



BYD

SEALION 5 DM-i

South Africa • 2026 Hagalu Buyer's Guide

1498 cc

ENGINE

72 kW

POWER

150 mm

CLEARANCE

19.2 km/l

FUEL ECON

5 seats

SEATING

ZAR 509,900 – 569,900

Ex-Showroom Starting Price

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/byd/sealion-5-dm-i/>

Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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Hagalu editorial score

2 Variants

2 Priced

01 Overview & Quick Facts

The BYD SEALION 5 DM-i entered South Africa in 2025 as a five-seat plug-in-hybrid SUV positioned below the larger SEALION 6. Comfort costs R509,900 and Dynamic R569,900. Both combine a 1.5-litre petrol engine with an electric motor, front-wheel drive and a 12.96 kWh battery. Official combined system output is 156 kW, while BYD separately rates the front electric motor at 145 kW and 300 Nm; combined system torque is not officially disclosed. The published electric-only range is 52 km on the stated WLTP basis. The shared mechanical package matters because a Comfort buyer does not accept lower performance to reach the cheaper price. Dynamic's R60,000 premium instead pays for more convenience, cabin finish and assistance equipment. The body measures 4,738 mm long, 1,860 mm wide and 1,710 mm high, with a 2,712 mm wheelbase and a listed 150 mm ground clearance. Boot capacity is 463 litres with the rear seats upright and 1,410 litres when folded. Those figures suggest enough room for a small family's normal week, but a buyer should still test a stroller, sports equipment and full-size spare-wheel...



Body Style	Medium five-seat SUV
Launched	2025
Generation	First South African SEALION 5 DM-i generation, a medium five-seat plug-in-hybrid SUV.
Fuel Types	Plug-in Hybrid
Colours	Atlantis Grey, Obsidian Black, Snow White and Time Grey; black interior is listed for South Africa.
OEM Website	https://www.byd.com/za/hybrid-cars/sealion-5-dmi

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Ex-Showroom Starting Price	ZAR 509,900 – 569,900	2 Listed Variants
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Variant	Fuel	Transmission	Trim	Ex-Showroom
Comfort DM-i	Plug-In Hybrid	e-CVT	Base	ZAR 509,900
Dynamic DM-i	Plug-In Hybrid	e-CVT	Top	ZAR 569,900

Estimated On-Road Price — Comfort DM-i (Base Variant)

Johannesburg	ZAR 527,018
Cape Town	ZAR 529,848
Durban	ZAR 524,899
Pretoria	ZAR 525,958

* On-road prices are estimates including registration, road tax and insurance.

03 Pros, Cons & Buyer Summary

● STRENGTHS ✓ Same 156 kW output in both derivatives ✓ Useful 52 km claimed electric range ✓ 463-litre boot supports family errands ✓ Petrol backup simplifies long travel ✓ Comfort carries the core powertrain at lower cost ✓ Dynamic adds meaningful convenience equipment	● CONSIDERATIONS ✗ Regular charging is needed for best efficiency ✗ Only 150 mm listed ground clearance ✗ No all-wheel-drive derivative ✗ Dynamic costs R60,000 more without extra power ✗ Real electric range varies by conditions ✗ Five seats may not suit larger families
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Hagalu Editorial Verdict

"A high-value family plug-in hybrid, with Comfort the rational buy and Dynamic the convenience-rich alternative."

The SEALION 5 DM-i succeeds by making its important hardware standard. Both prices include the 156 kW combined-output system, 12.96 kWh battery and a useful family body. BYD separately rates the front motor at 145 kW and 300 Nm; it does not publish a combined-system torque figure. Comfort's R509,900 RRP gives it a strong value position, while Dynamic's R60,000 premium can be justified by buyers who use its powered tailgate, panoramic roof, surround camera and seat upgrades. Regular charging is the condition attached to the efficiency case. The 52 km official electric range is useful, not unlimited, and 150 mm of clearance keeps expectations firmly on road. Published complete-vehicle, power-battery and drive-unit warranties strengthen ownership confidence when their written terms are followed.

