

KIA

Carnival

South Africa • 2026 Hagalu Buyer's Guide

2151 cc	148 kW	175 mm	13.9 km/l	11 seats
ENGINE	POWER	CLEARANCE	FUEL ECON	SEATING

ZAR 1,049,995 – 1,299,995

Ex-Showroom Starting Price

https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/kia/carnival/

Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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Source-backed	No rating inferred	2 Variants	2 Priced

01 Overview & Quick Facts

Third-row passengers — in many large SUVs condemned to folded backs and cramped knees — have in the Carnival enough seat depth and legroom to arrive at the Durban beachfront having had an experience approaching comfortable rather than merely survived the journey. The 2.2-litre CRDi diesel — shared with the Sorento in the same 148kW/440Nm specification — moves the Carnival's substantial mass with the quiet authority that a large people carrier needs to feel appropriate at its price. The 440Nm from low revs ensures the Carnival hauls eight occupants and their luggage at sustained highway speeds without the breathless strain that under-powered large vehicles exhibit when fully loaded on the N3's mountain section. The power sliding rear doors are the Carnival's defining ergonomic feature and the detail that most dramatically separates it from SUV-based seven-seaters with conventional hinged rear doors. Power sliding doors in South Africa's urban environments are not a luxury convenience — they are a practical collision-avoidance mechanism. The underground parking structures of Sandton City, Cavendish Square in Cape Town, La Lucia Mall in Durban — all share…



Body Style	5-door 8-seat MPV (sliding rear doors)
Launched	2021
Generation	Fourth generation (KA4); global launch 2020, SA 2021
Fuel Types	Diesel (50ppm)
Colours	Snow White Pearl, Aurora Black Pearl, Steel Grey, Gravity Blue, Glacial White Pearl
OEM Website	https://www.kia.com/za/vehicles/carnival/

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Ex-Showroom Starting Price	ZAR 1,049,995 – 1,299,995	2 Listed Variants

Variant	Fuel	Transmission	Trim	Ex-Showroom
2.2 CRDi EX AT	Diesel	Automatic	Base	**ZAR 1,049,995**
2.2 CRDi SXL AT	Diesel	Automatic	Top	**ZAR 1,299,995**

Estimated On-Road Price — 2.2 CRDi EX AT (Base Variant)

Johannesburg	**ZAR 1,073,594**
Cape Town	**ZAR 1,078,044**
Durban	**ZAR 1,070,394**
Pretoria	**ZAR 1,071,994**

* 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: R1,049,995
- ✓ Engine: 2.2-litre Turbocharged Diesel
- ✓ Power output: 148 kW @ 3800 rpm
- ✓ Transmission: 8-Speed Automatic

● CONSIDERATIONS

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

Buyer Summary

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

Between budget minibus and European van-derived luxury, a persistent gap has left families, charter operators, airport transfer businesses and extended-household transport buyers with inadequate compromises. A fair review of Carnival should end with the owner's route, not a universal verdict. The combination of a front-wheel drive drivetrain, a South African price reference of R1,299,995 and the 2021 model year can be valuable for the right driver. The buying case for Carnival is specific. Engine of 2.2-litre Turbocharged Diesel gives it a reason to be considered, while a power output of 148 kW @ 3800 rpm and a 8-Speed Automatic transmission set the boundaries for Carnival. It deserves a shortlist when those details solve a repeated South African driving need for Carnival. It is less persuasive when the buyer is paying for unused capacity or assuming that another derivative's equipment applies here for Carnival. Compare the written price, the nearest grade and one genuine alternative before deciding for Carnival

City Driving	At 5,155mm in length and 1,995mm in width with a 3,090mm wheelbase, it is broader and longer than a Toyota Fortuner and occupies a parking footprint that requires route planning rather than casual parking habits. The urban test for Carnival should resemble the owner's route: a cold start, queues, kerbs, a narrow turn and a place where people or goods must be loaded. The vehicle's a South African price reference of R1,299,995 is only useful if access and visibility work in practice
Highway	For highway buyers, the Carnival needs to make sense when passengers, luggage or work equipment are aboard. The Fourth generation (KA4); global launch 2020, SA 2021 generation helps frame the vehicle's intended workload; do not assume that a larger body automatically brings more reserve or comfort. Long-distance comfort depends on details that disappear in a short test drive for Carnival. Run Carnival 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 8-Speed Automatic transmission, a 8-Speed Automatic transmission and a front-wheel drive drivetrain is more informative than maximum speed for Carnival. Owners travelling between provinces should also price replacement tyres, roadside assistance and scheduled service for Carnival

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Off-Road	The 2021 model year may help, but neither a tall bonnet nor diesel alone creates four-wheel drive, low range or a published wading ability. Ground clearance is only one part of the rough-road answer for Carnival. For Carnival, the sensible check is the exact fwd arrangement, tyre specification, load and protection underneath. Stay cautious where the local data does not state clearance or wading depth for Carnival. A buyer whose routine includes construction tracks or isolated farm roads should compare a vehicle with documented capability rather than infer it from styling for Carnival
Best For	The Volkswagen Caravelle exists for buyers with R1.5m+ budgets and the brand conviction to justify it. The best buyer for Carnival can describe a recurring reason for choosing its mpv layout. Then compare a 8-Speed Automatic transmission and a front-wheel drive drivetrain with insurance, tyres, maintenance and the monthly finance payment

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04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 2 variants of the KIA Carnival side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

