



KIA

K2500

South Africa • 2026 Official Buyer's Guide

2498 cc

ENGINE

195 mm

CLEARANCE

9.5 L/100

FUEL ECON

3 seats

SEATING

ZAR 424,995 – 460,995

Ex-Showroom Starting Price

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/kia/k2500/>

Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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|---|-----------------------|------------|----------|
|  | 4.3 / 5.0 124 Reviews | 3 Variants | 3 Priced |
|---|-----------------------|------------|----------|

01 Overview & Quick Facts

The KIA K2500 occupies the tier above the K2700 in South Africa's light commercial truck segment, providing operators whose payload and power requirements have outgrown the K2700 with a natural upgrade path within KIA's commercial vehicle family. The step up is not merely incremental — the K2500's 2.5-litre turbodiesel, greater gross vehicle mass and Dropside body configuration open commercial application categories that the K2700's operating envelope does not accommodate. The 2.5-litre turbodiesel D4BH four-cylinder produces 80kW and 225Nm. Against the K2700's 59kW/160Nm, this represents a 35 percent power increase and a 40 percent torque increase — numbers that translate into meaningfully different operational capability when the K2500 is loaded to its rated payload on an inter-city delivery route or in a tipper application moving multiple loads per shift. The turbodiesel's improved output moves the K2500 away from the urban-only performance boundary that constrains the K2700, making it practical for the secondary road routes and moderate freeway sections that connect South African cities' commercial districts to their industrial peripheries and surrounding regions. The five-speed manual gearbox is the only transmission available...



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Body Style | Light commercial truck — Dropside or Tipper body |
| Launched | 2000 |
| Generation | Long-running commercial truck; second generation with D4BH engine |
| Fuel Types | Diesel (50ppm) |
| Colours | White (standard fleet specification) |
| OEM Website | https://www.kia.com/za/vehicles/k2500/ |

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Starting From | ZAR 424,995 – 460,995 | 3 Variants Available |
|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------|

| Variant | Fuel | Transmission | Trim | Ex-Showroom |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------------|------|--------------------|
| 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside | Diesel | Manual | Base | ZAR 424,995 |
| 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon | Diesel | Manual | Mid | ZAR 440,995 |
| 2.5TD Tipper | Diesel | Manual | Top | ZAR 460,995 |

Estimated On-Road Price — 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside (Base Variant)

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Johannesburg | ZAR 441,094 |
| Cape Town | ZAR 443,669 |
| Durban | ZAR 439,144 |
| Pretoria | ZAR 440,119 |

* 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"> ✓ 80kW/225Nm turbodiesel provides meaningfully more capacity than K2700 for heavy... ✓ Dropside body with full 360-degree access enables efficient manual loading and unloading ✓ Tipper variant at R460,995 moves heavier loads than K2700 Tipper per hydraulic cycle ✓ 5-year commercial warranty with 3-year roadside provides fleet total cost certainty ✓ D4BH turbodiesel's established SA field repair ecosystem reduces downtime in remote... ✓ Aircon variant addresses driver welfare in Highveld and Limpopo heat at modest premium | <p>● CONSIDERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ 80kW is still modest for sustained freeway use under maximum commercial payload ✗ No automatic transmission — manual-only limits driver pool flexibility ✗ Older turbodiesel technology less fuel-efficient than modern common-rail commercial... ✗ Basic cab with limited driver comfort features beyond Aircon variant ✗ No tipper plus aircon combined variant — operators must choose between configurations ✗ Dated exterior design does not project premium fleet image for brand-conscious operators |
|---|---|

Expert Verdict

"The natural upgrade from the K2700 for higher-payload commercial operations — the K2500's turbodiesel, dropside versatility and tipper option give South African commercial fleet operators a proven, serviceable step up in capacity."

The K2500 wins commercial fleet specification decisions through the accumulated trust of its operational track record in South African conditions. Turbodiesel power, dropside access flexibility and the tipper variant's bulk material capability address the spectrum of commercial load requirements that outgrow K2700 capacity. The five-year warranty, established parts network and field-repairable D4BH engine ensure operational cost certainty for fleet cost models.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| City Driving | Good — dropside body enables urban delivery with side and rear access; compact-for-class dimensions |
| Highway | Adequate — 80kW turbodiesel handles secondary road routes; best suited to sub-150km commercial radius |
| Off-Road | Moderate — suited to construction site and farm track access; not recreational off-road |
| Best For | Commercial fleet operator needing higher payload than K2700; construction contractor; agricultural supply operation; municipal fleet; dropside cargo and tipper use cases |

