.com where he worked for five years as news editor and editor. He now freelances for a variety of print and online publications, on the subjects of cars, food, and travel, among others; and is a member of the South African Guild of Motoring Journalists. henrieg@iafrica.com

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