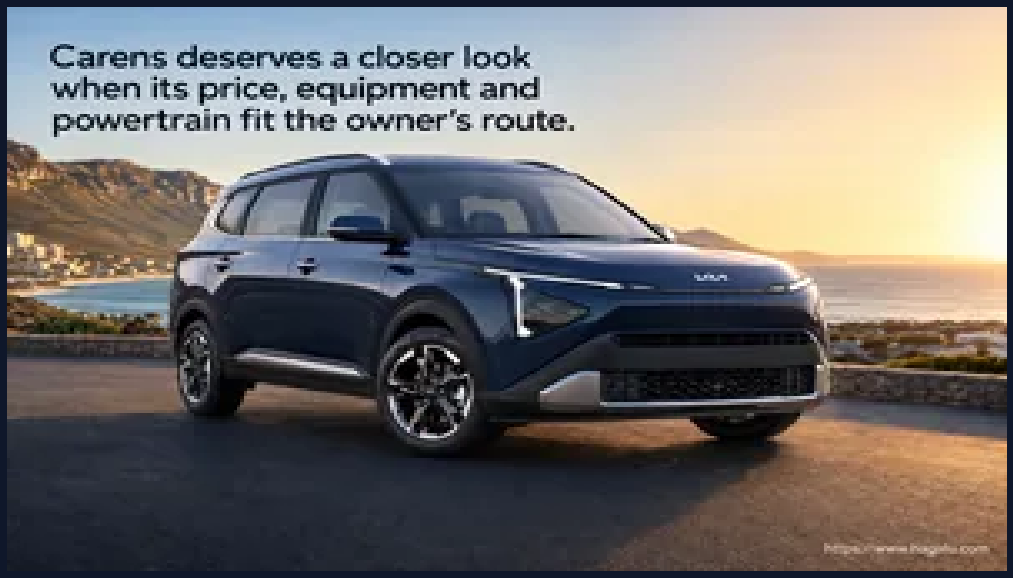


KIA

Carens

South Africa • 2026 Hagalu Buyer's Guide

1493 cc	85 kW	180 mm	18.9 km/l	7 seats
ENGINE	POWER	CLEARANCE	FUEL ECON	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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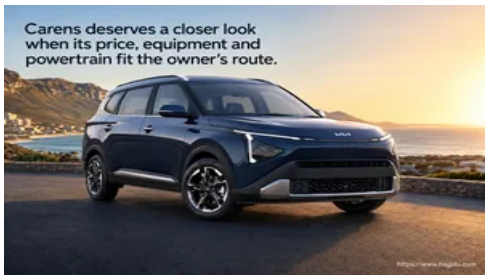
08 Full Specs — 1.5D SX Auto

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4.3 / 5	Hagalu editorial score	4 Variants	4 Priced

01 Overview & Quick Facts

Kia relaunched the Carens in South Africa in May 2026 as a seven-seat family vehicle with four locally named grades: LS manual, then LX, EX and SX automatics. The 4,550 mm body and 2,780 mm wheelbase provide three seating rows, while the sliding and reclining second row makes access to row three easier. That remains modest for seven people's holiday luggage, but folding the split third row changes the Carens into a much more useful five-seat carrier. SX is the safety and technology flagship with the wider driver-assistance package, digital instruments, surround-view monitoring, heated and ventilated front seats, and an upgraded eight-speaker system. Buyers should judge the exact current derivative and confirm any temporary finance promotion separately from the published retail price. That flexibility is more useful than treating every seating row as fixed. Buyers should take the people who will use row three to the showroom, set rows one and two for their normal positions, and then test entry, knee room and head clearance rather than relying only on the seven-seat label. Those figures produce transparent payloads of 558…



Body Style	Five-door, seven-seat MPV/crossover
Launched	2026
Generation	Current fourth-generation KY facelift, South African retail launch May 2026.
Fuel Types	Diesel
Colours	Glacier White Pearl, Ivory Silver Gloss, Gravity Gray, Metallic Sparkling Silver
OEM Website	https://www.kia.co.za/new-cars/carens

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Ex-Showroom Starting Price	ZAR 399,995 – 599,995	4 Listed Variants

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 & Buyer Summary

● STRENGTHS

- ✓ Body style: MPV
- ✓ Fuel type: Diesel
- ✓ South African price: R399,995
- ✓ Engine: 1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel
- ✓ Power output: 85 kW @ 4000 rpm
- ✓ Transmission: 6-Speed Manual

● CONSIDERATIONS

- ✗ Exact equipment for Carens can vary by derivative.
- ✗ Real fuel use for Carens depends on route, load and weather.
- ✗ The written Carens quotation should be checked before purchase.
- ✗ Tyre, insurance and service costs need a separate Carens budget.
- ✗ A short Carens test drive cannot represent every ownership route.
- ✗ Carens capability should not be inferred from body styling alone.

