

KIA

K2500

South Africa • 2026 Hagalu Buyer's Guide

2498 cc	70 kW	195 mm	9.5 km/l	3 seats
ENGINE	POWER	CLEARANCE	FUEL ECON	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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Source-backed	No rating inferred	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. 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 five-speed manual meets those criteria with the same engineering philosophy that has made the K2700's manual-only offering commercially acceptable for decades. The Workhorse Dropside at R424,995 provides a flat bed with drop-side panels in a format identical in function to the K2700 Workhorse but with greater payload capacity. In each of these operations, the K2500 Dropside's combination of greater payload, side-access convenience and commercial registration advantages makes it the appropriate tool. The additional R20,000 premium for Aircon over the standard Dropside follows the same operational rationale as the K2700 Aircon variant but…



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

Ex-Showroom Starting Price	ZAR 424,995 – 460,995	3 Listed Variants

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 & Buyer Summary

● STRENGTHS

- ✓ Body style: Van
- ✓ Fuel type: Diesel
- ✓ South African price: R424,995
- ✓ Engine: 2.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel
- ✓ Power output: 70 kW @ 3600 rpm
- ✓ Transmission: 5-Speed Manual

● CONSIDERATIONS

- ✗ Exact equipment for K2500 can vary by derivative.
- ✗ Real fuel use for K2500 depends on route, load and weather.
- ✗ The written K2500 quotation should be checked before purchase.
- ✗ Tyre, insurance and service costs need a separate K2500 budget.
- ✗ A short K2500 test drive cannot represent every ownership route.
- ✗ K2500 capability should not be inferred from body styling alone.

Buyer Summary

> *"K2500 deserves a closer look when its price, equipment and powertrain fit the owner's route."*

For the fleet operators who specify the K2500, transmission choice is evaluated against maintenance cost and operational reliability rather than driving experience criteria. The buying case for K2500 is specific. Engine of 2.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel gives it a reason to be considered, while a power output of 70 kW @ 3600 rpm and a 5-Speed Manual transmission set the boundaries. K2500 is easiest to recommend when the buyer can point to a concrete benefit in a van body and accept the limitation represented by engine of 2.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel. The local price should be judged against the equipment that is actually included, not an adjacent trim for K2500. That is the difference between a sound purchase and an expensive specification mismatch for K2500

City Driving	Drive the K2500 through the tightest parking area, a steep ramp, a speed hump and stop-start traffic. A 5-Speed Manual transmission matters when the cabin or load is full, and a rear-wheel drive drivetrain can change the cost of repeated short trips. Around town, K2500 should be judged by repetition rather than a single burst of acceleration. Try the exact derivative with its normal occupants or equipment for K2500. Look for easy entry, usable storage, predictable braking and a calm response at walking pace for K2500. The relevance of a power output of 70 kW @ 3600 rpm becomes obvious on a busy weekday, while a 5-Speed Manual transmission is worth checking before a purchase built around tight parking or frequent loading for K2500
Highway	Run K2500 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 5-Speed Manual transmission, a 5-Speed Manual transmission and a rear-wheel drive drivetrain is more informative than maximum speed. On a South African freeway or inter-city road, take the K2500 out with the load it normally carries. Observe the joining response, overtaking reserve, braking, crosswind behaviour, seat support and cabin noise for K2500. Diesel power gives context, but a number cannot show how a South African price reference of R424,995 feels on a gradient for K2500. Plan fuel or charging stops around actual use; the stated consumption reference is a comparison reference, not a promise for every trip for K2500

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Off-Road	Parts availability for the K2500 through KIA's South African commercial dealer network is supported by the vehicle's long production run and the resulting depth of stock maintained by dealers who service established commercial fleets. For K2500, the sensible check is the exact rwd arrangement, tyre specification, load and protection underneath
Best For	K2500 makes the most sense for an owner whose route and budget agree with a power output of 70 kW @ 3600 rpm. A shopper researching K2500 should separate need from showroom appeal. If a van body solves a problem every week, it deserves real consideration for K2500. If it appears only on an occasional trip, a less expensive derivative may leave more room for running costs for K2500. 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 K2500

