



GWM

Tank 500

South Africa • 2026 Official Buyer's Guide

2999 cc ENGINE	340 kW POWER	224 mm CLEARANCE	2.5 L/100 FUEL ECON	5 seats SEATING
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ZAR 1,149,900
Ex-Showroom Starting Price

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/gwm/tank-500/>

Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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

The Tank 500 is GWM's most ambitious product sold in South Africa. Where the Tank 300 challenges the Jeep Wrangler segment, the Tank 500 takes aim at the very top of the off-road SUV market — the Toyota Land Cruiser 300, Ford Everest Platinum, and Land Rover Defender 110 territory. Launched into the SA market in 2025, the Tank 500 represents Chinese-brand luxury 4x4 ambitions at their most explicit. The single variant offered locally — 3.0T Hi4-T Luxury at R1,149,900 — uses a 3.0-litre twin-turbocharged V6 petrol producing 260 kW and 500 Nm of torque. The petrol engine is paired with a dedicated hybrid system featuring an integrated electric motor and 27 kWh battery — yes, 27 kWh, much larger than typical hybrid batteries. Combined output is meaningfully higher than the petrol-only baseline, and the system can operate in EV-only mode for around 100 km on battery alone before the petrol engine engages. Chassis architecture is body-on-frame ladder construction with full-time AWD, low-range transfer case, locking front and rear differentials, and adaptive air suspension. Yes, air suspension — a feature...



Body Style	5-door 5-seat (7-seat option expected) body-on-frame ladder-chassis luxury off-road SUV with full-time all-wheel drive and adaptive air suspension. Dimensions: 5,078 mm length, 1,934 mm width, 1,905 mm height, 2,850 mm wheelbase.
Launched	2025
Generation	First generation Tank 500, launched globally in 2023 and brought to South Africa in 2025. Local specification leans toward maximum equipment loading and softer suspension calibration versus the Chinese-domestic version.
Fuel Types	Petrol
Colours	Crystal White, Hamilton Black, Pittsburgh Silver, Cosmos Grey, Atlantic Blue and Adventure Olive Green. Two-tone roof options available with selected base colours.
OEM Website	https://www.gwm.co.za/tank/tank-500/

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Starting From	ZAR 1,149,900			1 Variants Available
Variant	Fuel	Transmission	Trim	Ex-Showroom
3.0T Hi4-T Luxury	Petrol	Automatic	Flagship	ZAR 1,149,900

Estimated On-Road Price — 3.0T Hi4-T Luxury (Base Variant)

Johannesburg	ZAR 1,174,698
Cape Town	ZAR 1,179,448
Durban	ZAR 1,171,299
Pretoria	ZAR 1,172,998

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

03 Pros, Cons & Expert Verdict

● STRENGTHS

- ✓ Body-on-frame chassis with full-time AWD, low range, and front/rear locking differentials
- ✓ 3.0-litre V6 hybrid powertrain with 27 kWh battery delivering EV-only operation up to 100...
- ✓ Adaptive air suspension provides variable ride height and superior on-road refinement
- ✓ Quilted Nappa leather, 20-speaker Infinity audio, panoramic sunroof, refrigerated rear...
- ✓ Six terrain modes, hill descent control, transparent under-body camera, hill ascent assist
- ✓ Saves R700,000 versus Toyota Land Cruiser 300 with comparable off-road and superior...

● CONSIDERATIONS

- ✗ Single variant only — no choice of trim level or powertrain configuration in SA
- ✗ Real-world V6 hybrid fuel consumption of 9.5–10.5 L/100 km still higher than diesel rivals
- ✗ Long-term reliability of complex hybrid air-suspension system not yet established in SA...
- ✗ Residual values projected to lag Toyota Land Cruiser 300 significantly over 5-year...
- ✗ Limited service network for flagship 4x4 maintenance versus established Toyota and Land...

Expert Verdict

"Flagship Chinese luxury 4x4 at less than two-thirds the price of a Land Cruiser 300 — the Tank 500 is GWM's most impressive product in South Africa to date."

The Tank 500 represents GWM's most ambitious product positioning in South Africa, and the execution is genuinely impressive. The combination of body-on-frame off-road capability, hybrid efficiency, adaptive air suspension and luxury cabin equipment is unmatched at the price. The unresolved question is whether premium SUV buyers in SA — a segment that has traditionally chosen Toyota or Land Rover for brand confidence — will embrace a Chinese flagship. Early indications are positive, but it's a multi-year story.