04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 3 variants of the KIA K2500 side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

| SPEC | 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside | 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon | 2.5TD Tipper |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Price (ex-showroom) | ZAR 424,995 | ZAR 440,995 | ZAR 460,995 |
| Fuel Type | Diesel | Diesel | Diesel |
| Transmission | Manual | Manual | Manual |
| Trim Level | Base | Mid | Top |
| Engine | 2498 cc (2.5L) | 2498 cc (2.5L) | 2498 cc (2.5L) |
| Max Power | 70 kW | 70 kW | 70 kW |
| Max Torque | 225 Nm | 225 Nm | 225 Nm |
| Drivetrain | RWD | RWD | RWD |
| Fuel Economy | 9.5 km/l | 9.5 km/l | 9.5 km/l |
| Seating | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Boot Space | — | — | — |
| Ground Clearance | 195 mm | 195 mm | 195 mm |
| Kerb Weight | 1980 kg | 1980 kg | 1980 kg |

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

05 KIA K2500 — 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside

ZAR 424,995

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ENGINE 2498 cc | POWER 70 kW kW | TORQUE 225 Nm Nm | ECONOMY 9.5 km/l | FUEL Diesel Manual |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Base Trim · Diesel · Manual

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Engine | 2.5 J2T Inline-4 Turbodiesel | Engine Type | Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel |
| Engine Type Config | Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) OHV 8-Valve Turbodiesel | Engine Code | J2T |
| Cylinder Layout | Inline 4 (I4) | Cylinders | 4 |
| Valves per Cylinder | 8 | Displacement | 2498 cc |
| Engine Displacement | 2498 cc | Engine Aspiration | Turbocharged |
| Turbocharger | Yes | Cylinder Bore | 91.0 mm |

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Transmission | 5-Speed Manual | Transmission | 5-Speed Manual |
| Transmission Type | Manual Transmission | Number of Gears | 5 |
| Clutch Type | Single Dry Disc | Paddle Shifters | No |
| Final Drive Ratio | 4.30 | Drivetrain | RWD |
| Drive Type | RWD | Drivetrain Layout | RWD |
| Transfer Case | N/A | Differential Lock | No |

DIMENSIONS

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Length | 5160 mm | Width | 1900 mm |
| Height | 2120 mm | Wheelbase | 2890 mm |
| Front Track Width | 1530 mm | Rear Track Width | 1580 mm |
| Ground Clearance | 195 mm | Turning Radius | 12.5 m |
| Front Overhang | 870 mm | Rear Overhang | 1400 mm |
| Kerb Weight | 1980 kg | Gross Vehicle Weight | 3500 kg |

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| AdBlue Tank Capacity | No I | Claimed Fuel Consumption | 10.5 l/100km |
| Claimed Mileage | 9.5 km/l | City Mileage | 8.0 km/l |
| Highway Mileage | 11.1 km/l | Average Fuel Consumption | 10.5 |
| Real-world Mileage | 12.6 km/l | Fuel Efficiency | 10.5 L/100km l/100km |
| Auto Start Stop | No | Emission Standard | Euro 3 |
| Distance To Empty | N/A | Low Fuel Warning | Yes |

SAFETY

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Engine Immobiliser | Yes | Engine Immobiliser | Yes |
| Brake Override System | Yes | Tyre Pressure Monitor | No |
| Airbags | 0 | Driver Airbag | No |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| Passenger Airbag | No | Side Airbags | No |
| Curtain Airbags | No | Knee Airbag | No |
| Side Impact Beams | Yes | Seatbelt Pretensioners | Yes |

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------|
| Valves Per Cylinder | 2 | Intercooler | Yes |
| Launch Control | No | Rev Matching | No |
| Performance Data Logger | No | Fuel Consumption Combined | 10.5 |
| Engine Start Stop | No | Engine Start Stop Button | No |
| Engine Start Button Illumination | No | Engine Check Warning | Yes |
| Gear Shift Type | Manual | Ground Clearance Unladen | 195 |

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

→ [See 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

06 KIA K2500 — 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon

ZAR 440,995

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ENGINE 2498 cc | POWER 70 kW kW | TORQUE 225 Nm Nm | ECONOMY 9.5 km/l | FUEL Diesel Manual |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Mid Trim · Diesel · Manual

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Engine | 2.5 J2T Inline-4 Turbodiesel | Engine Type | Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel |
| Engine Type Config | Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) OHV 8-Valve Turbodiesel | Engine Code | J2T |
| Cylinder Layout | Inline 4 (I4) | Cylinders | 4 |
| Valves per Cylinder | 8 | Displacement | 2498 cc |
| Engine Displacement | 2498 cc | Engine Aspiration | Turbocharged |
| Turbocharger | Yes | Cylinder Bore | 91.0 mm |

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Transmission | 5-Speed Manual | Transmission | 5-Speed Manual |
| Transmission Type | Manual Transmission | Number of Gears | 5 |
| Clutch Type | Single Dry Disc | Paddle Shifters | No |
| Final Drive Ratio | 4.30 | Drivetrain | RWD |
| Drive Type | RWD | Drivetrain Layout | RWD |
| Transfer Case | N/A | Differential Lock | No |

DIMENSIONS

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Length | 5160 mm | Width | 1900 mm |
| Height | 2120 mm | Wheelbase | 2890 mm |
| Front Track Width | 1530 mm | Rear Track Width | 1580 mm |
| Ground Clearance | 195 mm | Turning Radius | 12.5 m |
| Front Overhang | 870 mm | Rear Overhang | 1400 mm |
| Kerb Weight | 1980 kg | Gross Vehicle Weight | 3500 kg |

