

Camouflaged testing

SEAT Tarraco: on and off-road performance in detail

- / **A SEAT engineer gives us his impressions at the wheel of the new SUV prior to its official presentation on 18 September**
- / **Comfort, safety and roominess are just a few of its most important features**
- / **The new model demonstrates its versatility on the pavement and on a rocky mountain trail**
- / **The SEAT Tarraco is equipped with new assistants, such as the Rollover Assist, for even safer driving**

Martorell, 04/09/2018. - The SEAT Tarraco makes its road debut with camouflage in order to disguise its design lines. Stefan Ilijevic, head of Predevelopment, Patents and Innovation at SEAT, sits behind the wheel of the new model to test all of its features. Living up to its name, Stefan drives the brand's third SUV on the outskirts of the typical Mediterranean landscape of Tarragona and the following are his initial impressions while at the wheel:

- **The biggest member of the family:** After turning on the ignition and putting it through its first round several bends, Stefan comments that: **“the feeling at the wheel of the new SEAT Tarraco is impressive. It’s very dynamic and makes you feel safe at the same time”**. SEAT’s most recent SUV can seat up to seven passengers and has a 760 litre luggage compartment. It gives the driver **“a great feeling of size and spaciousness”**, adds the engineer.

- **In good form on any type of terrain:** The SEAT Tarraco faces an off-road course to test how it performs prior to its international presentation. **“It handles rocky mountainous terrain with a slope of up to 70% with ease”**, explains the engineer while driving down a very steep incline. **“Its all-wheel drive seems to have no limits. Right now the car is braking by itself”**, adds Stefan.

- **No fear of extreme cornering:** The car continues on its course, and in a very tight curve moves forward at a tilt. **“It has been designed to successfully tackle lateral tilts of 85%. On this kind of terrain it conveys a feeling of sturdiness and safety”** says Stefan. In addition, the new model is equipped with two new driver assistants. One is the Rollover Assist, which automatically unlocks the doors, turns off the engine and activates an emergency call in the hypothetical case of a rollover.

- **Up to six driving modes with a simple hand gesture:** **“All you have to do is turn the driving mode selector dial and you’re ready to drive on pavement”**. After completing the off-road portion of the test, Stefan changes to ‘sport’ mode. Thanks to this system the car provides an extremely versatile range of driving capabilities: **“You can use it in the mountains at the weekend and drive just as comfortably around the city”**, explains the engineer. Furthermore, with the car’s adaptive suspension setup (DCC), **“you get the dynamic feeling of a car that**



can also take you on long journeys”, he concludes. These and other details of the SEAT Tarraco will be made public at its international presentation next 18 September in Tarragona, the day when the company is officially adding a new model to complete its SUV offensive which began in 2016 and currently features the Ateca and the Arona.

SEAT is the only company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets cars in Spain. A member of the Volkswagen Group, the multinational has its headquarters in Martorell (Barcelona), exporting 80% of its vehicles, and is present in over 80 countries through a network of 1,700 dealerships. In 2017, SEAT achieved worldwide sales of nearly 470,000 vehicles.

The SEAT Group employs close to 15,000 professionals at its three production centres – Barcelona, El Prat de Llobregat and Martorell, where it manufactures the highly successful Ibiza, Leon and Arona. Additionally, the company produces the Ateca and the Toledo in the Czech Republic, the Alhambra in Portugal and the Mii in Slovakia.

The multinational has a Technical Centre, which operates as a knowledge hub that brings together 1,000 engineers who are focussed on developing innovation for Spain’s largest industrial investor in R&D. SEAT already features the latest connectivity technology in its vehicle range and is currently engaged in the company’s global digitalisation process to promote the mobility of the future.

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