Hagalu Editorial Verdict

> *"Carens deserves a closer look when its price, equipment and powertrain fit the owner's route."*

A 45-litre tank and the official consumption figures also suit high-mileage family use. Finance interest, insurance, tyres and servicing after 45,000 km depend on the buyer and usage. The buying case for Carens is specific. A South African price reference of R399,995 gives it a reason to be considered, while engine of 1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel and a power output of 85 kW @ 4000 rpm set the boundaries. Carens is easiest to recommend when the buyer can point to a concrete benefit in a 6-Speed Manual transmission and accept the limitation represented by a South African price reference of R459,995. The local price should be judged against the equipment that is actually included, not an adjacent trim for Carens. That is the difference between a sound purchase and an expensive specification mismatch for Carens

City Driving	EX adds the 12.3-inch central screen, front parking sensors, dual-zone climate control and leather upholstery. Drive the Carens through the tightest parking area, a steep ramp, a speed hump and stop-start traffic. Around town, Carens should be judged by repetition rather than a single burst of acceleration. Try the exact derivative with its normal occupants or equipment for Carens. Look for easy entry, usable storage, predictable braking and a calm response at walking pace for Carens. The relevance of a 6-Speed Automatic transmission becomes obvious on a busy weekday, while a 6-Speed Automatic transmission is worth checking before a purchase built around tight parking or frequent loading for Carens
Highway	LX changes to the six-speed automatic, 17-inch alloys, cruise control and wireless charging. Run Carens at legal cruising speed, include a hill and a safe overtake, and see whether the driver can remain relaxed after an hour. The interaction between a power output of 85 kW @ 4000 rpm, a 6-Speed Manual transmission and a 6-Speed Manual transmission is more informative than maximum speed

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Off-Road	For Carens, the sensible check is the exact fwd arrangement, tyre specification, load and protection underneath. If the Carens will leave smooth tar, test the actual road rather than the image around it. A slow run over corrugations, a sharp entrance and a loaded crest will show whether the suspension, tyres and underside suit the duty for Carens. Check a 6-Speed Automatic transmission against the stated drivetrain for Carens. Maintained gravel can be a reasonable use case for many road vehicles; deep sand, mud and water demand confirmed equipment and a recovery plan for Carens
Best For	Carens makes the most sense for an owner whose route and budget agree with engine of 1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel. A shopper researching Carens should separate need from showroom appeal. If a 6-Speed Manual transmission solves a problem every week, it deserves real consideration for Carens. If it appears only on an occasional trip, a less expensive derivative may leave more room for running costs for Carens. Test the space with the actual child seats, bags, tools or stock, and confirm the equipment that belongs to the exact South African version for Carens

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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	6-Speed Manual	6-Speed Automatic	6-Speed Automatic	6-Speed 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 (114 bhp)	85 kW (114 bhp)	85 kW (114 bhp)	85 kW (114 bhp)
Max Torque	250 Nm (184 lb-ft)	250 Nm (184 lb-ft)	250 Nm (184 lb-ft)	250 Nm (184 lb-ft)
Drivetrain	FWD	FWD	FWD	FWD
Fuel Economy	20.0 km/l	18.9 km/l	18.9 km/l	18.9 km/l
Seating	7	7	7	7
Boot Space	216 L	216 L	216 L	216 L
Ground Clearance	180 mm	180 mm	180 mm	180 mm
Kerb Weight	1462 kg	1488 kg	1488 kg	1488 kg

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

05 KIA Carens — 1.5D LS Manual

ZAR 399,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
1493 cc	85 kW · 114 bhp	250 Nm · 184 lb-ft	20.0 km/l	Diesel 6-Speed Manual

