

MOTERING FOCUS: ROLLS-ROYCE GHOST SERIES II

Clad in a subtle re-design, the Rolls-Royce Ghost Series II ensures a timeless yet modern quality. The eye is immediately drawn towards its re-sculpted headlights, with unbroken daytime running lights framing a new, more dynamic shape, giving the car a distinct visual signature from the front.



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Inside, electronically adjustable thigh supports for the front passenger complement a fresh seat structure, enhancing the Ghost's unchallenged luxury levels. Furthermore; the rear seat design ensures absolute wellbeing if you want to conduct business or simply relax. In 'lounge seat' configuration, the natural grain leather chairs are angled towards each other to create a more intimate setting, allowing you and your passengers to converse more easily.

The seats are available with three-level heating, as standard, with optional massage function and can be reclined. Chrome surrounds to the sun visor lights and a new soft-feel dashboard treatment add to the Ghost's first-rate tactility.

The instrument dials and clock have also undergone delicate enrichments with individually applied polished metal chaplets around the dials. This brings to mind the precision design of hand-made, luxury wrist watches, whilst the matt chrome centres 'float' in the middle of each instrument.

FAST FACTS

- Max speed: 155 mph
- 0-62 mph: 4.9 secs
- Combined mpg: 20.2
- Engine: 6592cc 12 cylinder 48 valve turbo petrol
- Max. power (bhp): 563
- Max. torque (lb.ft): 575
- CO₂: 327 g/km
- Price: £180,720 (Exc. Local taxes).

PROS 'N' CONS

- Refinement ✓
- Power ✓
- Comfort ✓
- Equipment ✓
- Divisive looks X

This year, the famous Spirit of Ecstasy figurine celebrates her 104th birthday. More than any other symbol of opulence, the flying lady stands as a genuine icon: one whose charming image continues to adorn the grille, but is now also reproduced within the Ghost Series II's cabin depicted below the crystal glass surface of the rotary controller. This Spirit of Ecstasy Rotary Controller presents a touch pad, with the ability to write characters by finger, as well as the capacity to scroll through function menus by turning the chrome dial and pressing down to select its functions.

On the move, the Ghost delivers effortless joie de vivre. This is augmented with the addition of Satellite Aided Transmission, a gadget that utilises GPS data to allow the car to see beyond what you observe, anticipating the next move based on location and driving style. It uses this information to select the most appropriate gear from the Ghost Series II's slick eight-speed automatic ZF gearbox.

This ensures you are able to exploit the power from the Rolls-Royce 6.6 litre twin-turbo V12, guaranteeing a graceful and flawless driving experience. For example, when approaching a sweeping bend, the car will predict how you wish to drive through it. When you lift off the accelerator, it will hold the lower gear to ensure maximum clout is available for picking up the pace through the exit of a corner.

In essence, the Ghost II is a Rolls-Royce that meets every need; an exquisitely appointed business tool for the week and an engaging and magnificent driving machine for leisure at any other time.