



GWM

# H1

South Africa • 2026 Official Buyer's Guide

**1497 cc**

ENGINE

**78 kW**

POWER

**160 mm**

CLEARANCE

**7.0 L/100**

FUEL ECON

**5 seats**


SEATING

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/gwm/haval-h1/>  
Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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	4.3 / 5.0 124 Reviews	1 Variants	0 Priced
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## 01 Overview & Quick Facts

The Haval H1 was Great Wall Motors' first serious SUV attempt in South Africa, on sale from 2015 to 2019. As the smallest Haval ever sold locally, the H1 was positioned as an entry-level sub-compact SUV — a step up from a typical city hatchback but well below conventional compact SUVs in size and equipment. Powertrain was a 1.5-litre naturally-aspirated petrol producing 78 kW and 138 Nm, paired with a 6-speed CVT or a 5-speed manual. The engine was sourced from an older Great Wall design and offered adequate but not class-leading performance — 0-100 km/h took approximately 13.5 seconds, and real-world fuel economy sat at 7.5-8.5 L/100 km in mixed driving. Single variant offered in SA — 1.5 LS at R229,900 in final 2019 pricing. The H1 sat at a price point that competed directly with the Suzuki S-Presso, Renault Kwid and Datsun GO of its era — small, basic, affordable urban transport. The H1's role in the SA market was specific. For buyers needing SUV-style body presence at the most accessible price point, the H1 delivered. The 4,002...



<b>Body Style</b>	5-door sub-compact SUV with front-wheel drive. Dimensions: 4,002 mm length, 1,720 mm width, 1,567 mm height, 2,450 mm wheelbase.
<b>Launched</b>	2015
<b>Generation</b>	Single generation in South Africa from 2015-2019. The H1 was based on an older Great Wall platform and was discontinued without a direct successor.
<b>Fuel Types</b>	Petrol
<b>Colours</b>	Crystal White, Pittsburgh Silver, Lava Black, Mars Red and Sun Set Yellow through the model life.
<b>OEM Website</b>	<a href="https://www.haval.co.za/h1/">https://www.haval.co.za/h1/</a>

## 02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Variant	Fuel	Transmission	Trim	Ex-Showroom
1.5 LS	Petrol	Automatic	Base	On Request

## 03 Pros, Cons & Expert Verdict

● STRENGTHS	● CONSIDERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Most accessible SUV-style vehicle Haval ever sold in South Africa</li> <li>✓ Compact dimensions made it easy to park and manoeuvre in dense urban environments</li> <li>✓ Touchscreen infotainment was advanced for the segment at its price point</li> <li>✓ Basic but functional layout for first-time SUV buyers</li> <li>✓ Aftermarket parts and service continues through GWM SA network for ongoing ownership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Underpowered with 78 kW output making overtaking challenging</li> <li>✗ Safety equipment significantly below current segment expectations</li> <li>✗ Basic cabin with hard plastics and minimal sound insulation</li> <li>✗ Limited boot capacity by sub-compact SUV standards</li> <li>✗ Discontinued with no direct successor — limits long-term parts/service confidence</li> </ul>

## Expert Verdict

*"Most accessible Haval ever sold in South Africa — a basic sub-compact SUV from its era, now an increasingly rare used buy at budget prices."*

The H1 served its purpose as Haval's entry-level offering in SA for four years, introducing the brand to budget-conscious first-time SUV buyers. As a discontinued model, it remains a reasonable budget option for buyers needing basic transport, though more modern alternatives exist at similar prices.

<b>City Driving</b>	Adequate for urban duty at its price point. Small footprint made it easy to park and manoeuvre. Limited power meant overtaking required forward planning. Basic safety equipment by current standards.
<b>Highway</b>	Highway capability was modest. Sustained 120 km/h cruising was achievable but unrefined, with significant cabin noise and slow overtaking response. Fuel economy on highway sat at 7.0-8.0 L/100 km.
<b>Off-Road</b>	Front-wheel-drive sub-compact SUV with 160 mm ground clearance — handled gravel access roads and light tracks adequately. Not designed for off-road use.
<b>Best For</b>	First-time SUV buyers in South Africa during 2015-2019 with very tight budgets who wanted elevated driving position and SUV body styling at sub-compact-car pricing.

