

this year, and picks up from the third-generation Optima which was popular among Malaysians. This Kia Optima GT will Kia

Optima for the local market and it is the 4th Kia model to be introduced locally

only be available locally in GT trim. This gives buyers a more aggressive and sporty design that includes a new Dot Array Mesh Satin Chrome front signature grille, a sporty front bumper as well as a new rear bumper that incorporates dual exhausts and a diffuser.

and now feature LED technology with Daytime Running Lights. The headlights are primed with the new Dynamic Bending Light technology that turns the lights according to the angle of the steering wheel, illuminating dark corners and thus enhancing overall safety of the car.

This Optima GT is bigger than its predecessor. In total, it is 10mm longer than the previous model, 30mm wider, 10mm higher and has a 10mm longer wheelbase. The increase in height also gives the interior more passenger space with a 10mm more headroom, 25mm more legroom and 17mm more shoulder room at the rear and 20mm more shoulder space up front.

Inside the Optima GT is a pleasant balance of comfort and sportiness. The real aluminum trim around the centre console and the pedals gives the car a sporty ambiance. The centre fascia too has been angled towards the driver by 8.5 degrees, and the flat-bottom D-Shaped steering wheel also complements the sports character of the car.

Interior trim is made of leather and high quality polymer. The leather, as are the seats, which are said to be amongst the most comfortable in its class and have been further improved for the all-new Kia Optima GT.

The driver seat come with memory function (Intelligent Memory Seat -IMS) and adjustable in 12 different ways while the front passenger is a 10 are also ventilated and blow cool passenger.

GT is the new smart phone wireless charger, which uses an electromagnetic field to charge a phone. The charger also has an overheat protection that detects the temperature of the thermistor in the wireless charger module and turns it off automatically should the temperature get too high.

Other interior features include a 7-inch TFT LCD screen for entertainment system that also features MP3, MP4, Bluetooth, iPod connectivity and a MirrorLink feature that mirrors the screen of the phone on to the centre-mounted display screen.

Powered by the new Theta II 2.0 T-GDI turbocharged petrol engine, which is mated to a 6-speed automatic transmission. The powertrain produces 242hp Asian NCAP, 5.1 stars in the US at 6,000rpm and an impressive NCAP and achieved a 1st grade 350Nm of torque from just rating in the Korean NCAP crash 1,400rpm. This makes the allnew Kia Optima GT one of the most powerful in its class and on par with some of the more powerful European sedans.

Performance figures too are door panels are lined with soft impressive with the 0-100km/h acceleration seen off in just 7.4 seconds while fuel consumption is rated at 8.5-litres for every 100 kilometers travelled on the combined cycle.

Also contributing to the overall performance and efficiency of the car are 3 driving modes - Sport, Normal and Eco. Sport adjusts

The headlights are all-new ways adjustable seat. The seats the sensitivity of the throttle for maximum performance and also air to the back of the driver and the steering wheel feels heavier for precise control of the car at Making its debut in the Optima high speed. Normal takes the throttle and steering wheel back to its usual factory settings while Eco reduces throttle sensitivity, lightens the steering wheel and also slows down the airconditioning system to reduce fuel consumption.

This Kia Optima GT is fitted with 6 airbags. There is also an arsenal of electronic safety nets such as the anti-lock braking Electronic system (ABS), Stability Control (ESC), Vehicle Stability Control (VSM), Hillstart Assist Control (HAC) and Emergency Stop Signal (ESS) which flashes the hazard automatically when emergency brakes are applied.

The all-new Kia Optima GT scored 5 stars at the EuroNCAP crash test rating, 5 stars in the

The all-new Kia Optima GT offers the ideal balance of power, comfort, spaciousness and more importantly, safety for the entire family. It is a rare breed that has all the modern features that are expected of a modern car, and buyers can rest easy in a car which also comes with a fiveyear warranty.

The all-new Kia Optima GT will be offered in three different colors: Gravity Blue, Aurora Black and Snow White Pearl. It will be available in showrooms nationwide.