Base Trim · Diesel · Manual

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	D4FA
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	1493 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	16	Valves per Cylinder	4
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Common Rail Direct Injection
Compression Ratio	16.0:1	Bore	75 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Drivetrain Layout	FWD	Final Drive Ratio	3.73
Paddle Shifters	No	Clutch Type	Single Dry Disc
Gear Shift Indicator	Yes	Gear Shift Type	Manual
Engine Position	Front Transverse	Number of Gears	6
Gearbox	6-Speed Manual	Transmission Type	Manual Transmission
Rear Differential Lock	Not Applicable	Front Differential Lock	Not Applicable

DIMENSIONS

Length	4550 mm	Width	1800 mm
Height	1734 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	180 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	175 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l	Boot/Cargo Space	216 l
Kerb Weight	1462 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2020 kg
Payload Capacity	558 kg	Towing Capacity	780 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable	Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km
Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km	Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l
Highway Mileage	23.4 km/l	Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l
Low Fuel Warning	Yes	Emission Standard	Euro 6
Auto Start Stop	Yes	AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l
Claimed Mileage	20.0 km/l	City Mileage	16.3 km/l

SAFETY

Whiplash Protection	Yes	Tyre Pressure Monitor	Yes

ABS EBD	Yes	ESC With Traction Control	Yes
Anti Theft Alarm	Yes	Driver Airbag	Yes
Passenger Airbag	Yes	Side Airbags	Yes
Curtain Airbags	Yes	Side Impact Beams	Yes
Seatbelt Pretensioners	Yes	Seatbelt Reminder	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Electric Mirror Folding	No	Rev Matching	No
Performance Data Logger	No	Engine Start Stop	Yes
Engine Start Stop Button	No	Engine Start Button Illumination	No
Engine Check Warning	Yes	Drag Coefficient	0.34
Roof Load	50 kg	Boot Space Seats Folded	1660 l
Stabilizer Bar	Yes	Steering Response	Normal

+ 13 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, …) available on the live model page.

→ See 1.5D LS Manual full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

06 KIA Carens — 1.5D LX Auto

ZAR 459,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
1493 cc	85 kW · 114 bhp	250 Nm · 184 lb-ft	18.9 km/l	Diesel 6-Speed Automatic

Mid Trim · Diesel · Automatic

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	D4FA
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	1493 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	16	Valves per Cylinder	4
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Common Rail Direct Injection
Compression Ratio	16.0:1	Bore	75 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Low Range	Not Applicable	Low Range Ratio	Not Applicable
Front Differential Lock	Not Applicable	Rear Differential Lock	Not Applicable
Automatic Shift Paddles	Yes	Drivetrain Layout	FWD
Gear Shift Indicator	No	Axle Layout	FWD
Gear Shift Type	Automatic	Differential Type Rear	Not Available
Number of Gears	6	Transmission Speeds	6

DIMENSIONS

Length	4550 mm	Width	1800 mm
Height	1734 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	180 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	175 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l	Boot/Cargo Space	216 l
Kerb Weight	1488 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2050 kg
Payload Capacity	562 kg	Towing Capacity	750 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l	Low Fuel Warning	Yes
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km
Emission Standard	Euro 6	Fuel Tank Litres	45
Highway Mileage	22.1 km/l	City Mileage	15.3 km/l
Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km	Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable
Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l	Claimed Mileage	18.9 km/l

SAFETY

ABS	Yes	EBD	Yes

Brake Assist	Yes	Electronic Stability Control	Yes
Stability Control	Yes	TCS	Yes
Traction Control	Yes	Hill Hold	Yes
Hill Start Assist	Yes	ABS EBD	Yes
Hill Descent Control	Not Available	ESC With Traction Control	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Bed Extender	Not Available	Source Model Column	carens
Intelligent Battery System	Not Available	Reading Lights Rear	Yes
Front Diff Lock	Not Available	Rear Diff Lock	Not Available
Vanity Mirror Illuminated	Yes	Rearview Mirror Inside	No
Front Wipers Type	Yes	Front Wiper	Yes
Rear LED Combination Taillights	Yes	Walk Away Auto Door Lock	Yes

+ 13 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, …) available on the live model page.

