

The split-personality Hyundai H1 Multicab -by Liana Reiners

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First there was the H1 Bus, Hyundai's people carrier. Then came the H1 Panel Van for the transportation of goods. Now the very versatile H1 Multicab has arrived, offering a combination of the best attributes of both the Bus and the Van.

Available with either a petrol engine or a turbodiesel unit, the H1 Multicab provides comfortable seating for six people on two bench-style seats. Behind the second bench is a secure cargo hold that has the capacity to transport a small motor bike, a couple of bales of horse fodder or even a saddle or two. So it can be used as a reliable goods transporter during the week, while doing duty as a family vehicle over weekends.



The 2,4-litre petrol engine used in the Hyundai H1 Multicab features continuously variable valve timing (CVVT) and 16-valve, double overhead camshafts. It also offers multi-point electronic fuel injection for better fuel efficiency. On the other hand, the 2.5 VGTi turbodiesel unit features 4 valves per cylinder, CVVT and a so-called variable geometry turbocharger (VGT) with second-generation common rail fuel injection. While a five-speed manual transmission is paired with the petrol engine, a five-speed automatic transmission does duty in the turbodiesel model.



The 2,4-litre petrol engine produces 126 kW at 6 000 r/min and 227 Nm of peak torque at 4 200 r/min. It reaches a top speed of 182 km/h and will accelerate from 0 to 100 km/h in 17,9 seconds. Fuel consumption of 10,2 litres/100 km has been measured in a mixed cycle, with CO₂ emissions rated at 240 g/km.

The 2,5-litre turbodiesel produces 125 kW at 3 800 r/min and 392 Nm torque at 2 000 r/min. Top speed has been measured at 180 km/h and it takes 14,9 seconds to accelerate from 0 to 100 km/h. In a combined test cycle, this model used 9,7 litres/100 km, with CO₂ emissions of 257 g/km.

On the safety side, the H1 Multicab boasts dual front airbags. Outer front three-point seatbelts equipped with pretensioners are fitted for the driver and front passenger, with a lap belt for the occupant in the middle. The second bench is also fitted with three-point seatbelts for the passengers on the outer side, with a lap belt for the third passenger in the middle.

Pricing for the Hyundai H1 Multicab line-up is:

H1 Multicab 2.4 CVVT	R279 900
H1 2.5 VGTi	R339 900

These prices include Hyundai's five-year/150 000 km warranty and roadside assistance plan, as well as a five-year/90 000 km service plan. Service intervals of 15 000 km for both derivatives contribute to low ownership cost and peace of mind.

