

Infiniti Q50 Red Sport - A Technological Showcase

Continued from page 9

one, I'd get it in black, and have all the chrome pieces tinted black – that would look really good.

Interior: Step inside, and nothing has changed in the Q50 over the last four years. That is both a good thing, and a bad thing. Good, because the interior is spacious and comfortable, and can be had with a lot of tech. Bad news, most of the tech looks old, and I mean, really old. Take the navigation screen for example, it -along with its mapping layout- looks the same as it did on the very first press car I picked up from Infiniti, which was a 2003 G35 sedan. Infiniti has tried to compliment the old screen with an additional screen below it, which has apps, but it is all very confusing to use, even after a week. The oddest thing was the placement for the heated steering wheel switch – you'd expect it to be a proper button on the steering wheel or the dashboard, but no, it is through a touch screen, and you have to go through the "climate" settings to find it. It took me forever to find it, but glad I did. Thankfully, the heated seats have proper, actual buttons, to turn them on or off.



All things considered, the Q50 is a nice place to spend time in.

Powertrain: This is where the Q50 Red Sport really shines, because while lesser Q50 models have four and six cylinder, low pressure turbo motors; my tester came equipped with their hottest engine, a high boost turbo-charged V6 that displaces 3.0L in capacity, and produces 400 hp, and 350 lb-ft of torque. That power was fed to all wheels, via a seven-speed automatic gearbox. While this isn't the fastest auto-box on the planet -I do wish Infiniti had taken the dual-clutch

gearbox from the Nissan GT-R and stuck it in the Q50- but the auto is smooth enough when you need it to be, and decently quick on up shifts, when you're really going for it. There is also minimal turbo-lag, and unlike most cars these days, where the horsepower figure doesn't quite represent real world performance, I'm happy to report, the 400 hp in the Q50 Red Sport, feel like very healthy, galloping 400 horses – love that!

Driving Dynamics: The Q50 Red Sport is a good mix between comfort and sporty, in fact, it probably does the sporty bit a

little better than the comfy bit. So, the ride is firm, but not harsh. Cabin noise levels are not high, but not as low as some rivals. It handles the corners really well, and thanks to all-wheel drive grip, it shoots off the line! If you like driving, you'll enjoy this car – in fact, this car is so nice to drive, I don't care about how it looks and what its infotainment system has to offer; it is worth buying just for driving it. Mind you, with intelligent cruise control, and lane keep assist, the Q50 can also, pretty much drive on its own, on the highway.

Fuel Economy: Well, my figure is based on my driving, and I did enjoy leaning on the throttle quite a bit, so I averaged 12.6 L/100 KM during my test week – although, it will probably drink a little less, if you drive a bit more calmly! One thing you have to keep in mind, is that this high performance engine likes to sip on premium fuel, so running costs are high – but that is a price worth paying for the joys of driving a hot rod sedan.

Pricing: The Q50 Red Sport starts from \$52,695. My very well loaded tester, with its ProAssist, ProActive packages, plus freight and PDI, came to \$61,666. Given the features and performance of this vehicle, that is not a lot – especially when compared to this cars German rivals.

Verdict: I didn't think I was going to like the Q50 Red Sport, thought it would be just OK. I ended up loving it, and would happily live with one for an entire year – yes, it's that good. Is it perfect? No, but then no car really is. For me, it is really good in areas that are important to me – performance and handling- and hence, it gets my recommendation.

New Law Allows Ottawa To Order Vehicle Recalls

OTTAWA: The Strengthening Motor Vehicle Safety for Canadians Act (Bill S-2), which has just received Royal Assent, is a major step in improving road safety and "keeping all Canadians safe on our roads is a priority for the Government of Canada," the federal government said in a statement. This Act provides the Minister of Transport with new powers and the ability to:

- Order a company to recall a vehicle to correct a defect;
- Order a company to pay for

the cost of repairs so consumers don't bear the cost;

- Order a company to conduct tests on a vehicle and to provide the results back to the Minister;
- Order a company to fix a new vehicle before it's sold; and
- Negotiate a settlement with a company which is alleged to be in violation of the Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

These powers help protect Canadians by giving the Minister recourse in the event safety actions taken by a company are insufficient.

