



2009 FORD ESCAPE HYBRID AND MERCURY MARINER HYBRID



Fresh from their most successful sales year, the Escape Hybrid and Mariner Hybrid for 2009 bring an array of new features and technologies to strengthen their claim as America's most fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly SUVs.

For 2009, the hybrid models will use the new 2.5-liter I-4 designed to run on the Atkinson combustion cycle. A new engine processor enables nearly imperceptible transitions between gas and electric vehicle mode. The hybrid models also feature a new powertrain damping system to reduce vibrations and feedback to the driver and other occupants.

The hybrid's braking system also has been refined. Engineers achieved a more seamless transition from electric regenerative braking system to traditional braking operation. A new brake pedal sensor is at the heart of the improvements.

The Escape Hybrid also adds a new model, the Escape Limited Hybrid. "The introduction of Escape Limited comes as a result of continued dialogue with customers who have asked to receive all the accessories and equipment expected in higher-specification versions of the base vehicle," said David Finnegan, Ford Escape marketing manager.

The Escape Limited Hybrid features 16-inch, six-spoke bright machined aluminum wheels, exterior chrome accents, chrome and ebony touches and a luxury and convenience package that includes ambient lighting, heated front leather seating surfaces, a power moonroof and retractable cargo area cover.



LOOK FOR IN 2009

- 2.5-liter I-4 DOHC 16-valve Atkinson cycle engine
- Escape Limited Hybrid model
- Easy Fuel™ capless refueling
- Available ambient lighting
- Standard cruise control
- Available 16-inch Michelin Latitude Tour tires



VITAL STATISTICS

Production location: Kansas City Assembly Plant

Powertrain: Duratec 2.5-liter DOHC 16-valve Atkinson cycle, 153 hp @ 6,000 rpm, 136 lb-ft torque @ 4,500 rpm

Safety/Standard: AdvanceTrac® with RSC®, Safety Canopy™, Personal Safety System™, Tire Pressure Monitoring System, LATCH

Series: AWD, FWD, Limited

Forget rummaging around in your purse or pockets for lost keys, or worse yet, paying a locksmith to open up your car door. Those days are over.

Escape Hybrid features keyless entry, an easy, secure way for you to get into your vehicle without the burden of a bulky keyring. Using a keypad located just under the door handle, drivers can type in a confidential combination and easily open the door. The ignition key can safely stay in the car.

The technology is fast becoming a favorite of busy folks everywhere, as well as athletes - particularly cyclists and runners - who don't have to worry about lost keys while on the go.