

Review - Hyundai Veloster SR Turbo

Written by Wayne Lancaster
Thursday, 13 March 2014 21:19



I was generally excited to pick the keys up to the Veloster Turbo not just because it was the first Hyundai I was going to review but with 150kW of power under the bonnet the Veloster Turbo was promising to be a fun drive.

Lots has been said about the look of the Veloster since it was released its 3 door design is certainly thinking outside the square, although Hyundai has done a great job of separating the Turbo from the normal Veloster with it receiving a different wide mouth grille, side skirts, rear diffuser, rear spoiler and trick exhaust that exits in the middle of the rear end.

On the inside the Veloster Turbo has leather sport seats which are comfortable and offer good support when cornering one think strange I thought given it's price was the fact the seat had only partial electric adjustment for the squab the back rest is manual adjustment also the seats don't have a heating function something cars a lot cheaper have. The leather bound steering wheel is somewhat comfortable to hold but I thought it was a touch thin for my liking and contains buttons for the audio system, cruise control and the trip meter.



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The Veloster Turbo is well specced and comes with cruise control, climate control air con, sat nav, keyless start and entry, panoramic sunroof, and full Bluetooth phone integration which worked well enough. The dash is well set out and has carbon fibre like look to it, it also has gun metal grey highlights to set it apart from the standard model, the centre stack contains the audio system the Bluetooth was easy to connect my phone to and the hands free function works great. The audio system is up graded from the standard model and offers a decent sound while the system was fairly easy to use I found it was not as polished as other systems I've used.

The Sat Nav was a bit and miss it works good once you get your destination entered and the instructions are easy to follow, but I found it very annoying at times trying to get my destination entered and the system seemed very delayed or laggy when using it, as I would to wait several seconds for the next screen to come up after selecting an option.



We spent a day running around looking at houses and while I tried using the sat nav for the first couple of destinations the delayed action just annoyed me to the extent we didn't bother using it and just used the sat nav on my wife's phone that was faster.

The back seats are comfortable although leg room and head room is a touch limited my kids said they had just enough room in there I sat in the back seat while I did fit and had just enough leg room is was a little hard for me to get out of.

I will applaud Hyundai for not trying to squeeze another seating position in there. The Veloster Turbo is a 4 seater there is a small console featuring cup holders in the between the seats which my kids loved a lot.

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On the road is where the Veloster excels Hyundai have done a lot of work to tune the Veloster to local conditions and have done a great job at it the car feels extremely settled on any road surface, the suspension it is a touch firm so you do feel the little bumps at times but it's definitely not uncomfortable. I took down me test loop on Wisemans Ferry Rd and was great. The electric power steering is well calibrated and the steering offers a great amount of feel and directness although I found it wasn't quite as sharp as say the SRi Cruze but never the less it offered a fun and very enthusiastic drive and it did impress me.

The 6 speed auto is well sorted and the changes are smooth it does have a sport shirt option which will hold the gears longer for you when driving spiritedly and does have shift paddles behind the wheel if you you want to shift gears yourself which adds to the driving experience although once again I found the auto wasn't as well sorted as the auto in the SRi Cruze.



Under the bonnet the 1.6L twin scroll direct injected turbo engine pumps out 150kW of power and 265Nm of torque which means the Veloster Turbo is no slouch the engine develops it's torque down low in the rev range which means the engine is extremely tractable and very easy

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to live with in normal everyday traffic but then has plenty of poke when you need it, it's rather snappy off the line and I managed to record rough hand timed 0-100km/h time off 6.8 sec which means you could definitely do it in a faster time.

Fuel economy really depends on how you drive it being a turbo engine it will drink a little bit of petrol when your pushing it but drive it normally and you can return some decent figures.

Safety wise the Veloster Turbo like you expect has received a 5 stars ANCAP rating and is packed full of safety features including 6 airbags, electronic stability control, traction control, ABS, with electronic brake force distribution, brake assist rear parking sensors and a rear view camera.

After a week in Hyundai Veloster SR Turbo I was really impressed it offers aggressive sporty looks combined with a decent amount of features, excellent safety levels, great performance and handling and more importantly offers a great driving experience which means this car delivers on the road.



The hot hatch market is very hotly contested and the Europeans have ruled the roost in the market for years, and while the Veloster Turbo is not quite up there with some of the cars on the market it does offer an extremely good alternative. You have to remember the Europeans have had many years to perfect their cars this is Hyundai's first attempt at a hot hatch and they should be commended for their efforts as they have done a very good job indeed.

If your after a hot hatch and want to stand out from the crowd you would be very silly indeed not to have the Veloster Turbo on your list of cars to test drive because this is really a good car and

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I liked it a lot.

Hyundai also offer great peace of mind with their 5 Year unlimited km warranty, 3 years capped price servicing and 7 years road side assistance.

To find out more about the Veloster SR Turbo visit Hyundai's web site www.hyundai.com.au/vehicles/veloster-turbo and definitely get down to your local Hyundai dealer and take one for a test drive you will glad you did.

[This blog review was published with aproval by Wayne Lancaster of [3 on the Tree](#) , you can read more of Wayne's reviews at [3 on the Tree](#)]