

## TESTING THE TOMTOM GO 530

TomTom is the world's leading portable navigation solutions provider. As the summer draws to a close, undoubtedly there will be people putting sat nav systems on their Christmas lists. But which unit should you choose? Taxi Globe has been testing a TomTom GO 530 and found the unit easy to use with some great features, such as Advanced Lane Guidance and Map Share™, as well as Bluetooth® hands-free connectivity. Detailed traffic information is also available through the RDS-TMC Traffic Receiver, which is included in the box in the Traffic models. From the moment you open the box the unit is simple to use, without lots of fiddly buttons.

TomTom's innovative new IQ Routes™ technology provides users with the most efficient route planning as it considers all possible options to its final destination, taking into account any situations that may delay a driver's journey, such as traffic on roundabouts, speed bumps or traffic lights. It also takes into account the traffic situation on weekends and weekdays, ensuring the TomTom GO always selects the fastest route, putting drivers back in control of their daily route planning.

Although some taxi drivers complain that using a sat nav is not a good option as passengers expect them to know the best route to take, there will always be times when a sat nav becomes a useful tool in the taxi driver's life. Times such as when they are going outside of London for example. The suggested retail price of the TomTom GO 530



and GO 530 Traffic at the time of going to press are £249.99 and £279.99 inc VAT respectively. For those who love the technology behind sat nav, the TomTom TomTom Map Share™ will certainly appeal. It enables users to make corrections to their own maps instantly and benefit from improvements made by other users. You can even choose the vehicle you wish to see on the screen as you drive along. There is a selection on the unit, but if you want to it is easy to download an image of your taxi via the TomTom website and personalise your unit. The hands-free calling with high quality sound system via Bluetooth® is an added bonus with this sat nav system. Safety features include the TomTom 'Help Me' menu to give drivers direct access to emergency services and roadside assistance.

With its 4.3 inch widescreen in 16:9 format the TomTom Go 530 is clear to read and the verbal instructions are also delivered in a clear concise way. Should you want to use your TomTom Go 530 out of your vehicle, it is small and light enough to carry. The news will undoubtedly continue to have features of drivers going into fords, rivers or even the wrong towns, but if used as an aid in the way it is intended then the TomTom GO 530 will make drivers lives easier. Yes even if they are taxi drivers!

Other models include European and North American mapping so if you are planning a holiday abroad the TomTom range is sure to have a unit to make your driving holiday experience easier.

A Date to remember 29th November 2008

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