

MOTORING MATTERS *by Anthony Goodwin*

CITROEN'S POCKET ROCKET C2

On a recent trip to the National Low Carbon Vehicle Event, which was covered in a previous issue of Taxi Globe, I test drove the C2 VTS 1.6HDi. After the test drive I wanted more. I couldn't believe that a car with a 1.6 diesel engine which only produces 119g/km Co2 emissions, this means only £35 road fund licence per year, could be so much fun to drive.

Our test model had the following options, Metallic paint – Wicked Red, Leather pack – front electric and heated leather sports seats, passenger height adjustment and rear seat modularity, Automatic pack – auto digital air con, auto rain sensitive wipers and auto headlamps, Convenience pack – rear parking sensors and electrically heated and folding door mirrors. This model is in insurance group 6e and has a Euro NCAP rating of 4 which for a car of its size is fantastic.

With sporty looks and great handling this is a winner in my view. As for performance I was averaging 65 mpg, great in these financially tight times. Round town it was nippy and pulled away from traffic lights very well. As for long distances I went to my grandparents which is a 200 mile round trip, it handled overtaking on motorways well and made A roads a joy to drive on.

The C2 has some clever features such as split opening tailgate, where space is at a premium it makes loading and unloading easy. The modularity system for the rear seats which is part of the options for this model. This means that the seats are independent of each other so they can slide and fold and create space as it is needed in the rear making it very practical. The seats fold and slide with ease, when they are in the folded up position the boot can take up to a massive 879 litres, even with them just slid forward the boot takes 224 litres.

With prices starting from £8710 for the entry level Vibe 1.1i 8v going up to the range topping VTS at £13700 on the road. Citroen have some great offers and at the time of going to press the C2 comes with up to £1200 cash back. There are also some fantastic finance options available including nil deposit across the range.

Citroen currently sell more than 20 vehicles with CO2 emissions of 120g/km or lower. For the last

2 years they have been voted Car Manufacturer of the year by Green Fleet Magazine, also they have just won Van Manufacturer of the Year 2008. All of Citroen's current diesel engines can operate on a blend of 30% bio-diesel without modification. At What Car's Green awards two other Citroens have won, the C4 Grande Picasso as Green MPV of the year and the all New C5 as Green Family Car of the year. There are loads of great deals to be had at your local Citroen dealership.

Overall I love the C2 VTS with sporty looks and practicality I would certainly consider one for my own next new car.

