

VW Golf Cabriolet

Reviewed 14/05/14

Anyone fancy going topless this summer??

This is a great little car! It's got the lot; a great engine, it's a convertible so you can get a tan in the summer, and there is even still room in the back for an adult if you need it.

The turbocharged petrol engines on offer include a 103bhp 1.2, two 1.4s with 120bhp or 158bhp (the latter is also supercharged), and a 2.0 in 208bhp and 261bhp outputs for the GTI and R. The lower-powered 1.4 is our overall favourite thanks to its mixture of flexibility and economy, but the more powerful units are more fun. Both the turbo diesel choices, the 103bhp 1.6 and the 138bhp 2.0, are sound buys for high mileage drivers. We drove the 1.6TDI and it was great.

The ride is also very impressive - chopping off the roof can have a massive effect on ride and handling but it hasn't on this. They have done it really well and with the roof up you wouldn't know it's a soft top with very little road noise.

The Golf Cabriolet is a genuine four-seater; two adults can sit in the back without feeling cramped. Alternatively, you can drop the rear seats to supplement the boot, which has a modest



250-litre capacity and a small opening. The roof folds down in just 9.5 seconds, and can be operated with the car travelling at speeds of up to 19mph.

There are three trims: S, SE and GT. Every version has air-con, alloy wheels, a DAB radio, Bluetooth connectivity and a fully electric roof. SE adds cruise control and parking sensors, while GT and R models add sports seats, style upgrades and sports suspension.

Having previously been driving a new SLK I did think I would be disappointed in this but I wasn't - over all it looks good, drives well, and has a good standard spec.

Score 8/10

**MPH = 64 Combined
Top speed = 116
0-60 = 12.0
CO2 = 117
On the road price £26,200
(Lease price £199+vat over 3 years with 6 payments up front based on 5k miles a year)**

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