

300D. The world's most pedigreed Diesel saloon.

Rudolf Diesel, who developed the engine in the first place, did not live to see it work in a production car. Mercedes-Benz did not discover the diesel engine just yesterday, but have been developing this most interesting power plant for several decades.

Let us simply list the major attributes of the 300D...

The engine is a five-cylinder 2998cm³ diesel, with automatic fuel injection, unique Mercedes-Benz pre-chamber injection, delivering 65kW of power at 4400 rpm. Transmission is via a four-speed automatic with torque converter.

Ancillaries include headlamp/load adjustment, rear fog light, vacuum-controlled master locking system for doors, boot and fuel filler cap, first-aid kit, fire extinguisher, fully-integrated airconditioning system, AM/FM radio/cassette fourspeaker system with automatic aerial.

There are safety locks on all doors and child-proof locking mechanism on the rear doors.

Seats are anatomically contoured and shaped to provide lateral support, the seat springing is adjusted to the vehicle suspension and seat position. Front seats are fully reclining.

The headlamps feature halogen low and high beam. Front foglamps are standard as is a rear foglamp. Instrument lighting is variable.

However, that does not tell the complete story.

Anyone who has never driven a Mercedes-Benz diesel cannot possibly have an appreciation of the refinement of a vehicle that in various forms—has sold more than 2 million cars.

Other makers have now recognised the virtues of the diesel, but it takes a long time to catch up to technology that has been under development since 1936, particularly the kind of development, which admits no compromise, no pressure of time, no cost-cutting.

The 300D badge on the rear of a Mercedes-Benz tells of civilised flexibility, untiring constant performance, and remarkable economy coupled with minimum maintenance and long life.

What is unique about the 300D? Simple.

For the same amount of fuel, the car will go further—just how much further depends on the manner in which it is driven. On top of that, the engine will last and last and last.

All the other Mercedes-Benz principles of design apply. Suspension, seating, steering, braking, instrumentation, space, trim quality, interior quietness...safety, both active and passive, integrity, retained value, cost of ownership.

By all this measurement, the 300D is your Mercedes-Benz.

And that means minimal concern, total confidence, appreciation of investment, and the ability to luxuriate in the sure and certain knowledge that you have invested in a motoring concept of the future...today.

