



KIA

Carens

South Africa • 2026 Official Buyer's Guide

1493 cc

ENGINE

185 mm

CLEARANCE

18.2 L/100

FUEL ECON

7 seats

SEATING

ZAR 399,995 – 599,995


Ex-Showroom Starting Price

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/kia/carens/>

Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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	4.3 / 5.0 124 Reviews	4 Variants	4 Priced
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01 Overview & Quick Facts

South Africa's multi-purpose vehicle segment has a specific character that separates it from European MPV markets where sliding-door people carriers serve school-run and airport-transfer duties for urban professionals. The South African MPV buyer needs something more robust and more versatile — a vehicle that handles extended family road trips across the Karoo, school rugby tours to Boland, church group excursions from Soweto to the Vaal Dam and regular national road runs between cities. Petrol economy doesn't cut it when the vehicle is loaded with seven adults and their luggage on the N3 Van Reenen's climb. Diesel matters here. Real diesel. The KIA Carens arrives with that understanding built in. The fourth-generation model launched in South Africa in 2023 wearing substantially more sophisticated exterior design than its predecessor — the wagon-like silhouette with rising window line, parametric KIA front face and clean rear treatment reads as a contemporary crossover-MPV rather than the utilitarian box shape that traditionally defined the segment's aesthetic. This visual repositioning is commercially deliberate: it places the Carens in competition with lifestyle SUVs as well as traditional MPV...



Body Style	5-door 7-seat MPV
Launched	2023
Generation	Fourth generation (SW); global launch 2022, SA 2023
Fuel Types	Diesel (50ppm)
Colours	Clear White, Aurora Black Pearl, Gravity Blue, Pewter Olive, Snow White Pearl
OEM Website	https://www.kia.com/za/vehicles/carens/

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Starting From	ZAR 399,995 – 599,995	4 Variants Available
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Variant	Fuel	Transmission	Trim	Ex-Showroom
1.5D LS Manual	Diesel	Manual	Base	ZAR 399,995
1.5D LX Auto	Diesel	Automatic	Mid	ZAR 459,995
1.5D EX Auto	Diesel	Automatic	Top	ZAR 499,995
1.5D SX Auto	Diesel	Automatic	Flagship	ZAR 599,995

Estimated On-Road Price — 1.5D LS Manual (Base Variant)

Johannesburg	ZAR 415,794
Cape Town	ZAR 418,294
Durban	ZAR 413,894
Pretoria	ZAR 414,844

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

03 Pros, Cons & Expert Verdict

<p>● STRENGTHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1.5D 260Nm diesel pulls 7 occupants with effortless torque on SA mountain passes and long... ✓ ~6.5L/100km fully loaded — exceptional efficiency for a 7-seat vehicle ✓ Genuine adult space in third row — not token seating for small children only ✓ 10.25-inch infotainment with CarPlay/Android Auto on EX+ — technology above segment norm ✓ Panoramic sunroof on SX transforms long-distance road trips across SA's dramatic... ✓ Full ADAS suite (FCA, LDA, BCW) addresses real SA highway safety risk factors 	<p>● CONSIDERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Third row not ideal for adults on journeys exceeding 2 hours — refinement limited vs... ✗ Diesel requires 50ppm fuel — less universally available in remote SA provinces ✗ No petrol engine option in SA — diesel-averse buyers have no alternative ✗ FWD only — no AWD option for wet Cape or KZN winter conditions under load ✗ Towing capability limited vs ladder-frame alternatives for caravan users ✗ Longer wheelbase makes tight CBD parking more challenging than sub-compact alternatives
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Expert Verdict

"The most complete and best-equipped 7-seat MPV under R580k in South Africa — diesel efficiency, third-row adult space and a panoramic-sunroof SX grade that genuinely embarrasses Toyota Avanza for technology and refinement."

The Carens wins the 7-seat MPV category on diesel efficiency, technology depth and long-distance refinement. No rival under R580k offers the combination of 260Nm diesel torque, ADAS safety suite, 10.25-inch infotainment and genuine adult third-row space. The seven-year warranty removes the financial anxiety of a complex, high-mileage family vehicle. For South African families who cover serious distances, the Carens is the rational choice.

