

MOTORING

SMC Asia Car Distributors Corp. delivers BMW’s signature M performance in a highly concentrated form with the BMW M2.

SMC Asia Car Distributors Corp, the official importer and distributor of BMW in the Philippines, presents the second generation of the compact high-performance sports car that promises unadulterated driving pleasure.

Compact dimensions together with powertrain and chassis technology adapted from the BMW M3/ BMW M4 are at the heart of a vehicle concept that endows the new edition of the two-door model with beguiling agility and handling that remain easily controllable even as the driver explores the car’s limits. This distinct character profile also manifests itself in the expressive exterior design with its athletic coupé proportions. The sophisticated control concept for customizing the vehicle setup also helps to produce a performance experience of remarkable intensity. Thanks to these many attributes, the new BMW M2 continues the brand’s tradition of ultra-sporty models with compact dimensions that began in 1973 with the arrival of the BMW 2002 turbo. It is also building on the success of its predecessor, which notched up nearly 60,000 units sold worldwide.

Compact dimensions, extremely powerful proportions.

The athletic appearance of the new BMW M2 stems from its compact dimensions, extremely powerful proportions, and hallmark M design features. The large, frameless BMW kidney grille with its horizontal bars combines with a three-section lower air intake with almost rectangular contours to give the front end of the car a familiar M look. The design has been crafted around technical requirements in terms of cooling air supply and aerodynamic balance. Clearly designed surfaces, prominently flared side skirts and muscular wheel arches set the tone for the side view. The rear end of the new BMW M2 also has a compact, powerful feel and adds several individual touches in the form of the eye-catching spoiler lip on the boot lid, the vertically arranged reflectors, the rear apron’s diffuser insert – with its puristic design – and the two pairs of exhaust tailpipes positioned a long way in from the outer edges. The BMW M2 Carbon specifically features an M Carbon roof that reduces vehicle weight by around six kilograms.

The choice of five exterior paint finishes available for both the BMW M2 Pure and Carbon includes the Alpine White, Zandvoort Blue, M Brooklyn Grey, Black Sapphire, and M Toronto Red metallic shades exclusive to this model.

Technology and design for a modern driving experience.

The new BMW M2 boasts a cockpit with a driver-centric design featuring M-specific readouts, controls, and setup options, as well as the advanced BMW Widescreen Display. Driving-related information including Shift Lights appears in a new graphical layout on the 12.3-inch information display. M-specific widgets for vehicle setup and tire condition are

just two of the items that can be called up in the 14.9-inch control display.

Both the BMW Curved Display and the BMW Intelligent Personal Assistant form part of the latest-generation BMW iDrive. Based on BMW Operating System 8, it has been purpose designed for intuitive interaction between driver and vehicle using touch control and natural language. Smartphone integration for Apple CarPlay® and Android Auto™ is likewise included as standard in the new BMW M2.

The driver and front passenger are welcomed as standard by sport seats in a model-specific design with Sensatec/Alcantara surfaces for the BMW M2 Pure. The M Carbon bucket seats that can also be found on the BMW M2 use carbon fiber reinforced plastic (CFRP) in the structural elements of the seat cushion and backrest and feature cut-outs in the side bolsters and below the head restraints, thereby shaving around 10.8 kilograms off the vehicle’s weight.

The comfort features fitted as standard in the new BMW M2 include three-zone automatic climate control, BMW Live Cockpit Plus complete with BMW Maps navigation system, ambient lighting, and the Hi-Fi speaker system for the BMW M2 Pure. The BMW M2 Carbon comes equipped with the Harman Kardon Surround sound system.

The Setup button on the center console provides direct access to the settings options for the engine, chassis, steering, braking system, and M Traction Control. Two overall vehicle setups can be stored and then retrieved using the M buttons on the steering wheel.

Besides M Traction Control, the standard-fit M Drive Professional also includes the M Drift Analyzer and M Latimer. Plus, the M Mode button on the center console can be used to adjust both the level of driver assistance system activity and the content shown in the information display with a choice of ROAD, SPORT, and TRACK settings.

Six-cylinder in-line engine with instantaneous power delivery and a thrilling appetite for revs.

The version of the straight-six engine developed for the compact high-performance model with M TwinPower Turbo technology and high revving design stands out with its M-typical performance characteristics. Differing only in a small number of details from the engine employed in the BMW M3 and BMW M4 models, the 3.0-litre unit thrills with its urgent response, healthy appetite for revs and linear power delivery into the highest reaches of the engine speed range.