City Driving	The 52 km official electric claim can cover many school, shopping and commuting circuits when the battery starts charged. Electric response suits stop-start traffic, and regenerative braking can make smooth urban driving relaxing once the driver adapts. The vehicle's 4,738 mm length is manageable for a family SUV, although the 1,860 mm width still needs care in narrow bays. Dynamic's surround-view camera and powered tailgate add daily convenience; Comfort requires fewer luxuries without surrendering output. Owners should keep charging cables safely stored and avoid using an unevaluated extension lead. If daily journeys greatly exceed the electric range, the petrol engine will operate more often and real consumption will differ from the brochure comparison.
Highway	On the highway the 156 kW combined-output system should provide confident merging and ordinary overtaking with sensible margins. The published 300 Nm figure belongs to the 145 kW front motor, not to a disclosed combined-system torque value. The petrol engine means a long route can continue after the usable battery charge has declined, a significant advantage where fast chargers are sparse or occupied. A full passenger load, roof box, headwind and sustained high speed will reduce the quoted range and raise consumption. Comfort and Dynamic have the same output, so the upper trim should not be mistaken for a faster car. A long test drive should focus on seat support, wind and tyre noise, steering stability and how smoothly the system moves between electric and petrol operation. Plan fuel and rest stops normally rather than treating the combined-range estimate as a promise.

Off-Road	With 150 mm of listed ground clearance and front-wheel drive, the SEALION 5 is intended for tar, urban obstacles and maintained gravel. It can reach many holiday cottages or campsites if driven carefully, but loose climbs, deep ruts and water crossings demand a different type of vehicle. Dynamic's extra cameras may help the driver see obstacles, yet they do not improve underbody clearance or tyre strength. On gravel, reduce speed to protect the large body and battery enclosure from impacts, leave stability control active unless the manual directs otherwise, and check tyre pressures after rough travel. The SUV label describes its body and seating position; it is not permission to ignore terrain limits.
Best For	The SEALION 5 suits a family or professional who wants generous crossover space, a lower entry price than many large plug-in hybrids, and the ability to charge at home without depending on chargers during holidays. Comfort is aimed at disciplined value buyers who prefer to spend on insurance, a wall unit or other ownership costs. Dynamic is better for someone who frequently uses a powered tailgate, surround camera, panoramic roof and enhanced driver's seat. The car is less appropriate for buyers who need seven seats, high towing capability or regular travel over badly damaged tracks. A family should take child seats and typical luggage to a viewing, sit three people across the rear, and test visibility around the broad body. The decision should include a written on-road price and an electricity-versus-petrol routine, not only the advertised RRP.

04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 2 variants of the BYD SEALION 5 DM-i side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

SPEC	Comfort DM-i	Dynamic DM-i
Price (ex-showroom)	ZAR 509,900	ZAR 569,900
Fuel Type	Plug-in Hybrid	Plug-in Hybrid
Transmission	e-CVT	e-CVT
Trim Level	Base	Top
Engine	1498 cc (1.5L)	1498 cc (1.5L)
Max Power	72 kW (97 bhp)	72 kW (97 bhp)
Max Torque	122 Nm (90 lb-ft)	122 Nm (90 lb-ft)
Drivetrain	FWD	FWD
Fuel Economy	19.2 km/l	19.2 km/l
Seating	5	5
Boot Space	463 L	463 L
Ground Clearance	150 mm	150 mm
Kerb Weight	1675 kg	1735 kg

→ [Compare these variants on hagalu.com](#) (published prices, on-road estimates, source-backed specifications and buyer guidance)

05 BYD SEALION 5 DM-i — **Comfort DM-i****ZAR 509,900**

ENGINE 1498 cc	POWER 72 kW · 97 bhp	TORQUE 122 Nm · 90 lb-ft	ECONOMY 19.2 km/l	FUEL Plug-in Hybrid e-CVT
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Base Trim · Plug-In Hybrid · e-CVT

[View live price & EMI →](#)**ENGINE & PERFORMANCE**

Engine	1.5-litre Naturally Aspirated Petrol Plug-in Hybrid	Engine Code	Not Officially Disclosed
Fuel Type	Plug-in Hybrid	Hybrid System	Series-Parallel Hybrid
Engine Displacement	1498 cc	Cylinders	4
Cylinder Layout	Inline	Valves	Not Officially Disclosed
Valves per Cylinder	Not Officially Disclosed	Aspiration	Naturally Aspirated
Fuel System	Not Officially Disclosed	Compression Ratio	Not Officially Disclosed

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

LSD Available	Not Available	Gearbox	e-CVT
Drivetrain Layout	Front-engine, front-wheel drive	Transfer Case	Not Applicable
Differential Lock	Not Available	Paddle Shifters	Not Applicable
Transmission Speeds	Not Applicable	Rear Differential Lock	Not Applicable
Drivetrain	FWD	Axle Layout	4x2
Low Range	Not Applicable	Low Range Ratio	Not Applicable

