

GRAB A TAXI BARGAIN NOW!

Rob Laidler, LTI Sales Director, says taxi owners should grab a bargain now to avoid a forthcoming price rise. In the 2009 Budget the Government announced an increase in first registration tax which comes into effect on the 1st April 2010. This means an increase in the cost of a new taxi as the first year “showroom tax” will see Road Fund licence double. The base vehicle price is also set to go up to cover increases in the cost of raw materials and exchange rates. These increases are compounded by the new tax rate coming into force. “If drivers want to avoid the price rise, then they need to go out and bag themselves a “10” plate bargain and take delivery before the end of March,” said Laidler. “The advice to drivers is not to wait, as it will cost them money. The price of a new TX4 will be going up due to an increase in costs and to cover the tax rise. We don’t want to do it but we have to pass the increases on to the customer. But if they buy now for delivery in March they won’t get charged.”

RESIDUALS ON THE INCREASE

If you are thinking of changing your cab, here is some good news – residuals on used cabs are up, according to LTI. Confidence in the TX4 amongst the taxi trade across the country continues to grow and there is a shortage of good quality used cabs. So for anyone looking to buy a cab, new or used, the time is definitely right! Rob continued by saying: “Since the launch of our improved used vehicle propositions ‘Approved Used Taxis’ and ‘Value Cabs’ and our re-launched used vehicle website, our used cab sales have increased. This is resulting in pushing residuals up and proving the confidence in TX4 remains throughout the trade. Thanks to these factors, M & O are finding themselves with a shortage of good quality used cabs and are urging customers to come and visit them and take advantage of the current offers before it’s too late.”

The new website www.mannandoverton.com/used is user friendly and many owner drivers are now using it to look for used vehicles. As the new website covers all of the M & O dealerships around the country it is possible to see exactly what is in stock and where the cabs are sited. But this does not necessarily mean

that a buyer would have to travel miles to look at a new cab, it can be arranged for the vehicle to be brought to London. The website is being constantly updated so whatever taxi you are looking for you can see quickly where there is one available. You can search through all of the available cabs online or simply fill in the search box with what you are looking to buy for a more specific list. The cabs are divided into two sections – LTI Approved, which come passed and plated with a twelve month warranty or a value cab which is a sold as seen, ready to go, priced to sell vehicle.

There are full details of the vehicles, together with photos. For those drivers who are not used to searching online or do not have access to the internet a quick visit to Brewery Road is all that is needed, where one of the sales team will be happy to help you.

SCRAPPAGE INCENTIVE EXTENDED

An extra month has been added to the deadline for the Government Scrappage Scheme, allowing manufacturers and dealers more time to prepare for and operate the exit phase of the Scheme. Previously due to complete in February, the Scheme, which is jointly run by the Government and car manufacturers, will now run until the end of March or until the money runs out, whichever is the sooner.

Business Secretary Lord Mandelson said: “Against the background of the economic downturn the Scrappage Scheme has proved a great success, driving UK car sales, protecting jobs and supporting the supply chain for car manufacture at a time when this sector needed it most. If you’re considering buying a new vehicle, you should place your order as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, because the budget is strictly limited.”



Your badge is your passport...
...to a superb mortgage deal.



- Special deals for licenced cabbies.
- Self-employed, no problem.
- Preferential rates and hassal free.
- We are the specialists.

Frost 
Financial Services

01702 426389
Out of hours number 07774 953055

Pinnacle House • 2 Rectory Road • Hadleigh • Essex SS7 2ND
www.frost-financial.co.uk

THE ACTUAL RATE AVAILABLE WILL DEPEND ON YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES, ASK FOR A PERSONAL ILLUSTRATION. A FEE OF £495 MAY BE CHARGED AT THE COMPLETION OF A MORTGAGE ARRANGED BY US. THINK CAREFULLY BEFORE SECURING OTHER DEBTS AGAINST YOUR HOME. YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE. THE OVERALL COST FOR COMPARISON IS 7.9%.

THE LONDON TAXI COMPANY DELIVER FIVE STAR SERVICE AT MILLENNIUM CHENGDU

When the five star Millennium Hotel Chengdu in China opened its luxurious doors for the first time it was given a gift from its sister hotels in London - the iconic London Taxi. The two TX4 taxis given to the Millennium Chengdu, one in traditional black colour and one in the special Champagne, take pride of place in front of the hotel gates. Services which can be offered thanks to the taxis, such as private airport pick-ups and one day tours to Chengdu’s famous tourist destinations, help to enhance and promote the five star experience on offer to customers. This is the newest international 5-star hotel in Chengdu, offering guests an extensive choice of restaurants, clothing boutiques, recreational and entertainment facilities. The hotel’s prime location has stunning views of the adjacent Shexianshu Park.

Mr. Shaun Hammond, general manager at the hotel said: “The London Taxis which are in use at Chengdu enhance our hotel’s international popularity, whilst also acknowledging the prestigious Millennium hotel which we have in London. We are extremely excited to have received the gift of two London Taxis as they provide a very unique experience for all of our customers. The advanced features of the taxis make for a smooth and comfortable ride and the DVD players in the back of the taxis make it possible to show our guests what Chengdu has to offer when on their journey, whilst the integral wheelchair ramp makes the taxi easily accessible to all.”

Matthew Cheyne, International Market Development Director for The London Taxi Company, said: “Producing our taxis in China has given London Taxis a more global appeal and we are thrilled to see two of our TX4s in use at the Millennium Hotel Chengdu.”