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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	5-Speed Manual	5-Speed Manual	5-Speed Manual
Trim Level	Base	Mid	Top
Engine	2498 cc (2.5L)	2498 cc (2.5L)	2498 cc (2.5L)
Max Power	70 kW (94 bhp)	70 kW (94 bhp)	70 kW (94 bhp)
Max Torque	225 Nm (166 lb-ft)	225 Nm (166 lb-ft)	225 Nm (166 lb-ft)
Drivetrain	RWD	RWD	RWD
Fuel Economy	9.5 km/l	9.5 km/l	9.5 km/l
Seating	3	3	3
Boot Space	3350 L	3350 L	3000 L
Ground Clearance	195 mm	195 mm	195 mm
Kerb Weight	1980 kg	1980 kg	1980 kg

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

05 KIA K2500 — 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside ZAR 424,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
2498 cc	70 kW · 94 bhp	225 Nm · 166 lb-ft	9.5 km/l	Diesel 5-Speed Manual

Base Trim · Diesel · Manual

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	2.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	J2T
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	2498 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	8	Valves per Cylinder	2
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Direct Injection Turbodiesel
Compression Ratio	18.0:1	Bore	91 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Transfer Case Guard	Not Available	Gear Shift Indicator	Yes
Gear Shift Type	Manual	Engine Position	Front Transverse
Gearbox	5-Speed Manual	Drivetrain Layout	RWD
LSD Available	No	Transfer Case	Not Applicable
Differential Lock	No	Paddle Shifters	No
Transmission Speeds	5	Rear Differential Lock	Not Applicable

DIMENSIONS

Length	5160 mm	Width	1900 mm
Height	2120 mm	Wheelbase	2890 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	195 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	145 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	75 l	Boot/Cargo Space	3350 l
Kerb Weight	1980 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	3500 kg
Payload Capacity	1000 kg	Towing Capacity	1400 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Fuel Tank Capacity	75 l	Highway Mileage	11.1 km/l
City Mileage	8.0 km/l	Claimed Mileage	9.5 km/l
Low Fuel Warning	Yes	AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l
Emission Standard	Euro 3	Fuel Tank Litres	75
Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable	Real-world Mileage	12.6 km/l
Auto Start Stop	No	Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km

SAFETY

Stability Control	No	Engine Immobiliser	Yes
BA	No	Curtain Airbags	No

Tyre Pressure Monitor	No	Brake Assist	No
ISOFIX Mounts	No	Child Safety Lock	No
ABS EBD	No	Anti Theft Alarm	No
Driver Airbag	No	EBD	No

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Glove Box	Yes	Load Bed Length	2200 mm
Load Bed Width	1600 mm	Climate Control	No
Power Windows	No	Keyless Entry	No
Push Button Start	No	Wireless Charging	No
Sunroof	No	Electric Tailgate	No
Automatic Headlamps	No	Rain Sensing Wipers	No

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

→ See 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

06 KIA K2500 — 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon ZAR 440,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
2498 cc	70 kW · 94 bhp	225 Nm · 166 lb-ft	9.5 km/l	Diesel 5-Speed Manual

Mid Trim · Diesel · Manual

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	2.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	J2T
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	2498 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	8	Valves per Cylinder	2
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Direct Injection Turbodiesel
Compression Ratio	18.0:1	Bore	91 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Automatic Shift Paddles	No	Gearbox	5-Speed Manual
Transmission Type	Manual Transmission	Number of Gears	5
Gear Shift Type	Manual	Gear Shift Indicator	Yes
Clutch Type	Single Dry Disc	Paddle Shifters	No
Final Drive Ratio	4.30	Drivetrain	RWD
Drivetrain Layout	RWD	Differential Lock	No

DIMENSIONS

Length	5160 mm	Width	1900 mm
Height	2120 mm	Wheelbase	2890 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	195 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	145 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	75 l	Boot/Cargo Space	3350 l
Kerb Weight	1980 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	3500 kg
Payload Capacity	1000 kg	Towing Capacity	1400 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Fuel Tank Litres	75	Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable
Claimed Mileage	9.5 km/l	Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km
Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km	Highway Mileage	11.1 km/l
City Mileage	8.0 km/l	Fuel Tank Capacity	75 l
AdBlue Tank Capacity	No l	Real-world Mileage	12.6 km/l
Auto Start Stop	No	Emission Standard	Euro 3

