# Can You Top This MPG? - Monitoring MPG is Easier in the 2015 RX 450h With New Standard Seven-Inch Display Audio

February 21, 2014



Drivers can have it all! With the fuel economy of a compact sedan, the power of a V8 engine, versatility, a bold exterior, and the comforts of a luxury vehicle, the 2015 RX 450h hybrid continues to be a leader in the segment it created more than 10 years ago.

The RX 450h offers an impressive 32 mpg city, 28 mpg highway and 30 mpg combined EPA fuel economy estimates (30/28/29 MPG with AWD).

Now drivers and passengers alike will appreciate the convenience of the new standard Display Audio with Rear Backup Camera. Display Audio also provides a seven-inch monitor to view phone and vehicle information such as fuel economy and HVAC.

The clear leader in luxury hybrids, with five different models in its line, Lexus also knows how to imbue these fuel-conserving, ultra-low emission vehicles with an engaging driving spirit. Case in point, the RX 450h hybrid offers the performance of 295 combined system horsepower, with substantial torque at all speeds.

#### **Hybrid Technology Leader**

A full hybrid, the RX 450h can operate in electric-only, gas-engine-only, or combined gas and electric modes. The Lexus Hybrid Drive combines the power of a 3.5-liter Atkinson-cycle V6 engine with a front-mounted 116-kW electric motor generator, with power from both channeled through a planetary-type continuously variable transmission. The model with all-weather drive uniquely powers the rear wheels with a dedicated 50-kW electric motor, and this combination yields even quicker performance.

The RX 450h driver can choose from four selectable driving modes, including EV, which allows the vehicle to operate on electric-only power at low speeds under certain conditions. Normal mode provides an ideal blend of performance and efficiency for everyday driving. Eco mode favors fuel economy, and Sport mode, which was added in the 2013 redesign, increases powertrain responsiveness for a more engaging driving experience.

For either model, Lexus Hybrid Drive uses a 288V DC nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH) battery pack that does not impinge on cabin or cargo room. In fact, the RX 450h offers the same cargo room as the gasoline RX 350 model, 40 cu. ft. with the 40/20/40 split rear seatbacks in use and doubling that to 80.3 cu. ft. with the seatbacks folded.

# High Standard of Standard Luxury

In the Lexus tradition, the RX 450h comes with a long roster of standard luxury features. The 10-way power front seats, ebony or espresso bird's eye maple and dual-zone automatic climate control set the tone for the luxury feel found throughout the cabin. The RX 450h upholds another Lexus tradition, the inclusion of Display Audio with Rear Backup Camera as standard equipment. The 12-speaker Lexus Premium Audio System offers a multitude of music source choices, including an in-dash single –disc CD player, Bluetooth<sup>®</sup> audio streaming, USB/iPod<sup>®</sup> control and SiriusXM<sup>®</sup> Satellite Radio (complimentary 90-day trial subscription included).

For the ultimate in mobile sound, Lexus exclusively offers Mark Levinson<sup>®</sup> audio systems, a brand revered by audiophiles. The optional 15-speaker Mark Levinson Surround Sound system will delight discerning ears, no matter the music choice. The system delivers 330 total watts of power with an incredibly low 0.1 percent total harmonic distortion (THD). A rear seat entertainment system with dual seven-inch LCD screens ensures that passengers will enjoy long drives perhaps more than the driver does.

The standard SmartAccess system combines push-button starting and touch-sensitive exterior door handles. When the driver turns off the ignition, the seat automatically slides up to two inches rearward and the power tilt/telescoping steering wheel tilts upward and slides forward to ease exit. The next time the driver is seated and pushes the "On" button, the seat and steering wheel return to their preset positions automatically.

#### **Connected, Informed and Entertained**

Lexus has expanded connectivity in its vehicles while helping to reduce driver distraction. The foundation of this capability, Lexus Enform, can make a compatible Bluetooth smartphone even smarter. The available Enform service, with Destination Assist, eDestination, and App Suite, comes with the Navigation System/Mark Levinson Audio Package. Lexus Enform provides access to the subscription-free App Suite. These voice-enabled apps let you search the Internet through Bing<sup>TM</sup>, make restaurant reservations through OpenTable<sup>®</sup>, get movie tickets via MovieTickets.com<sup>TM</sup>, listen to Internet radio, including , Pandora<sup>®</sup>, and iHeartRadio<sup>TM</sup>, search business reviews on Yelp<sup>®</sup>, and check in on Facebook Places<sup>TM</sup>.

Subscription-based Safety Connect is standard on all vehicles, while the RX 450h's telematics system, Lexus Enform with Safety Connect<sup>®</sup> is on all vehicles equipped with the optional Navigation system. Both subscription-based features come with complimentary one-year trial subscriptions. The Lexus Enform and the Safety Connect response centers operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week—every day of the year.

Lexus Enform vehicles are factory ready for subscriptions to a variety of innovative SiriusXM services including NavTraffic, NavWeather, Sports, Stocks and Fuel Prices. SiriusXM services offer complimentary one-year trial data subscription.