City Driving	Good — longer wheelbase requires more planning in tight parking but urban family use is handled well
Highway	Excellent — diesel torque, smooth 6AT and good NVH make the Carens the best long-distance performer in its class
Off-Road	Not suited — unibody construction and FWD limit off-road capability
Best For	Large family needing 7-seat transport; church/community group transport; extended-family road-trip vehicle; buyer wanting diesel efficiency in a people mover

04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 4 variants of the KIA Carens side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

SPEC	1.5D LS Manual	1.5D LX Auto	1.5D EX Auto	1.5D SX Auto
Price (ex-showroom)	ZAR 399,995	ZAR 459,995	ZAR 499,995	ZAR 599,995
Fuel Type	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel
Transmission	Manual	Automatic	Automatic	Automatic
Trim Level	Base	Mid	Top	Flagship
Engine	1493 cc (1.5L)	1493 cc (1.5L)	1493 cc (1.5L)	1493 cc (1.5L)
Max Power	85 kW	85 kW	85 kW	85 kW
Max Torque	260 Nm	260 Nm	260 Nm	260 Nm
Drivetrain	FWD	FWD	FWD	FWD
Fuel Economy	18.2 km/l	18.2 km/l	18.2 km/l	18.2 km/l
Seating	7	7	7	7
Boot Space	143 L	143 L	143 L	143 L
Ground Clearance	185 mm	185 mm	185 mm	185 mm
Kerb Weight	1700 kg	1720 kg	1730 kg	1745 kg

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

05 KIA Carens — 1.5D LS Manual

ZAR 399,995

ENGINE 1493 cc	POWER 85 kW kW	TORQUE 260 Nm Nm	ECONOMY 18.2 km/l	FUEL Diesel Manual
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Base Trim · Diesel · Manual

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5 D4FE Inline-4 Diesel Turbo	Engine Type	Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel
Engine Type Config	Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) DOHC 16-Valve Diesel	Engine Code	D4FE
Cylinder Layout	Inline 4 (I4)	Cylinders	4
Valves per Cylinder	16	Displacement	1493 cc
Engine Displacement	1493 cc	Engine Aspiration	Turbocharged
Turbocharger	Yes	Cylinder Bore	75.0 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Transmission	6-Speed Manual	Transmission	6-Speed Manual
Transmission Type	Manual Transmission	Number of Gears	6
Clutch Type	Single Dry Disc	Paddle Shifters	No
Final Drive Ratio	3.73	Drivetrain	FWD
Drive Type	FWD	Drivetrain Layout	FWD
Transfer Case	N/A	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	4540 mm	Width	1850 mm
Height	1700 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Front Track Width	1600 mm	Rear Track Width	1600 mm
Ground Clearance	185 mm	Turning Radius	11.4 m
Front Overhang	880 mm	Rear Overhang	880 mm
Kerb Weight	1700 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight	2250 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

AdBlue Tank Capacity	No I	Claimed Fuel Consumption	5.5 l/100km
Claimed Mileage	18.2 km/l	City Mileage	14.7 km/l
Highway Mileage	21.3 km/l	Average Fuel Consumption	5.5
Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l	Fuel Efficiency	5.5 L/100km l/100km
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Emission Standard	Euro 6
Distance To Empty	N/A	Low Fuel Warning	Yes

SAFETY

Engine Immobiliser	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Brake Override System	Yes	Tyre Pressure Monitor	Yes
Airbags	7	Driver Airbag	Yes

Passenger Airbag	Yes	Side Airbags	Yes
Curtain Airbags	Yes	Knee Airbag	Yes
Side Impact Beams	Yes	Seatbelt Pretensioners	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Valves Per Cylinder	4	Intercooler	Yes
Launch Control	No	Rev Matching	No
Performance Data Logger	No	Fuel Consumption Combined	5.5
Engine Start Stop	Yes	Engine Start Stop Button	No
Engine Start Button Illumination	No	Engine Check Warning	Yes
Gear Shift Type	Manual	Ground Clearance Unladen	185