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| AdBlue Tank Capacity | No I | Claimed Fuel Consumption | 10.5 l/100km |
| Claimed Mileage | 9.5 km/l | City Mileage | 8.0 km/l |
| Highway Mileage | 11.1 km/l | Average Fuel Consumption | 10.5 |
| Real-world Mileage | 12.6 km/l | Fuel Efficiency | 10.5 L/100km l/100km |
| Auto Start Stop | No | Emission Standard | Euro 3 |
| Distance To Empty | N/A | Low Fuel Warning | Yes |

SAFETY

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Engine Immobiliser | Yes | Engine Immobiliser | Yes |
| Brake Override System | Yes | Tyre Pressure Monitor | No |
| Airbags | 0 | Driver Airbag | No |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| Passenger Airbag | No | Side Airbags | No |
| Curtain Airbags | No | Knee Airbag | No |
| Side Impact Beams | Yes | Seatbelt Pretensioners | Yes |

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------|
| Valves Per Cylinder | 2 | Intercooler | Yes |
| Launch Control | No | Rev Matching | No |
| Performance Data Logger | No | Fuel Consumption Combined | 10.5 |
| Engine Start Stop | No | Engine Start Stop Button | No |
| Engine Start Button Illumination | No | Engine Check Warning | Yes |
| Gear Shift Type | Manual | Ground Clearance Unladen | 195 |

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

→ [See 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

07 KIA K2500 — 2.5TD Tipper

ZAR 460,995

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ENGINE 2498 cc | POWER 70 kW kW | TORQUE 225 Nm Nm | ECONOMY 9.5 km/l | FUEL Diesel Manual |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Top Trim · Diesel · Manual

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Engine | 2.5 J2T Inline-4 Turbodiesel | Engine Type | Inline 4 Cylinder Turbodiesel |
| Engine Type Config | Inline 4 Cylinder (I4) OHV 8-Valve Turbodiesel | Engine Code | J2T |
| Cylinder Layout | Inline 4 (I4) | Cylinders | 4 |
| Valves per Cylinder | 8 | Displacement | 2498 cc |
| Engine Displacement | 2498 cc | Engine Aspiration | Turbocharged |
| Turbocharger | Yes | Cylinder Bore | 91.0 mm |

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Transmission | 5-Speed Manual | Transmission | 5-Speed Manual |
| Transmission Type | Manual Transmission | Number of Gears | 5 |
| Clutch Type | Single Dry Disc | Paddle Shifters | No |
| Final Drive Ratio | 4.30 | Drivetrain | RWD |
| Drive Type | RWD | Drivetrain Layout | RWD |
| Transfer Case | N/A | Differential Lock | No |

DIMENSIONS

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Length | 5160 mm | Width | 1900 mm |
| Height | 2120 mm | Wheelbase | 2890 mm |
| Front Track Width | 1530 mm | Rear Track Width | 1580 mm |
| Ground Clearance | 195 mm | Turning Radius | 12.5 m |
| Front Overhang | 870 mm | Rear Overhang | 1400 mm |
| Kerb Weight | 1980 kg | Gross Vehicle Weight | 3500 kg |

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| AdBlue Tank Capacity | No I | Claimed Fuel Consumption | 10.5 l/100km |
| Claimed Mileage | 9.5 km/l | City Mileage | 8.0 km/l |
| Highway Mileage | 11.1 km/l | Average Fuel Consumption | 10.5 |
| Real-world Mileage | 12.6 km/l | Fuel Efficiency | 10.5 L/100km l/100km |
| Auto Start Stop | No | Emission Standard | Euro 3 |
| Distance To Empty | N/A | Low Fuel Warning | Yes |

SAFETY

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Engine Immobiliser | Yes | Engine Immobiliser | Yes |
| Brake Override System | Yes | Tyre Pressure Monitor | No |
| Airbags | 0 | Driver Airbag | No |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| Passenger Airbag | No | Side Airbags | No |
| Curtain Airbags | No | Knee Airbag | No |
| Side Impact Beams | Yes | Seatbelt Pretensioners | Yes |

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------|
| Valves Per Cylinder | 2 | Intercooler | Yes |
| Launch Control | No | Rev Matching | No |
| Performance Data Logger | No | Fuel Consumption Combined | 10.5 |
| Engine Start Stop | No | Engine Start Stop Button | No |
| Engine Start Button Illumination | No | Engine Check Warning | Yes |
| Gear Shift Type | Manual | Ground Clearance Unladen | 195 |

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

→ [See 2.5TD Tipper full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

08 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to live prices for each variant

→ 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside — ZAR 424,995

→ 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon — ZAR 440,995

→ 2.5TD Tipper — ZAR 460,995

Live Prices & On-Road Costs — KIA K2500

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

→ Open

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→ Compare KIA K2500 vs any rival model.

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