Lexus RX 450h also features available Siri<sup>®</sup> Eyes Free Mode technology licensed from Apple<sup>®</sup>. Compatible with the iPhone<sup>®</sup> 4S and iPhone 5 models forward, Siri lets you call contacts, select and play music from iTunes <sup>®</sup>, get turn-by-turn navigation through Siri and Apple maps, and much more.

To help you keep your eyes on the road and hands on the wheel, Siri can read notifications and calendar information and allow you to add reminders, calendar appointments and notes.

# **Exemplary Safety**

All Lexus RX models are equipped with 10 standard airbags, including roll sensing side curtain airbags, front seat-mounted side airbags, rear side airbags (for the outboard seating positions) and knee airbags for the driver and the front passenger.

The standard Vehicle Dynamics Integrated Management (VDIM) is designed to anticipate loss of vehicle control. It manages all of the vehicle's dynamic handling systems – the Anti-lock Braking System, Brake Assist (BA), Vehicle Stability Control (VSC) and Traction Control (TRAC) – coordinating with the electronic throttle control system. VDIM employs these systems collectively and seamlessly to help make corrections while allowing higher dynamic capability. The system also provides a limited slip differential effect.

The optional Pre-Collision System (PCS) with Dynamic Radar Cruise Control uses millimeter-wave radar to measure and help maintain a pre-set following distance from a vehicle traveling directly ahead. The radar sensor can detect certain obstacles in front of the car, and a PCS computer with vehicle-speed, steering angle and yaw-rate inputs helps to determine whether a collision is imminent. In such a situation, PCS preemptively retracts front seat belts and pre-initializes Brake Assist so that increased braking will be applied the instant the driver depresses the pedal.

# <u>New for 2015</u>

- Standard Display Audio with seven-inch screen for all models
- Available Luxury Package offers a 19-inch triple-split five-spoke wheel with light gray paint and machined finish
- Available HID and LED headlamps paired with LED foglamps
- Available navigation system features updated Remote Touch interface knob for improved ergonomics

# Vehicle Details

# Mechanical

- Sport mode with revised steering effort, throttle mapping and transmission logic priorities to fully exploit the capabilities of the powertrain. In Sport mode, the hybrid meter light changes to red.
- All-weather drive model employs separate rear electric motor-generator to provide power to the rear wheels when road conditions or throttle response dictates.
- A SNOW mode slows accelerator-pedal response to help reduce the possibility of wheel spin.

#### Engine/Transmission/Drivetrain/Performance

- Lexus Hybrid Drive with a 3.5-liter V6 Atkinson-cycle engine offering V8-like performance, 295 total system horsepower.
- Compact 288V DC Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH) battery pack
- Front-mounted 123-kW electric motor-generator
- Super Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (SULEV) certification in California (Tier 2-Bin 3 in other states).

#### Chassis/Body/Suspension/Brakes/Tires

- Uniquely designed double-wishbone rear suspension improves handling and yields greater cargo area room.
- VSC adds steering assist torque to help aid handling on a split-friction surface.
- TRAC and VSC functions can also be turned off, for example, when the driver needs to free the vehicle from mud or snow.
- 18-inch aluminum-alloy wheels with 235/60R18 tires; two optional 19-inch aluminum-alloy wheel packages with 235/55R19 tires.

# Safety/Security

- Hill-start Assist Control (HAC) uses brake pressure to help prevent the vehicle from moving backward when starting out on an incline.
- Active front headrests help to reduce the severity of a whiplash injury in the event of certain types of lower speed rear collisions.
- Smart Stop Technology will automatically reduce engine power when the brake pedal and the accelerator pedal are applied simultaneously under certain driving conditions.

#### Luxury/Comfort/Convenience

- 10-way power front seats with power lumbar adjustment.
- Leather-wrapped three-spoke steering wheel with integrated audio controls.
- Power liftgate
- Multi-information switch on the steering wheel provides access to numerous function settings without taking hands off the steering wheel.
- Vehicle settings can be customized, including personal door-lock preferences, interior/exterior light adjustments, driver's seat easy exit, and window-closure settings.
- Power tilt and telescopic steering column
- An available smog sensor is designed to detect harmful particles (CO, HC, NOx) in other vehicles' exhaust emissions and automatically switch the climate control system between fresh air and recirculation

modes.

• Vehicle settings can be customized, including personal door-lock preferences, interior/exterior light adjustments, driver's seat easy exit, and window-closure settings.

# **Luxury Options**

- Comfort Package with ventilated front seats
- Hard Disc Drive (HDD) navigation system with Remote Touch Controller offers Voice Command casuallanguage voice recognition, Lexus Enform<sup>®</sup> with Safety Connect<sup>®</sup> (includes one-year trial subscription), subscription-free Enform App Suite, and automatic Bluetooth phonebook download.
- Leather and wood-trimmed steering wheel and shift knob

# Warranty

- 48-month/50,000-mile basic limited warranty with roadside assistance for 48 months/unlimited miles.
- 72 months/70,000 miles powertrain and restraint system coverage.
- 72 months corrosion perforation protection, regardless of mileage.
- Eight years/100,000 miles hybrid-related components, including the HV battery, battery-control module, hybrid control module and inverter with converter.

#### ###