In addition, the Act gives Transport Canada the ability to:

- Perform more in depth vehicle inspections in relation to safety concerns; and
- Allow more flexibility to support innovative technologies, such as connected and automated vehicles.

The Act also paves the way for Transport Canada to impose future administrative monetary penalties (i.e. fines) to manufacturers of up to \$200,000, per violation, for any contraventions of the Mo-

tor Vehicle Safety Act.

Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, said: "Canadians may be surprised to know that prior to the Strengthening Motor Vehicle Safety for Canadians Act, only a manufacturer could issue a vehicle safety recall in Canada. This legislation allows the government to proactively issue safety recalls in the interest of Canadians."

Previously, only manufacturers could order a safety recall in Canada. While manufacturers retain this ability, the Minister can

now take action should they fail to do so in the interest of public safety.

The Strengthening Motor Vehicle Safety for Canadians Act builds on previous legislative changes in 2014 that gave the Minister of Transport the ability to order a manufacturer to notify Canadians about safety issues with their vehicles.

A cap for administrative monetary penalties will be established during the regulatory development process.

NISSAN
FACTORY
APPROVED
DAYS

DIRECT NISSAN'S
3 DAY MARCH MADNESS SALE

Innovation that excites

FRI MAR 23rd

SAT MAR 24th

MON MAR 26th

DIRECT NISSAN **ACCESSORY VOUCHER** NO. 117-705
VALID UNTIL **MAR 26, 2018**

\$1000

THE AMOUNT OF **ONE THOUSAND**

Prepared to the bearer:
In the amount of up to \$1,000

TO BE REDEEMED TOWARDS A NEW VEHICLE PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT DIRECT NISSAN
Use this \$1000 voucher towards any accessories for select 2017/2018 Nissans leased or financed through Direct Nissan and NCF until March 26, 2018. Voucher must be presented at time of sale and may not be used any other time.

NO CHARGE PRE-PAID MAINTENANCE FOR 3 YEARS**

0% FINANCING FOR 5 YEARS*

ALL REGULAR SAVINGS WILL BE INCREASED DURING THIS SALE

2018
VERSA NOTE

2018
SENTRA

2018
ALTIMA

2018
MURANO

2018
ROGUE

2018
PATHFINDER

TITAN EMPLOYEE PRICING ON NOW **SEE OUR NEW MIDNIGHT EDITION**
OVER \$13,000 IN DISCOUNTS

- Midnight Black 20" Alloys
- Dark LED Headlamps
- Black Step Rails
- Midnight Edition All-Weather Floor Liners
- Body Colored Grille & Bumpers
- Black Exterior Badging

NISSAN
FACTORY
APPROVED
DAYS

RATES AS LOW AS
0% APR ON SELECT MODELS O.A.C.

DIRECT NISSAN - HIGHEST CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE

CALL US AT 905-812-8882

TOLL FREE 1.888.737-0552

CONTACT OUR DEAL MAKERS

CLYDE MONISSE
General Sales Manager

KEYUL PATEL
Sales Manager

JOHN REHMAN
Finance Manager

SHAN SYED
Sales & Leasing Consultant

BUY SMART.....BUY DIRECT!

Direct NISSAN

905-812-8882

2290 BATTLEFORD RD. (at Erin Mills Pkwy.)

Directnissan.ca

* \$4,000 discount on 2017 Qashqai based on AWD models and \$8,000 discount on 2017 Murano are both at STD NCF Finance & Lease rates or Cash in conjunction with qualifying for 2017 Qashqai conquest program and Direct's discount. Not in conjunction with "No Charge AWD" program. ** 0.49% lease rate is for 24 months on 2018 Rogues & 0% lease rate for 24 months on 2018 Pathfinders. † "NO CHARGE AWD" for 2018 Rogues, Muranos & Pathfinder & 2017 Qashqai through STD NCF Finance & Lease rates or Cash. See Direct Nissan for full details.