Developing a maximum output of 460 hp, the engine under the bonnet of the new BMW M2 outguns the base unit used by its predecessor at 90 hp. Peak torque of 550 Nm is produced between 2,650 and 5,870 rpm with maximum output arriving at 6,250 rpm. The new engine revs to a maximum of 7,200 rpm. The pulsating build-up of power is accompanied by an emotionally rich soundtrack

generated by the M-specific exhaust system with rear axle. Also included as standard, it can seam-



electrically controlled flaps. The system of oil supply is designed to handle extremely dynamic driving situations when out on the track, as is the cooling system.

The engine’s power is relayed to the rear wheels via an eight-speed M Steptronic transmission with Drivelogic as standard. It’s extremely sporty gear shifts, direct connection to the engine and ability to execute multiple downshifts to the lowest available gear form the ideal basis for beguiling, instantaneous acceleration. It is operated by means of a selector lever sporting the latest M design as well as shift paddles on the steering wheel. The Drivelogic function offers a choice of three shift settings.

The new BMW M2 completes the sprint to 100 km/h in 4.3 seconds with the eight-speed M Steptronic transmission with a top speed of 250 km/h for the M2 Pure while the M2 Carbon, which comes equipped with the M Driver’s Package, reaches a top speed of 290 km/h.

Rear-wheel drive, M Traction Control and Active M Differential provide agility, precision and driving pleasure as the occasion demands.

The new BMW M2’s traditional form of dynamic performance is also embodied by its rear-wheel drive. The linear build-up of lateral acceleration forces characteristic of M models helps the driver to guide the car through corners with controlled drifts, for example. The standard M Traction Control function is also designed to allow the driver to carefully probe the vehicle’s performance limits by setting individual intervention thresholds for wheel slip limitation, with a choice of ten stages.

Another contributor to the sublime dynamics of the BMW M2 is the Active M Differential at the

lessly generate a locking effect of up to 100 per cent whenever required. This optimizes traction on road surfaces offering different levels of adhesion for the left- and right-hand rear wheel, for example, as well as improving power transfer when accelerating hard out of corners.

Sophisticated chassis technology, precisely controllable handling.

The new BMW M2’s compact dimensions, short wheelbase, almost perfectly balanced 50:50 weight distribution and sophisticated chassis technology combine to deliver precisely controllable, fingertip handling. The car’s agility, dynamism and precision also gain from the excellent torsional stiffness of the body structure and chassis mountings helped by bespoke bracing.

Both the double-joint spring strut front axle and the five-link rear axle come with M-specific kinematics. The standard equipment roster for the new BMW M2 includes adaptive M suspension with electronically controlled dampers, M Servotronic steering with variable ratio, DSC (Dynamic Stability Control) including M Dynamic Mode, and powerful M Compound brakes with six-piston, fixed-caliper brakes at the front and single-piston, floating-caliper brakes at the rear. The integrated braking system presents the driver with two pedal feel settings. The new BMW M2 comes with 19-inch light-alloy wheels at the front and 20-inch items at the rear, each representing an increase of one inch on the diameter of the wheels fitted as standard on the BMW M3 and BMW M4 models.

The BMW M2 Pure and Carbon retail for Php 5,990,000 and Php 8,890,000, respectively and comes with a 5-year comprehensive BMW Warranty.

Pioneering Nobility in Mobility: Hongqi Officially Opens Premier Dealership

An Icon of Chinese Luxury, Hongqi, to Set New Standards in Premium Automobiles

A momentous event is on the horizon as Hongqi, the epitome of Chinese luxury, opens its flagship dealership in Bonifacio Global City. The launch event, hosted by the brand’s general distributor in the Philippines - EVOxTerra, Inc. and led by its visionary President Rashid Delgado, promises to redefine premium mobility, inviting Filipinos to indulge in the legacy and innovation that is Hongqi.

Heritage: A Journey of Nobility

Back in 1958, history was made when the first Hongqi luxury sedan rolled off the production line under the China FAW Group Corporation’s watchful eye. It marked not just the birth of an automobile but the dawn of China’s prowess in the automotive world. Hongqi led the way, pioneering the car industry in China.

What followed was the birth of a “national automobile brand,” a symbol of pride for hundreds of millions of Chinese citizens. For decades, the brand’s exclusivity was unyielding. Hongqi’s cars were the privilege of top-ranking government officials, distinguished personalities, and international dignitaries. It was not merely a vehicle but a proclamation of status and importance. Hongqi had become synonymous with nobility.

