

## Plenty of fun in the Citroën DS3 Sport - by Adri Bezuidenhout

Whoever it was that coined the phrase potent stuff comes in small bottles must have experienced the Citroën DS3 before he uttered those memorable words.

The DS3 looks and is as cheeky as they come. The one I had for evaluation purposes was white, it had white wheels, while the roof and rear view mirrors were finished off in a light blue. Fresh and funky to the tenth degree.



Although relatively small in exterior dimensions, it is remarkable roomy and comfortable inside. The seats are first class and the adjustability of the steering wheel will be welcomed in much more expensive cars. Finish is top notch too.

The DS3 Sport is fitted with a very lively 1,6-litre, four-cylinder petrol engine pushing out 115 kW and 240 Nm of peak torque and is linked to a manual six-speed gearbox. This ensures that the little pocket rocket is very quick off the mark and overall performance scores high marks. MINI Cooper owners take note. Handling is go-kart like, precise and sure-footed, which brings out the dormant racing driver in anyone who dares to slip in behind the sporty steering wheel.



Citroën can't lay claim that their cars are ultra-sporty or trendsetting in the performance stakes, but with the DS3, they have redefined the expression giant killer. This great little car is an image builder of note and it could be the start of something big for the French manufacturer.

Come to think of it, if the DS3 is good enough for world rally champion Sebastien Loeb it is good enough for me. Even though his bred-for-competition, loud little dust raiser is very different from the version I had at my disposal.