

CARGAZING

2021 LEXUS IS

Agility Expands Driving Performance

Driving performance enhanced through rigidity, suspension enhancements

PRESS RELEASE

Writing yet another chapter in the book of compact luxury sports sedans, the new 2021 Lexus IS was unveiled today via a unique and engaging online virtual reveal. Since its debut nearly 20 years ago in the U.S., the IS has thrived on creating exhilarating driving performance in the form of a true rear-wheel-drive luxury sports sedan.

The IS has served as a whetstone to help sharpen Lexus driving performance across the lineup but, more directly, it has forged indelible bonds between driver and machine that reach into the hundreds of thousands. It's no wonder the IS has earned worldwide adoration for its extraordinary driving performance.

There may be no greater fan of IS than Toyota President Akio Toyoda, who notes the vehicle's special place in his heart during the introduction to the Art of Lexus book, where he credits the IS as "The car that really taught me what performance driving was, and it was the moment when my love affair with Lexus began."

EXTERIOR

The bold new exterior styling of the 2021 IS not only aims for a provocative design, but its athletic silhouette is also meant to sig-



"What we had foremost in mind in developing the new IS was to make it a car that excelled in communicating with the driver regardless of the road conditions or driving situation," said Chief Engineer Naoki Kobayashi of Lexus International.

nify the agile changes that have taken place below the sheet metal.

Overall, the new IS evokes lower, wider proportions. It is slightly wider, with muscular fenders that extend to enhance and accommodate the larger available 19-inch wheels and larger diameter tires. The wide and low form nods to the inherently high level of driving performance the IS possesses, but the sleek lines are also comple-

mented with overtly aggressive sharpness carved into the side and shoulder character lines.

INTERIOR

Luxury and performance are not necessarily mutually exclusive, and yet the two live in harmony in the new IS. The interior features standard NuLuxe-trimmed seating, with 10-way power driver and eight-way power adjustable front passenger seats, a dual-zone automat-

ic climate control system with touch-sensitive controls, an available power moonroof, and SmartAccess with push button start.

POWER

Although, for some, the IS can only be viewed as a rear-wheel-drive compact sports sedan, others reside in climates where all-wheel-drive is a necessity. Fortunately, the 2021 IS will be available in both rear- and all-wheel drive options,

and there are three distinct powertrain options available depending upon the grade.

SAFETY

The standard Lexus Safety System+ found on the new IS receives additions for 2021 in the form of the new LSS+ 2.5. A number of key features that are part of the Lexus Safety System+ have been enhanced, along with the addition of a few key features.

BY THE NUMBERS

Base Price: \$39,000
Wheelbase: 110.2 in.
Length: 191.7 in.
Width: 72.4 in.
Height: 56.49 in.
Engine: 2.0 L 4-cylinder
Transmission: Six- and 8-speed automatic
EPA Mileage: 21 city, 31 highway

TECHNOLOGY

The IS features a standard 8-inch touchscreen nearly 3 inches closer to the driver for easy access to the controls. An expansive new 10.3-inch touchscreen is available on vehicles equipped with navigation or Mark Levinson with navigation. The new multimedia system features Apple CarPlay compatibility, Android Auto compatibility, and Amazon Alexa integration.

In support of the launch of the new 2021 IS Lexus has unveiled the Lexus AR Play, an immersive augmented reality app that allows users to explore the vehicle on their smart phone or tablet.

The Lexus AR Play app is now available for download for iOS and Android devices in the App Store and Google Play.