



SUZUKI


S-Presso

South Africa • 2026 Official Buyer's Guide

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/suzuki/s-presso/>
Independent Automotive Research for Africa

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01 Overview & Quick Facts

The Suzuki S-Presso has been discontinued in the South African market as of 2025, but understanding this model matters because thousands of existing owners depend on it for daily transport. At R219,900 when it was available, the S-Presso was SA's most affordable new car — a position it held with real substance. A 1.0-litre three-cylinder engine, 765 kilogram curb weight, and straightforward five-speed manual transmission. The simplicity was the entire selling point. The 50 kilowatt output sounds weak until you factor in that 765 kg figure — it's genuinely light, meaning the little engine could move through city traffic without the constant strain that heavier vehicles suffer. Real-world fuel consumption averaged 5.2 to 5.8 litres per 100 kilometre in mixed driving. Highway cruise at 120 km/h pulled it down to around 5.2. Stop-start city driving pushed it higher. The S-Presso competed with literally nothing directly. The Datsun Go disappeared. The Hyundai i10 costs significantly more. So the S-Presso occupied unique market space: absolute bottom of the new-car market where buyers simply can't afford another R30,000. Some buyers loved the manual...



Body Style	5-door micro-crossover hatchback
Launched	2021
Generation	First generation S-Presso on HEARTECT lightweight platform, shared across Suzuki's entry-level range globally; developed specifically for emerging market buyers prioritising fuel economy and low running costs
Fuel Types	Petrol
Colours	Sizzling Red, Speedy Blue, Solid White, Metallic Silky Silver, Pearl Midnight Black, Turquoise Blue Pearl (S-Edition), Sizzling Red with Pearl Midnight Black roof (S-Edition two-tone), Speedy Blue with Pearl Midnight Black roof (S-Edition two-tone)
OEM Website	https://www.suzukiauto.co.za/s-presso

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

Variant	Fuel	Transmission	Trim	Ex-Showroom
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03 Pros, Cons & Expert Verdict

● STRENGTHS

- ✓ Reliability is demonstrated through proven engineering and market operation.
- ✓ Service costs remain reasonable through dealer and independent networks.
- ✓ Fuel economy sits within realistic ranges for segment class.
- ✓ Interior space accommodates family use across most configurations.
- ✓ Resale values develop as market recognizes vehicle positioning.
- ✓ Safety features include modern systems addressing real-world hazard scenarios.

● CONSIDERATIONS

- ✗ Depreciation follows segment patterns, with steeper loss during initial ownership years.
- ✗ Interior materials prioritize function over premium perception.
- ✗ Styling appears understated compared to visually aggressive competitors.
- ✗ Technology features may lag premium competitors in sophistication.
- ✗ Off-road capability remains basic for adventure-focused buyers.

Expert Verdict

"DISCONTINUED — comprehensive used-car reference retained. The S-Presso was South Africa's most affordable entry into new-car ownership for five years."

The S-Presso was discontinued in SA not because of product failure but because Suzuki's lineup evolved to offer better value at entry level through the Dzire (more practical sedan body, more modern engine) and Ignis (better ground clearance, more sophisticated specification). Used S-Pressos in good condition remain a rational purchase for buyers in the R130,000 to R175,000 range — the K10C engine's reliability is proven, the parts network is comprehensive, and the fuel economy remains class-leading for the budget. The AMT variants require more careful evaluation: check the clutch actuator response and confirm smooth automatic gear changes before buying.

City Driving

The S-Presso is at its absolute best in South African city conditions. Joburg's Sandton and Rosebank grids, Cape Town's CBD, Durban's beachfront roads — all suit the car's 4.5m turning circle and compact 3.6m body length. Speed humps that catch larger cars are handled without drama by the 181mm ground clearance. The AMT variant in particular transforms stop-start peak-hour commuting: pull up to the robot, the car holds on the brake, green light appears, gently press accelerator and the gearbox manages the rest. Parking in tight CBD bays is straightforward — the car fits where many competitors do not. Fuel costs on a typical 60km urban day come to roughly R25 at current petrol prices.

Highway

The S-Presso handles national road cruising adequately at 100 to 110km/h but the 999cc engine is working near its ceiling at those speeds. Wind and road noise are audible in the cabin above 100km/h, and overtaking on a two-lane road requires planning well in advance — the engine lacks the reserve torque to confidently close a gap at speed. The car is not uncomfortable on the highway, but it is not in its element. For buyers who regularly drive between Joburg and Pretoria or Cape Town and Stellenbosch, the highway performance is adequate for occasional use. It is not the right car for someone covering 500km intercity trips weekly.

Off-Road	The S-Presso is a city car with crossover styling, not a crossover with any real off-road ability. The 181mm ground clearance handles South Africa's notoriously large speed humps, gravel access roads to residential developments, and the occasional corrugated dirt road leading to a braai venue. It is not intended for farm tracks, loose sand, or sustained gravel passes. The suspension is calibrated for urban comfort, not articulation. Buyers wanting any genuine off-road ability need to look at the Jimny.
Best For	First-time new-car buyers stepping out of the used-car market, young professionals in urban centres, households needing an affordable second car for the daily commute, retirees wanting a manageable and economical city vehicle, buyers who prioritise low monthly running costs over premium features

04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 0 variants of the Suzuki S-Presso side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

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

05 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to live prices for each variant

Live Prices & On-Road Costs — Suzuki S-Presso

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

→ Open

Side-by-Side Comparison

→ Compare Suzuki S-Presso vs any rival model.

→ Open

Browse All Suzuki Models

→ Explore the full Suzuki lineup in South Africa.

→ Open

Buyer's Guides — Finance, Pricing & New Launches

→ In-depth SA guides: car finance, monthly EMI math, upcoming launches.

→ Open

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→ Independent prices, specs and reviews for South Africa and beyond.

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