

# VOICE AUTOMOBILE



**2019 Mazda CX-5  
Signature  
– Turbocharged  
Goodness!**

By Nauman Farooq

The arrival of the first Mazda CX-5, spelled the end of the CX-7 model, and while I wasn't a fan of the CX-7 (noisy cabin, terrible fuel economy), I did like the way it handled, and I liked the way it went! The latter was due to its turbocharged 2.3L four-cylinder motor that was good for 244 hp. This combination of its good chassis, excellent steering, and turbo oomph made for a pretty entertaining vehicle, especially if you were on a mountain pass!

That is exactly what I found when I navigated through the Pacheco Pass in California in a CX-7 Turbo. It just ate up the

twisty turning miles of this scenic mountain pass with poise, and kept me smiling the whole way.

When Mazda introduced the CX-5 in 2012, it held a drive event in California, at the then Mazda sponsored Laguna Seca Raceway (which now has WeatherTech as their title sponsor), to show how well it can handle. Sure, the gen-one CX-5 handled decently well, but it lacked the power to pull you out of a corner quickly; in short, I was missing the turbocharged CX-7.

When Mazda introduced the second-gen CX-5 model -circa 2016- it came with a turbocharged motor, and hence it performed very well. However, the CX-9 is



a rather large vehicle, so not exactly the type you'd throw around on a twisty road. So, wouldn't it

be nice to have this turbocharged motor in a smaller, lighter vehicle, like the CX-5?

I guess, Mazda was thinking the same thing, and while the second-gen CX-5 model didn't come equipped with turbo power upon its launch in 2017, this boosted motor is available as an option with the 2019 model. So, has the CX-5 finally become the vehicle I had always wanted it to be? Let's look at it in detail, to find out:

Styling: In the looks department, there are no visual changes between the non-turbo CX-5 (GX, GS, GT) model and the turbocharged (Signature) model. In fact, there aren't even any 'Turbo' badges on the vehicle, or on the engine cover – Mazda surely doesn't want to shout out about

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