SPEC	2.2 CRDi EX AT	2.2 CRDi SXL AT
Price (ex-showroom)	**ZAR 1,049,995**	**ZAR 1,299,995**
Fuel Type	Diesel	Diesel
Transmission	8-Speed Automatic	8-Speed Automatic
Trim Level	Base	Top
Engine	2151 cc (2.2L)	2151 cc (2.2L)
Max Power	148 kW (198 bhp)	148 kW (198 bhp)
Max Torque	440 Nm (325 lb-ft)	440 Nm (325 lb-ft)
Drivetrain	FWD	FWD
Fuel Economy	13.9 km/l	13.9 km/l
Seating	11	11
Boot Space	145 L	145 L
Ground Clearance	175 mm	175 mm
Kerb Weight	2095 kg	2110 kg

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

05 KIA Carnival — 2.2 CRDi EX AT

ZAR 1,049,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
2151 cc	148 kW · 198 bhp	440 Nm · 325 lb-ft	13.9 km/l	Diesel 8-Speed Automatic

Base Trim · Diesel · Automatic

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	2.2-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	D4HB
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	2151 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	16	Valves per Cylinder	4
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Common Rail Direct Injection
Compression Ratio	15.4:1	Bore	85.4 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Axle Layout	FWD	Gearbox	8-Speed Automatic
Transmission Type	Automatic Transmission	Number of Gears	8
Gear Shift Type	Automatic	Gear Shift Indicator	No
Clutch Type	Torque Converter	Paddle Shifters	No
Final Drive Ratio	3.63	Drivetrain	FWD
Drivetrain Layout	FWD	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	5155 mm	Width	1995 mm
Height	1775 mm	Wheelbase	3090 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	175 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	172 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	72 l	Boot/Cargo Space	145 l
Kerb Weight	2095 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2700 kg
Payload Capacity	735 kg	Towing Capacity	1500 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Claimed Mileage	13.9 km/l	City Mileage	11.1 km/l
Fuel Tank Capacity	72 l	AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l
Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km	Highway Mileage	16.9 km/l
Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable	Fuel Tank Litres	72
Real-world Mileage	8.6 km/l	Auto Start Stop	Yes
Emission Standard	Euro 6	Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km

SAFETY

Hill Start Assist	Yes	Hill Descent Control	Not Available

AEB	Yes	Pedestrian Detection AEB	Yes
Lane Change Warning	Yes	Blind Spot Monitoring	Yes
Rear Cross Traffic Alert	Yes	Fatigue Detection	Yes
Speed Alert System	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Central Locking	Yes	Alarm System	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Push Button Start	Yes	Push Button Start	Yes
Remote Engine Start	No	Remote Start	No
Climate Zones	3	Remote Central Locking	Yes
Climate Control	Yes	Door Ajar Warning	Yes
Fuel Lid Opener	Remote	Boot Opener	Remote
Power Windows	Yes	Power Mirrors	Yes

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

→ See 2.2 CRDi EX AT full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

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06 KIA Carnival — 2.2 CRDi SXL AT

ZAR 1,299,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
2151 cc	148 kW · 198 bhp	440 Nm · 325 lb-ft	13.9 km/l	Diesel 8-Speed Automatic

Top Trim · Diesel · Automatic

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	2.2-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	D4HB
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	2151 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	16	Valves per Cylinder	4
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Common Rail Direct Injection
Compression Ratio	15.4:1	Bore	85.4 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Automatic Shift Paddles	No	Gearbox	8-Speed Automatic
Transmission Type	Automatic Transmission	Number of Gears	8
Gear Shift Type	Automatic	Gear Shift Indicator	No
Clutch Type	Torque Converter	Paddle Shifters	No
Final Drive Ratio	3.63	Drivetrain	FWD
Drivetrain Layout	FWD	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	5155 mm	Width	1995 mm
Height	1775 mm	Wheelbase	3090 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	175 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	172 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	72 l	Boot/Cargo Space	145 l
Kerb Weight	2110 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	2750 kg
Payload Capacity	700 kg	Towing Capacity	1500 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Claimed Mileage	13.9 km/l	City Mileage	11.1 km/l
Fuel Tank Capacity	72 l	AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l
Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km	Highway Mileage	16.9 km/l
Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable	Fuel Tank Litres	72
Real-world Mileage	8.6 km/l	Auto Start Stop	Yes
Emission Standard	Euro 6	Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km

SAFETY

Hill Start Assist	Yes	Hill Descent Control	Not Available
AEB	Yes	Pedestrian Detection AEB	Yes
Lane Change Warning	Yes	Blind Spot Monitoring	Yes
Rear Cross Traffic Alert	Yes	Fatigue Detection	Yes
Speed Alert System	Yes	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
Central Locking	Yes	Alarm System	Yes

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Push Button Start	Yes	Push Button Start	Yes
Remote Engine Start	No	Remote Start	No
Climate Zones	3	Remote Central Locking	Yes
Climate Control	Yes	Door Ajar Warning	Yes
Fuel Lid Opener	Remote	Boot Opener	Remote
Power Windows	Yes	Power Mirrors	Yes

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

→ See 2.2 CRDi SXL AT 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

→ 2.2 CRDi EX AT — ZAR 1,049,995

→ 2.2 CRDi SXL AT — ZAR 1,299,995

Live Prices & On-Road Costs — KIA Carnival → Open
Latest ex-showroom and city-wise on-road prices in South Africa.

Side-by-Side Comparison → Open
Compare KIA Carnival vs any rival model.

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