## 04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 1 variants of the Gwm H1 side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

SPEC	1.5 LS
Price (ex-showroom)	On Request
Fuel Type	Petrol
Transmission	Automatic
Trim Level	Base
Engine	1497 cc (1.5L)
Max Power	78 kW (105 bhp)
Max Torque	135 Nm (100 lb-ft)
Drivetrain	FWD
Fuel Economy	7.0 km/l
Seating	5
Boot Space	—
Ground Clearance	160 mm
Kerb Weight	—

→ [Compare these variants on hagalu.com](#) (live prices, on-road costs, real owner reviews and EMI calculator)

## 05 Gwm H1 — 1.5 LS

Price on Request

ENGINE <b>1497</b> cc	POWER <b>78</b> kW · 105 bhp	TORQUE <b>135</b> Nm · 100 lb-ft	ECONOMY <b>7.0</b> km/l	FUEL <b>Petrol</b> Automatic
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Base Trim · Petrol · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

## ENGINE &amp; PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5L GW4G15 Naturally Aspirated Petrol	Displacement	1497 cc
Cylinders	4	Engine Aspiration	Naturally Aspirated
Power	78 kW	Torque	135 Nm
Fuel Grade Required	Petrol	0–100 km/h	13.5 sec
Top Speed	155 km/h	Engine Type	Inline 4 Cylinder Naturally Aspirated
Engine Code	GW4G15	Cylinder Layout	Inline 4 (I4)

## TRANSMISSION &amp; DRIVETRAIN

Transmission	Automatic	Transmission	6-Speed CVT
Number of Gears	6	Drive Type	FWD
Drivetrain	Front Wheel Drive	Transmission Type	Automatic CVT
Final Drive Ratio	3.94:1	Steering Turns Lock to Lock	3.2
Clutch Type	Torque Converter	LSD Available	Not Available
Differential Lock	Not Available	Transfer Case	Not Applicable

## DIMENSIONS

Number of Doors	5	Seats	5
Seating Capacity	5	Length	4002 mm
Width	1740 mm	Height	1567 mm
Wheelbase	2450 mm	Ground Clearance	160 mm
Gross Vehicle Weight	1770 kg	Front Track Width	1490 mm
Rear Track Width	1480 mm	Turning Radius	5.2 m

## MILEAGE &amp; EFFICIENCY

Claimed Mileage	7.0 km/l	Fuel Tank Capacity	42 l
City Mileage	6.8 km/l	Highway Mileage	8.2 km/l
Emission Standard	Euro 5	AdBlue Tank Capacity	0 l
Auto Start Stop	Not Available		—

## SAFETY

ABS	Yes	Electronic Stability Control	Yes
Airbags	4	Safety Rating	4
Traction Control	Standard	Hill Start Assist	Not Available
Hill Descent Control	Not Available	Child Safety Lock	Standard
ISOFIX Mounts	2 Rear ISOFIX Points	Brake Assist	Standard

Tyre Pressure Monitor	Not Available	Engine Immobiliser	Standard
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## COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Service Plan	3 Years / 45,000 km	AC Type	Manual Air Conditioning
Power Windows	Front and Rear	Keyless Entry	Not Available
Push Button Start	Not Available	Wireless Charging	Not Available
Electric Tailgate	Not Available	Automatic Headlamps	Not Available
Rain Sensing Wipers	Not Available	Auto Dimming Mirror	Not Available
Rear Window Defroster	Standard	Electric Mirror Folding	Manual Fold

+ 11 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, ...) available on the live model page.

→ [See 1.5 LS full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

## 06 Explore More on Hagalu

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Jump to live prices for each variant

→ 1.5 LS

### Live Prices & On-Road Costs — Gwm H1

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

→ Open

### Side-by-Side Comparison

→ Compare Gwm H1 vs any rival model.

→ Open

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→ Explore the full Gwm lineup in South Africa.

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→ Independent prices, specs and reviews for South Africa and beyond.

→ Open

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