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

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

[Compare with rivals →](#)

06 KIA Carens — 1.5D LX Auto

ZAR 459,995

ENGINE 1493 cc	POWER 85 kW kW	TORQUE 260 Nm Nm	ECONOMY 18.2 km/l	FUEL Diesel Automatic
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Mid Trim · Diesel · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5 D4FE Inline-4 Diesel Turbo	Engine Type	Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel
Engine Type Config	Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) DOHC 16-Valve Diesel	Engine Code	D4FE
Cylinder Layout	Inline 4 (I4)	Cylinders	4
Valves per Cylinder	16	Displacement	1493 cc
Engine Displacement	1493 cc	Engine Aspiration	Turbocharged
Turbocharger	Yes	Cylinder Bore	75.0 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Transmission	6-Speed DCT	Transmission	6-Speed DCT
Transmission Type	Dual Clutch Transmission	Number of Gears	6
Clutch Type	Dry Dual Clutch	Paddle Shifters	Yes
Final Drive Ratio	3.63	Drivetrain	FWD
Drive Type	FWD	Drivetrain Layout	FWD
Transfer Case	N/A	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	4540 mm	Width	1850 mm
Height	1700 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Front Track Width	1600 mm	Rear Track Width	1600 mm
Ground Clearance	185 mm	Turning Radius	11.4 m
Front Overhang	880 mm	Rear Overhang	880 mm
Kerb Weight	1720 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight	2270 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

AdBlue Tank Capacity	No I	Claimed Fuel Consumption	5.5 l/100km
Claimed Mileage	18.2 km/l	City Mileage	14.7 km/l
Highway Mileage	21.3 km/l	Average Fuel Consumption	5.5
Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l	Fuel Efficiency	5.5 L/100km l/100km
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Emission Standard	Euro 6
Distance To Empty	N/A	Low Fuel Warning	Yes

SAFETY

Engine Immobiliser	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Brake Override System	Yes	Tyre Pressure Monitor	Yes
Airbags	7	Driver Airbag	Yes

Passenger Airbag	Yes	Side Airbags	Yes
Curtain Airbags	Yes	Knee Airbag	Yes
Side Impact Beams	Yes	Seatbelt Pretensioners	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Valves Per Cylinder	4	Intercooler	Yes
Launch Control	No	Rev Matching	No
Performance Data Logger	No	Fuel Consumption Combined	5.5
Engine Start Stop	Yes	Engine Start Stop Button	Yes
Engine Start Button Illumination	Yes	Engine Check Warning	Yes
Gear Shift Type	Automatic	Ground Clearance Unladen	185

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

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

[Compare with rivals →](#)

07 KIA Carens — 1.5D EX Auto

ZAR 499,995

ENGINE 1493 cc	POWER 85 kW kW	TORQUE 260 Nm Nm	ECONOMY 18.2 km/l	FUEL Diesel Automatic
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Top Trim · Diesel · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5 D4FE Inline-4 Diesel Turbo	Engine Type	Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel
Engine Type Config	Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) DOHC 16-Valve Diesel	Engine Code	D4FE
Cylinder Layout	Inline 4 (I4)	Cylinders	4
Valves per Cylinder	16	Displacement	1493 cc
Engine Displacement	1493 cc	Engine Aspiration	Turbocharged
Turbocharger	Yes	Cylinder Bore	75.0 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Transmission	6-Speed DCT	Transmission	6-Speed DCT
Transmission Type	Dual Clutch Transmission	Number of Gears	6
Clutch Type	Dry Dual Clutch	Paddle Shifters	Yes
Final Drive Ratio	3.63	Drivetrain	FWD
Drive Type	FWD	Drivetrain Layout	FWD
Transfer Case	N/A	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	4540 mm	Width	1850 mm
Height	1700 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Front Track Width	1600 mm	Rear Track Width	1600 mm
Ground Clearance	185 mm	Turning Radius	11.4 m
Front Overhang	880 mm	Rear Overhang	880 mm
Kerb Weight	1730 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight	2280 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