Elegance and Innovation: Hongqi’s Continuing Odyssey

Hongqi’s pursuit of elegance and innovation has propelled it to lead the charge in China’s automotive evolution. The brand consistently showcases its engineering prowess, shaping the landscape of Chinese automobile brands. A transformation and resurgence have positioned Hongqi as the flag-bearer of Chinese automotive excellence.

The very name “Hongqi” carries profound significance, translating to “red banner” in Chinese. It is more than a name; it is an embodiment of a nation’s pride, symbolizing resilience, strength, and grandeur.

Crafting Hongqi’s Design Excellence

Leading Hongqi’s design transformation is Giles Taylor, the brand’s Global VP of Design and Chief Creative Officer. With a storied career in the automotive industry, Taylor’s name resonates with innovation and excellence. His creative guidance ensures Hongqi’s design philosophy harmoniously blends heritage and modernity, resulting in vehicles that embody craftsmanship and engineering marvel. Under Taylor’s influence, Hongqi’s future design promises to captivate discerning tastes, reinforcing the brand’s dedication to elegance and prestige.



Empowering Choice: Hongqi’s Dual-Power Approach

Hongqi’s entrance into the Philippine market signifies EVOxTerra’s profound commitment to offering diverse mobility solutions to cater to a broad spectrum of preferences and needs. As a brand deeply rooted in tradition yet ceaselessly innovating for the future, Hongqi introduces a captivating blend of battery electric and petrol-powered vehicles. This dual approach ensures that customers can choose from a range of cutting-edge, eco-conscious electric models or indulge in the classic sophistication and performance of petrol-powered vehicles. Whether one seeks the quiet efficiency of electric driving or the exhilaration of traditional combustion engines, Hongqi’s diverse fleet promises to deliver a driving experience that transcends expectations.

Unveiling: The Hongqi Vehicle Lineup for the Philippines

Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV)

Hongqi E-HS9

At the heart of the grand debut of Hongqi in the Philippines lies an exquisite lineup of vehicles that promises to redefine luxury and sophistication. Standing tall as the hero of the fleet is the E-HS9, a symbol of elegance, innovation, and opulence. With its luxe cabin layout, 6/7 seat layout, large capacity batteries from CATL, and dual motor all wheel drivetrain, the E-HS9 is not merely a fully electric SUV; it’s an experience waiting to unfold. It represents the pinnacle of Hongqi’s

engineering marvel and serves as the flag-bearer of the brand’s commitment to excellence in the field of new energy vehicles.

Hongqi E-QM5

The Hongqi E-QM5 exemplifies Hongqi’s dedication to delivering next-generation mobility solutions to a wider audience. Offering generous space, an impressive long-distance range, and a suite of cutting-edge driver assistance features, the Hongqi E-QM5 stands as the perfect electric vehicle for individuals in search of a harmonious blend of opulence and practicality.

As Hongqi prepares to unveil this distinguished fleet in the Philippines, it invites the public to embark on a journey of elegance, innovation, and pride. Each model carries the legacy of a brand that has redefined what it means to travel in style.

Internal Combustion Engine (ICE)

H5

The H5 continues Hongqi’s tradition of grand appearances, featuring a panoramic sunroof that welcomes the sunshine by day and the starry sky by night. Its comfortable seats, equipped with an eight-point pneumatic massage system, elevate the driving experience, turning long journeys into a leisurely stroll. With an intelligent ecosystem and a design that pays homage to tradition, the H5 encapsulates the essence of Hongqi.

H9

The H9, Hongqi’s flagship sedan boasts a chic, refined design that prioritizes user convenience. It features premium leathers, exquisite surfaces, and trim embellished with brushed aluminum accents. The H9 is comprehensively equipped with a range of convenience, safety, driver assistance, and infotainment features, including retractable door handles, a four-zone climate control system, as well as adjustable, ventilated, and massaging seats for both front and rear occupants. Without a doubt, the H9 guarantees a truly sophisticated driving experience.

Hongqi’s Grand Entry: The Showroom

Hongqi’s presence in the Philippines is solidified with the grand opening of its flagship showroom this September at the ground floor of the Asian Century Center, Bonifacio Global City. The showroom design promises an immersive experience that fosters interaction between customers, cars, and the brand.