

- Max speed: 183mph
- 0-62 mph: 4.9secs
- Combined mpg: 17.2
- Engine: 4691cc, V8, 32v, petrol
- Max. power (bhp): 434 at 7000rpm
- Max. torque (lb/ft): 362 at 4750
- CO2: 385g/km
- Price: £92,360 OTR



the steering wheel paddles, there are no worrying jerky movements – the Maserati moves away slickly and confidently. But it is in Sport mode that the drive really gets interesting. Shifting to this more athletic style of driving not only allows extra power, it enables special valves to open up in the exhaust – and that is when all the truly wild noise happens. It is wonderful. The pace of the car is also very stirring – a 0-62mph sprint of 4.9 seconds is a mighty feat for such a monstrous

machine, as is a top speed of 183mph.

The GranTurismo S is rigid and compact, thanks to the suspension layout developed specifically to support its weight distribution. It certainly feels a big car, but it offers such contentment that munching up the motorway miles or traversing twisty rural roads is easy. The steering is light and the car goes where it is pointed. One slight weakness is that the steering is a tad low on feel – it doesn't always communicate what is happening on the road surface, but it does not detract from the overall driving pleasure that the Maserati gives.

Vehicle roll is barely noticeable as a result of Maserati's modified springs, bars and dampers, and this has benefited handling and performance. But that is no surprise because the racetrack is where the name Maserati was first established and where the brand became known for producing well balanced cars capable of great feedback to the driver. That is why, focusing on its racing vocation, Maserati decided to develop a special series of customisation options named "MC Sport Line". The name sums up the experience acquired on the track by the Maserati

Corse department, which was, according to Maserati, 'invaluable' in helping the designers when it came to styling options. The extensive use of carbon fibre, very popular among racing enthusiasts, thanks to its direct connection with racing competitions, is the obvious way to spot a Maserati with the MC Sport Line touch. My test car came with all the trimmings, including a carbon fibre rear spoiler which was the icing on the cake of an already very stunning machine.