SAFETY

Pedestrian Detection AEB	No	Lane Change Warning	No
Blind Spot Monitoring	No	Rear Cross Traffic Alert	No
Fatigue Detection	No	Speed Alert System	Yes
Child Safety Lock	No	ISOFIX Mounts	No
Tyre Pressure Monitor	No	Airbags	0
Driver Airbag	No	Passenger Airbag	No

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Tailgate Lock	Not Available	Door Ajar Warning	Yes
Fuel Lid Opener	Manual	Boot Opener	Manual
Power Windows	No	Power Mirrors	No
Heated Mirrors	No	Electric Folding Mirrors	No
Electric Mirror Folding	No	Remote Side Mirror	No
Auto Dimming Irvm	No	Auto Dimming Mirror	No

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

→ See 2.5TD Workhorse Dropside Aircon full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa

Compare with rivals →

07 KIA K2500 — 2.5TD Tipper

ZAR 460,995

ENGINE	POWER	TORQUE	ECONOMY	FUEL
2498 cc	70 kW · 94 bhp	225 Nm · 166 lb-ft	9.5 km/l	Diesel 5-Speed Manual

Top Trim · Diesel · Manual

View live price & EMI →

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

Engine	2.5-litre Turbocharged Diesel	Engine Code	J2T
Fuel Type	Diesel	Engine Displacement	2498 cc
Cylinders	4	Cylinder Layout	Inline
Valves	8	Valves per Cylinder	2
Aspiration	Turbocharged	Fuel System	Direct Injection Turbodiesel
Compression Ratio	18.0:1	Bore	91 mm

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

Drivetrain Layout	RWD	Gearbox	5-Speed Manual
Steering Turns Lock to Lock	15.2:1	Differential Type Front	Not Available
Differential Type Rear	Not Available	Final Drive Ratio	4.30
Engine Position	Front Transverse	Drivetrain	RWD
Automatic Shift Paddles	No	Transfer Case Guard	Not Available
Transmission Speeds	5	4WD Selector	Not Applicable

DIMENSIONS

Length	5160 mm	Width	1900 mm
Height	2120 mm	Wheelbase	2890 mm
Ground Clearance (Default)	195 mm	Ground Clearance (With Full Seating Load)	145 mm
Fuel Tank Capacity	75 l	Boot/Cargo Space	3000 l
Kerb Weight	1980 kg	Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW)	3500 kg
Payload Capacity	1000 kg	Towing Capacity	1400 kg

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

Real-world Mileage	12.6 km/l	Auto Start Stop	No
Emission Standard	Euro 3	Fuel Tank Capacity	75 l
Highway Mileage	11.1 km/l	City Mileage	8.0 km/l
Claimed Mileage	9.5 km/l	Low Fuel Warning	Yes
Fuel Tank Litres	75	Combined Driving Range	Not Applicable
Range Real World Highway	Not Applicable km	Range Real World Mixed	Not Applicable km

SAFETY

Driver Passenger Airbags	0	Driver Airbag	No
Curtain Airbags	No	Brake Override System	Yes
BA	No	AEB	No
Airbags	0	ABS	No
Electronic Stability Control	No	Traction Control	No
Hill Descent Control	Not Available	Hill Start Assist	No

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Boot Opener	Manual	Canopy Fitment	Not Available
Centre Console	No	Push Button Start	No
Keyless Entry	No	One Pedal Driving	Not Available
Power Windows	No	Climate Control	No
Front Diff Lock	Not Available	Load Bed Steps	Not Available
Common Rail Injection	Direct Injection Turbodiesel	Load Bed Light	Not Available

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

→ See 2.5TD Tipper full specs and lifecycle details in South Africa Compare with rivals →

08 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to each variant's price and specification record

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

Side-by-Side Comparison → Open
Compare KIA K2500 vs any rival model.

Browse All KIA Models → Open
Explore the full KIA lineup in South Africa.

Buyer's Guides — Finance, Pricing & New Launches → Open
In-depth SA guides: car finance, monthly EMI math, upcoming launches.

Hagalu.com — Africa's Car Research Platform → Open
Independent prices, specs and reviews for South Africa and beyond.

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