→ See 1.5D LX Auto full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

07 KIA Carens — 1.5D EX Auto

ZAR 499,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
1493 cc	85 kW · 114 bhp	250 Nm · 184 lb-ft	18.9 km/l	Diesel 6-Speed Automatic

Top Trim · Diesel · Automatic

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	D4FA
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	1493 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	16	Valves per Cylinder	4
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Common Rail Direct Injection
Compression Ratio	16.0:1	Bore	75 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

4WD Lo Range	Not Applicable	4WD Hi Range	Not Applicable
4WD Engagement	Not Applicable	Engine Position	Front Transverse
Steering Turns Lock to Lock	15.1:1	Gearbox	6-Speed Automatic
Automatic Shift Paddles	Yes	Axle Layout	FWD
Transmission Speeds	6	4WD Selector	Not Applicable
Differential Type Front	Not Available	Differential Type Rear	Not Available

DIMENSIONS

Length	4550 mm	Width	1800 mm
Height	1734 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	180 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	175 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l	Boot/Cargo Space	216 l
Kerb Weight	1488 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2050 kg
Payload Capacity	562 kg	Towing Capacity	750 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable	Claimed Mileage	18.9 km/l
Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l	Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l
Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km	Emission Standard	Euro 6
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Fuel Tank Litres	45
Low Fuel Warning	Yes	Highway Mileage	22.1 km/l
AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l	Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km

SAFETY

Anti Theft Alarm	Yes	Driver Passenger Airbags	6
Driver Front Passenger Airbags	6	Brake Override System	Yes
Rear Cross Traffic Alert	No	Tyre Pressure Monitor	Yes
AEB	No	Knee Airbag	No
Driver Airbag	Yes	Passenger Airbag	Yes
Side Airbags	Yes	Curtain Airbags	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Source Model Column	carens	Vdc	Yes
Intelligent Battery System	Not Available	TPMS	Yes
Side Steps	No	Skid Plates	No
Sonar	Yes	Automatic High Beam	Yes
Steering Column Adjustment	Tilt and Telescopic	Tilt Steering	Tilt and Telescopic
Telescopic Steering	Tilt and Telescopic	Bottle Holders	4

+ 13 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, …) available on the live model page.

→ See 1.5D EX Auto full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

08 KIA Carens — 1.5D SX Auto

ZAR 599,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
1493 cc	85 kW · 114 bhp	250 Nm · 184 lb-ft	18.9 km/l	Diesel 6-Speed Automatic

Flagship Trim · Diesel · Automatic

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	1.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	D4FA
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	1493 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	16	Valves per Cylinder	4
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Common Rail Direct Injection
Compression Ratio	16.0:1	Bore	75 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Axle Layout	FWD	4WD Engagement	Not Applicable
4WD Hi Range	Not Applicable	4WD Lo Range	Not Applicable
Transfer Case	Not Applicable	Transfer Case Guard	Not Available
Low Range	Not Applicable	Low Range Ratio	Not Applicable
Front Differential Lock	Not Applicable	Rear Differential Lock	Not Applicable
Engine Position	Front Transverse	Paddle Shifters	Yes

DIMENSIONS

Length	4550 mm	Width	1800 mm
Height	1734 mm	Wheelbase	2780 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	180 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	175 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l	Boot/Cargo Space	216 l
Kerb Weight	1488 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2050 kg
Payload Capacity	562 kg	Towing Capacity	750 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Fuel Tank Litres	45	Low Fuel Warning	Yes
City Mileage	15.3 km/l	AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l
Claimed Mileage	18.9 km/l	Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km
Auto Start Stop	Yes	Highway Mileage	22.1 km/l
Fuel Tank Capacity	45 l	Real-world Mileage	6.6 km/l
Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km	Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable

SAFETY

EBD	Yes	Lane Change Warning	Yes

Blind Spot Monitoring	Yes	Rear Cross Traffic Alert	Yes
Fatigue Detection	Yes	Speed Alert System	Yes
Anti Theft Alarm	Yes	ESC With Traction Control	Yes
ABS EBD	Yes	Pedestrian Detection AEB	Yes
Child Safety Lock	Yes	Safety Rating	5

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Unlocking	Yes	Vehicle To Grid	Not Available
Vehicle To Load	Not Available	One Pedal Driving	Not Available
Regenerative Braking Levels	Not Available	Rear Electric Motor	Not Available
Battery Preconditioning	Not Available	Sport Plus Mode	Not Available
Load Bed Cover	Not Available	Tailgate Lock	Not Available
Sports Bar	Not Available	Canopy Fitment	Not Available

+ 13 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, …) available on the live model page.

→ See 1.5D SX Auto full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

09 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to each variant's price and specification record

→ 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

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

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