AdBlue Tank Capacity	No I	Claimed Fuel Consumption	5.5 l/100km
Claimed Mileage	18.2 km/l	City Mileage	14.7 km/l
Highway Mileage	21.3 km/l	Average Fuel Consumption	5.5
Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l	Fuel Efficiency	5.5 L/100km l/100km
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Emission Standard	Euro 6
Distance To Empty	N/A	Low Fuel Warning	Yes

SAFETY

Engine Immobiliser	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Brake Override System	Yes	Tyre Pressure Monitor	Yes
Airbags	7	Driver Airbag	Yes

Passenger Airbag	Yes	Side Airbags	Yes
Curtain Airbags	Yes	Knee Airbag	Yes
Side Impact Beams	Yes	Seatbelt Pretensioners	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Valves Per Cylinder	4	Intercooler	Yes
Launch Control	No	Rev Matching	No
Performance Data Logger	No	Fuel Consumption Combined	5.5
Engine Start Stop	Yes	Engine Start Stop Button	Yes
Engine Start Button Illumination	Yes	Engine Check Warning	Yes
Gear Shift Type	Automatic	Ground Clearance Unladen	185

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

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

[Compare with rivals →](#)

08 KIA Carens — 1.5D SX Auto

ZAR 599,995

ENGINE 1493 cc	POWER 85 kW kW	TORQUE 260 Nm Nm	ECONOMY 18.2 km/l	FUEL Diesel Automatic
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Flagship Trim · Diesel · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5 D4FE Inline-4 Diesel Turbo	Engine Type	Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel
Engine Type Config	Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) DOHC 16-Valve Diesel	Engine Code	D4FE
Cylinder Layout	Inline 4 (I4)	Cylinders	4
Valves per Cylinder	16	Displacement	1493 cc
Engine Displacement	1493 cc	Engine Aspiration	Turbocharged
Turbocharger	Yes	Cylinder Bore	75.0 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Transmission	6-Speed DCT	Transmission	6-Speed DCT
Transmission Type	Dual Clutch Transmission	Number of Gears	6
Clutch Type	Dry Dual Clutch	Paddle Shifters	Yes
Final Drive Ratio	3.63	Drivetrain	FWD
Drive Type	FWD	Drivetrain Layout	FWD
Transfer Case	N/A	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	4540 mm	Width	1850 mm
Height	1700 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Front Track Width	1600 mm	Rear Track Width	1600 mm
Ground Clearance	185 mm	Turning Radius	11.4 m
Front Overhang	880 mm	Rear Overhang	880 mm
Kerb Weight	1745 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight	2295 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

AdBlue Tank Capacity	No I	Claimed Fuel Consumption	5.5 l/100km
Claimed Mileage	18.2 km/l	City Mileage	14.7 km/l
Highway Mileage	21.3 km/l	Average Fuel Consumption	5.5
Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l	Fuel Efficiency	5.5 L/100km l/100km
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Emission Standard	Euro 6
Distance To Empty	N/A	Low Fuel Warning	Yes

SAFETY

Engine Immobiliser	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Brake Override System	Yes	Tyre Pressure Monitor	Yes
Airbags	7	Driver Airbag	Yes

Passenger Airbag	Yes	Side Airbags	Yes
Curtain Airbags	Yes	Knee Airbag	Yes
Side Impact Beams	Yes	Seatbelt Pretensioners	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Valves Per Cylinder	4	Intercooler	Yes
Launch Control	No	Rev Matching	No
Performance Data Logger	No	Fuel Consumption Combined	5.5
Engine Start Stop	Yes	Engine Start Stop Button	Yes
Engine Start Button Illumination	Yes	Engine Check Warning	Yes
Gear Shift Type	Automatic	Ground Clearance Unladen	185

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

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

[Compare with rivals →](#)

09 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to live prices for each variant

→ [1.5D LS Manual](#) — ZAR 399,995

→ [1.5D LX Auto](#) — ZAR 459,995

→ [1.5D EX Auto](#) — ZAR 499,995

→ [1.5D SX Auto](#) — ZAR 599,995

Live Prices & On-Road Costs — KIA Carens

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

→ Open

Side-by-Side Comparison

→ Compare KIA Carens vs any rival model.

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