



Looks

When it comes to the luxury range then Mercedes-Benz, Audi, BMW, Lexus and Jaguar take the lion's share of the market.

Whilst the Germans have gone a bit retro with the big 7-Series — and its A8's getting larger and more 21st century — the luxury Lexus has gone high-tec with gadgets galore.

So what about the Jaguar? Well, it looks like a blast from the past, with tweaks here and there. Mr Callum has gone for a deeper front spoiler — which I must admit I really like. Even the standard cars have it, making it look like a XKR from a few years' ago. Certainly it makes the XJ look more masculine (if ever it needed to).

Down the sides it looks imposing with those long lines and flared, but subtle, arches. And the new wheels do look smart under them.

Everything is colour coded for visual impact and I do like the 'power vents' first seen on the XK's of old.

At the back there appears to be a new bumper with the exhausts cleverly disguised. I can also spot a new chrome strip, but that's about it when it comes to change.



On the road

The TDVi diesel model (£45,542), which has twin turbos, is probably the dream drive for the motorist with its 200+ brake horsepower and over 320lb-ft of torque and smooth power delivery. Add to that the 140+ miles per hour top speed, a 0-60 time of just 7.8 seconds and the magical 36 to the gallon figure and you can understand why.

Even the emissions are impressive: 216g/km, which is great for tax purposes.

The 3.0-litre V6 has 240 horsepower, but at no point does it compare to the silky-smooth diesel. It does, however, have a starting price of £43,642 and a V6 engine is frugal and petrol.

If you fancy something with a bit more punch, then the 4.2-litre V8 could be the one for you with its 300 horsepower and 150+ miles per hour top speed.

For those who want even more then the XJR will deliver a full-on 400 horsepower, which as you can imagine,