DIMENSIONS

Length	4738 mm	Width	1860 mm
Height	1710 mm	Wheelbase	2712 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	150 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	150 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	52 l	Boot/Cargo Space	463 l
Kerb Weight	1675 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2085 kg
Payload Capacity	410 kg	Towing Capacity	0 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Range Real World Mixed	1040 km	Electric Consumption	15.9 kWh/100 km (real-world)
Charging Type	AC	Charging Port Type	Type 2 AC
Combined Driving Range	1001 km	Range Real World Highway	978 km
Real-world Mileage	21.2 km/l	Fuel Tank Litres	52
Auto Start Stop	Integrated hybrid engine stop/start	AdBlue Tank Capacity	Not Applicable l
Emission Standard	Euro 5	Fuel Tank Capacity	52 l

SAFETY

Brake Assist	Standard	ISOFIX Mounts	Standard
Child Safety Lock	Standard	Hill Start Assist	Standard
Hill Descent Control	Standard	Traction Control	Standard
Electronic Stability Control	Standard	ABS	Standard
Airbags	6	Engine Immobiliser	Standard
ABS EBD	Standard	BA	Standard

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Keyless Entry	Standard	Climate Control	Automatic
Power Windows	Standard	Push Button Start	Standard
Wireless Charging	Not Available	Sunroof	Not Available
Electric Tailgate	Not Available	Rain Sensing Wipers	Standard
AC Type	Automatic climate control		—

+ 12 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, ...) available on the live model page.

→ See Comfort DM-i full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

06 BYD SEALION 5 DM-i — **Dynamic DM-i****ZAR 569,900**

ENGINE 1498 cc	POWER 72 kW · 97 bhp	TORQUE 122 Nm · 90 lb-ft	ECONOMY 19.2 km/l	FUEL Plug-in Hybrid e-CVT
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Top Trim · Plug-In Hybrid · e-CVT

[View live price & EMI →](#)**ENGINE & PERFORMANCE**

Engine	1.5-litre Naturally Aspirated Petrol Plug-in Hybrid	Engine Code	Not Officially Disclosed
Fuel Type	Plug-in Hybrid	Hybrid System	Series-Parallel Hybrid
Engine Displacement	1498 cc	Cylinders	4
Cylinder Layout	Inline	Valves	Not Officially Disclosed
Valves per Cylinder	Not Officially Disclosed	Aspiration	Naturally Aspirated
Fuel System	Not Officially Disclosed	Compression Ratio	Not Officially Disclosed

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

LSD Available	Not Available	Gearbox	e-CVT
Drivetrain Layout	Front-engine, front-wheel drive	Transfer Case	Not Applicable
Differential Lock	Not Available	Paddle Shifters	Not Applicable
Transmission Speeds	Not Applicable	Rear Differential Lock	Not Applicable
Drivetrain	FWD	Axle Layout	4x2
Low Range	Not Applicable	Low Range Ratio	Not Applicable

DIMENSIONS

Length	4738 mm	Width	1860 mm
Height	1710 mm	Wheelbase	2712 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	150 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	150 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	52 l	Boot/Cargo Space	463 l
Kerb Weight	1735 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2145 kg
Payload Capacity	410 kg	Towing Capacity	0 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Range Real World Mixed	912 km	Electric Consumption	11.0 kWh/100 km (owner-reported cumulative)
Charging Type	AC	Charging Port Type	Type 2 AC
Combined Driving Range	1001 km	Range Real World Highway	1071 km
Real-world Mileage	17.5 km/l	Fuel Tank Litres	52
Auto Start Stop	Integrated hybrid engine stop/start	AdBlue Tank Capacity	Not Applicable l
Emission Standard	Euro 5	Fuel Tank Capacity	52 l

SAFETY

Brake Assist	Standard	ISOFIX Mounts	Standard
Child Safety Lock	Standard	Hill Start Assist	Standard
Hill Descent Control	Standard	Traction Control	Standard
Electronic Stability Control	Standard	ABS	Standard
Airbags	6	Engine Immobiliser	Standard
ABS EBD	Standard	BA	Standard

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Keyless Entry	Standard	Climate Control	Automatic
Power Windows	Standard	Push Button Start	Standard
Wireless Charging	Standard	Sunroof	Panoramic
Electric Tailgate	Standard	Rain Sensing Wipers	Standard
AC Type	Automatic climate control		—

+ 12 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, ...) available on the live model page.

→ [See Dynamic DM-i full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

07 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to each variant's price and specification record

→ [Comfort DM-i](#) — ZAR 509,900

→ [Dynamic DM-i](#) — ZAR 569,900

→ [Live Prices & On-Road Costs — BYD SEALION 5 DM-i](#)

Latest ex-showroom and city-wise on-road prices in South Africa.

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Compare BYD SEALION 5 DM-i vs any rival model.

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