City Driving	Despite its 5,078 mm length, the Tank 500's air suspension and 360-camera system make urban duty manageable. The air suspension lowers automatically at highway speeds and can be raised for tight parking surveys. Light steering for the size and good visibility through large windows.
Highway	Air suspension delivers excellent highway refinement — at 120 km/h the Tank 500 rides like a luxury SUV rather than a body-on-frame off-roader. Real-world fuel consumption sits at 9.5–10.5 L/100 km thanks to the hybrid system, with significantly better numbers possible when the EV-only mode is used in urban driving. Strong overtaking torque from the V6 hybrid.
Off-Road	Genuine flagship 4x4 capability. Air suspension raises ground clearance from 224 mm (highway) to 280 mm (off-road), full-time AWD with low range, front and rear locking differentials, six terrain modes including rock crawl. 800 mm wading depth. The Tank 500 will handle serious off-road terrain — Lesotho high country, deep Botswana sand, Mozambique coastal routes — at the level expected of any modern flagship 4x4.
Best For	Premium 4x4 buyers in South Africa who want luxury equipment, hybrid efficiency and genuine off-road capability. The Tank 500 targets the same buyer who would otherwise consider a Land Cruiser 300, Ford Everest Platinum or Land Rover Defender. Suits established professionals, business owners and lifestyle 4x4 enthusiasts.

04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 1 variants of the Gwm Tank 500 side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

SPEC	3.0T Hi4-T Luxury
Price (ex-showroom)	ZAR 1,149,900
Fuel Type	Petrol
Transmission	Automatic
Trim Level	Flagship
Engine	2999 cc (3.0L)
Max Power	340 kW (456 bhp)
Max Torque	750 Nm (553 lb-ft)
Drivetrain	AWD
Fuel Economy	2.5 km/l
Seating	5
Boot Space	580 L
Ground Clearance	224 mm
Kerb Weight	2680 kg

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

05 Gwm Tank 500 — 3.0T Hi4-T Luxury

ZAR 1,149,900

ENGINE 2999 cc	POWER 340 kW · 456 bhp	TORQUE 750 Nm · 553 lb-ft	ECONOMY 2.5 km/l	FUEL Petrol Automatic
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Flagship Trim · Petrol · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	3.0L GW4C30D V6 Turbocharged Petrol + Front Electric Motor	Engine Type	V6 Twin-Turbo Petrol Hybrid
Engine Type Config	V6 (V6) DOHC 24-Valve Twin-Turbocharged	Engine Code	GW4C30D
Cylinder Layout	V6	Cylinders	6
Valves per Cylinder	24	Displacement	2999 cc
Engine Aspiration	Twin-Turbocharged	Turbocharger	Yes
Compression Ratio	10.5:1	Fuel System	Direct Injection

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Transmission	Automatic	Transmission Type	Automatic
Transmission	9-Speed Automatic	Number of Gears	9
Paddle Shifters	Yes	Drive Type	AWD
Drivetrain	All Wheel Drive (Hi4-T Hybrid)	Drivetrain Layout	Front Engine All Wheel Drive
Differential Lock	Yes	Transfer Case	Yes
Steering Turns Lock to Lock	14.7:1	Final Drive Ratio	3.73

DIMENSIONS

Number of Doors	5	Seats	5
Seating Capacity	5	Length	5060 mm
Width	1996 mm	Height	1905 mm
Wheelbase	2950 mm	Ground Clearance	224 mm
Kerb Weight	2680 kg	Fuel Tank Capacity	80 l
Boot Space	580 l	Doors	5

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Fuel Tank Capacity	80 l	Claimed Mileage	2.5 km/l
Emission Standard	Euro 5	Low Fuel Warning	Yes
City Mileage	8.0 km/l	Highway Mileage	6.8 km/l
Average Fuel Consumption	7.5	Real-world Mileage	7.5 km/l
Claimed Fuel Consumption	2.5 l/100km	Fuel Efficiency	Good l/100km
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Distance To Empty	Yes

SAFETY

Hill Descent Control	Yes	ABS	Yes
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Electronic Stability Control	Yes	TCS	Yes
BA	Yes	EBD	Yes
Central Locking	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Alarm System	Yes	Front Parking Sensors	Yes
AEB	Yes	Driver Airbag	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Valves Per Cylinder	4	Intercooler	Yes
Fuel Consumption Combined	2.5	Gear Shift Type	Automatic
Ride Mode Selection	Yes	Adaptive Dampers	Yes
Hill Start Assist	Yes	Spare Wheel	Yes
Engine Warranty	5 Years / 100,000 km	Service Plan	5 Years / 75,000 km
Multi Function Steering	Yes	Keyless Entry	Yes

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

→ [See 3.0T Hi4-T Luxury full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

06 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to live prices for each variant

→ 3.0T Hi4-T Luxury — ZAR 1,149,900

Live Prices & On-Road Costs — Gwm Tank 500

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

→ Open

Side-by-Side Comparison

→ Compare Gwm Tank 500 vs any rival model.

→ Open

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→ Explore the full Gwm lineup in South Africa.

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Buyer's Guides — Finance, Pricing & New Launches

→ In-depth SA guides: car finance, monthly EMI math, upcoming launches.

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