

VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT ALLTRACK

With a raised ride height, four-wheel drive and rugged body enhancements, the VW Passat Alltrack has everything you need to venture off into the rough.



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Based on the popular Passat Estate, the Alltrack's 4MOTION four-wheel drive and raised ride height give it greater agility off-road, while body enhancements provide some protection from scrapes when covering rough terrain.

Just one trim level is available in the UK, with a choice of two drive trains: a 2.0-litre TDI 140, priced at £28,475 and a 2.0-litre TDI 170, priced at £31,025.

Standard equipment includes Alcantara upholstery, 2Zone electronic climate control, RNS 315 touch screen satellite navigation, DAB radio, MDI iPod connectivity, Bluetooth telephone preparation, cruise control, front and rear

parking sensors, tyre pressure monitoring system and 18-inch Canyon alloy wheels.

Options include climate seats with massage function; High Beam Assist, which automatically controls dipping of the headlights; Side Scan Lane Change Assist, which monitors the vehicle's blind spot; Lane Assist; ACC Adaptive Chassis Control; Automatic Distance Control with City Emergency Braking function; Park Assist (second generation); an interior ambient lighting pack; a rear-view camera; and an electrically deployed tow bar.

The Passat Alltrack has a generous towing capacity of 2,000 kg (braked) which is 200 kg more than an equivalent Passat Estate. It's economical too, returning around 50mpg on the combined cycle. It's also comfortable and roomy; it'll seat five up and the sizeable boot is square and low, meaning it's child's play to load up.

The steering is exact and well weighted and there is very little body sway on corners. The 2.0-litre TDI 140 engine on test here pulls well and is mated to a slick six-speed gearbox. In fact, it's such a multitalented car that it's hard to find any flaws. If pushed I would make a case for leather seating as standard, but that's only because I'm a father of little ones – and it's so much simpler to wipe sticky little finger marks off cow-hide!

FAST FACTS

- Max speed: 123 mph
- 0-62 mph: 10.3 secs
- Combined mpg: 49.6
- Engine: 1968 cc 16 valve 4 cylinder turbo diesel
- Max. power (bhp): 138 at 4200 rpm
- Max. torque (lb/ft): 236 at 1750 rpm
- CO₂: 150 g/km
- Price: £28,475 on the road

PROS

'N' CONS

- Tough ✓
- Versatile ✓
- Nice drive ✓
- Comfy ✓
- No Leather X