

Vauxhall Mokka-e

We weigh up the pros and cons of the new Vauxhall Mokka-e, a small electric SUV which is now available on the Motability Scheme.

In the case of many electric cars the battery is fitted in such a way that it compromises the boot space. This means that many people, disabled motorists in particular, could be forced to start driving a larger vehicle when they make the transition to an electric vehicle. Those in this situation may be looking to make the smallest increase in size possible meaning that the optimal size of vehicle could be a small SUV and this is the class that the fantastic looking Vauxhall Mokka-e belongs to.

Aesthetics

To my eye the Mokka-e looks stunning, from the front the long and angular grille and headlights look incredibly sleek and as your eye glides down towards the back of the car your attention will likely be drawn towards

the bold chrome detailing along the roofline. The layout at the back of the Mokka-e is in keeping with the rest of the car and the bold lines defined by the shape of the rear lights bring the design of the car together and really give the impression that it was well thought out.

The story is much the same on the interior as your eyes are drawn around the cabin to take in the refined upholstery and the unusual and slightly futuristic shape of the dashboard and placement of the infotainment system.

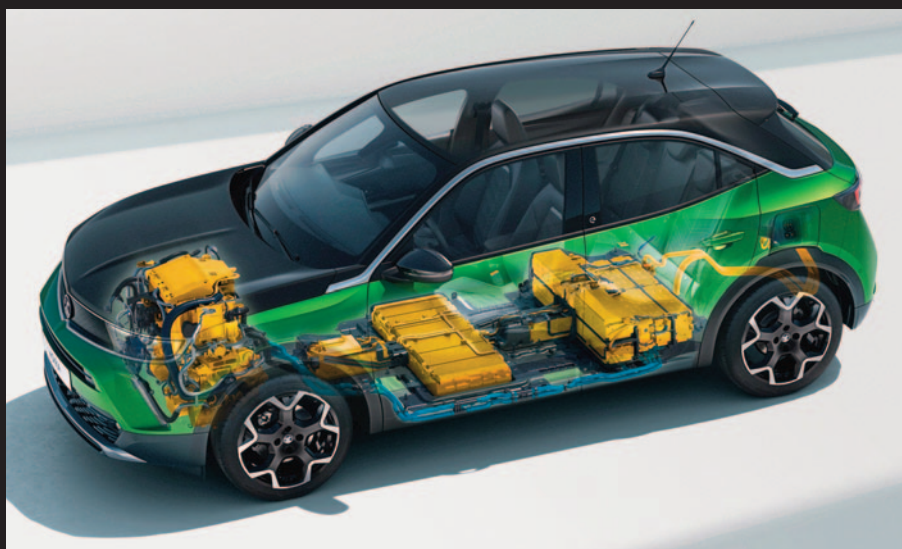
What it's Like to Drive

Cruising along motorways and major A roads in the Mokka-e is a pleasurable experience in some ways such as the absence of road noise and the smooth ride. However, the electric engine produces just 134 bhp which can mean that overtaking at faster speeds requires

careful planning and the car might be considered slightly sluggish. That said, when it comes to electric cars, particularly if this is the first time you will be considering one, range is likely to be more important and the Mokka-e can manage 201 miles on a single charge which is perfectly reasonable considering its size. It is important to note that the Kia e-Niro and the Hyundai Kona, both of which have been reviewed in Disabled Motoring previously, achieve more than this. It is going to take 7 ½ hours to recharge the Mokka-e from empty using a 7Kw home charger or owners will be able to get from 0 to 80% charge in 45 minutes using a 50Kw service station charger.

The Mokka-e is classed as a small SUV but in reality, the seating position is only a little higher than a hatchback. However, the slightly raised driving





position does offer good visibility out of the windscreen and side windows. Visibility out of the back of the car isn't quite as good though and this is because of the slanted rear window. With this in mind, those considering the Mokka-e will be pleased to note that it comes with a reversing camera and rear parking sensors fitted as standard. Those who want to gain the benefit of front sensors will need to pay extra for the SRi Nav Premium trim.

Practicality and Storage Space

From a practicality standpoint there is plenty of room for passengers in both the front and back of this car and the doors open reasonably wide making it easy to get in and out of. There is also a good amount of storage space as the Mokka benefits from usefully sized door bins and a generous glove box. On the other hand, the capacity of the Mokka-e's boot is only 310 litres with the seats up and when they are down, they cannot be folded completely flat either which means that your mobility equipment could be at risk of sliding about. In addition, there is also a slight loading lip which could present some problems, particularly for wheelchair and scooter users. To give some perspective, you will be able to fit four carry on suitcases into the Mokka-e compared to a maximum of five in the Volkswagen ID.3. On the upside, the Mokka-e does have an adjustable boot floor which allows owners to separate the boot space into two different compartments. This gives you a place to store anything that you want to keep especially secure.

Driving Aids and Infotainment

The Mokka-e is certainly a car that is well equipped when it comes to driver assistance technology. The car comes with automatic emergency breaking (AEB), lane keeping assist and a driver tiredness warning system fitted as standard.

While the dashboard is well laid out with the climate control and other buttons being easy to reach, the infotainment system is slow to respond and tricky to understand. Fortunately, the Mokka-e's infotainment system is compatible with Android Auto and Apple Carplay and screen mirroring is an option meaning that users will be able to bypass Vauxhall's

system and use the one from their own smartphone.

Technical Specifications, Cost and Verdict

The Mokka-e will accelerate from 0-60mph in 8.7 seconds and it has a 50Kw battery. The car measures 4,150 mm in length, has a width 1,750 mm and a height of 1525 mm. Its wheelbase measures 2650 mm.

The Mokka-e is a stylish and comfortable car which is well equipped for the price and well worth considering for somebody who is looking for an SUV with a good amount of storage space. The SE premium version of the Mokka-e is available for an on the road price of £29,340 or it can be leased from Vauxhall for £311.99. If you would be looking to lease this car through the Motability Scheme you will need to pay an advance payment of £149.

