

The Lexus CT 200h proves that small and luxury can mix - by Liana Reiners

Aiming to draw a completely new set of younger customers into the fold, Lexus has introduced the CT 200h hatchback in the local small luxury car segment. The CT 200h is a full hybrid, capable of running on its petrol engine or electric motor alone, or with both working in combination.

Combining a 1,8-litre VVT-i Atkinson cycle petrol engine and a powerful electric motor, the CT 200h delivers 100 kW of total system output. The petrol engine delivers 73 kW at 5 200 r/min and 142 Nm of torque between 2 800 and 4 400 r/min. However, the real performance benefits come courtesy of the 60 kW of electric power on board and additional 207 Nm that allow 2-litre petrol performance and competitive turbodiesel torque.

Efficiency gains are borne out by emissions of just 94 g/km of CO₂, but where it will directly affect your pocket is in the 4,1 litres/100km combined cycle fuel economy, which could save thousands of rands a year in fuel.



The Lexus CT 200h has been engineered to perform in two different driving moods; relaxing or dynamic. These are supported by four selectable driving modes namely NORMAL, EV, ECO and SPORT. The ECO mode softens throttle response and is suited to congested traffic and maximised fuel efficiency, accompanied by a hybrid power meter on the dash and soft blue lighting. SPORT mode instantly sharpens throttle, steering and driving control system responses, while changing the dash to a red hue and converting the hybrid power meter into a conventional rev counter.

Two models of the CT 200h are initially available. The CT 200h S boasts a long list of luxury features that includes a full leather interior, dual zone climate control with heated seats, electric mirrors, keyless start, automatic headlights with daytime running lights, USB connectivity and Bluetooth with voice command are just some of the features. The S is outwardly identified by 16-inch alloy wheels. Lexus also offers the car in F-Sport guise, differentiated by 17-inch alloy wheels, LED headlamps and a larger boot spoiler. The luxury specification also gets enhanced by sports seats, the driver's eight-way electrically adjustable with lumbar support and cruise control. It also benefits from the addition of front and rear performance dampers.

As an option, the CT 200h F-Sport can be ordered with a Convenience Package that includes an upgraded sound system, smart entry, rain sensing wipers, a colour monitor with HDD navigation and voice command with remote touch, as well as a reverse camera. A moon roof is also optional on the F-Sport model.

The Lexus CT 200h is backed by a four year/100 000km manufacturer warranty and full four years/100 000km service plan.

Retail Price:

CT 200h S	R343 300
CT 200h F-Sport	R398 500
CT 200h F-Sport 10SP HDD	R434 200

