

# The new Peugeot 508 – Frenchness guaranteed

-by Liana Reiners

(04/11/2011)

There's one fact about the French that can't be disputed; they know how to make beautiful cars. The new Peugeot 508 is a case in point. In South Africa, the 508 range comprises four models: the 508 Active 1.6 THP Manual, the 508 2.0 HDi Manual, the 508 Allure 1.6 THP Auto and the flagship 508 GT 2.2 HDi Auto.

The range is powered by three high-tech engines that deliver good fuel consumption and low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, accompanied by good performance and responsiveness.



The line-up comprises Peugeot's 115 kW 1.6 THP petrol unit, as well as the 120 kW 2.0 HDi turbodiesel engine. A new, advanced 2,2-litre HDi engine credited with outputs of 150 kW and 450 Nm of peak torque is fitted to the flagship 508 GT.

Guided by the search for balanced and streamlined contours, the 508 reflects elegance, robustness and build quality, while also expressing the French marque's latest design language.



First revealed on the SR1 concept car, this design approach is characterised by a single grille rendered in a floating style. The profile of the 508 is purposely understated and incorporates a recessed waistline that runs the entire length of the vehicle, conveying a blend of power and elegance.

The theme is carried through to the interior, too. The simple and elegant style of the fascia, the quality of the materials used, the attention to detail and the durability all add to the cabin's exclusive ambience.

GT and Allure models benefit from four-zone air-conditioning, hands-free access and start-up, an automatic electronic parking brake, electronically-operated lumbar massage for the driver (on the GT version only), and a high-performance audio system (standard on the GT, and optional on the Allure).

Two types of suspension are available on the 508. The standard 508 Active and Allure models feature a MacPherson-type front axle that delivers a good blend of comfort and road holding. The GT version, however, ups the ante with a drop-link dual wishbone front axle. The dual wishbones, together with the decoupling of bounce and steering functions, ensure a high level of body rigidity and driving accuracy.

The list of active safety features on the new Peugeot 508 is long. All models are equipped with latest-generation stability and traction control, emergency braking assistance (EBA) and electronic brakeforce distribution (EBD). The ESP system also includes hill start assistance and intelligent traction control.

Pricing for the new Peugeot 508 range:

508 Active 1.6 Petrol THP	R 283 700
508 Active 2.0 HDi	R 303 200
508 Allure 1.6 THP Auto	R 306 700
508 Allure 1.6 THP Auto with SatNav	R 323 700
508 GT 2.2 HDi Auto	R 409 900

