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# Automotive

Will Honda bring the Insight back? PAGE 2

#### **TEST DRIVE**

## Fashionably Late 2017 Jaguar F-Pace

DAN LYONS | text and photos Special to the Times Union

iven the popularity of crossovers, the biggest surprise about the F-Pace is that it took Jaguar this long to build it.

The compact luxury crossover joins an established field that includes the Porsche Macan, BMW 3 and the



Mercedes-Benz GLC-class, among others. F-Pace is offered in five trim levels: Base, Premium, Prestige, R-Sport and S. My range-topping S tester had nine options/packages and an as-delivered price of \$72,585. Buyers choose from diesel- or

gas-powered engines; my 3.0L V6 was petrol powered. The supercharged six is rated at

(@4,500 rpm) in S trim. The torque output remains the same, but horsepower is a slightly more modest 340 in other F-Pace models.

2017 Jaguar F-Pace S Base MSRP: 57,700 · As Tested: \$72,58

The Jaguar six is a robust mill. The company's 0-60 estimate is 5.1 seconds, which is fast by any standard, let alone in a crossover that tips the scales just north of two tons. Power is ladled out evenly through the eight-speed automatic transmission, with no perceivable lag points. The exhaust note is aggressive. The engine's ups and downs are punctuated by pops and burbles, and the motor is in the forefront, rather than the background of





**THE 2017 F-PACE S** is Jaguar's new contribution to the luxury crossover segment that includes the Porsche Macan, BMW 3 and Mercedes-Benz GLC-class. The F-Pace is available with either a diesel- or gas-powered engine.

your driving soundtrack. I enjoy the sounds of a fine engine at work, but I can see where some might find this much auditory feedback in a luxury-minded daily driver to be a bit much. Let your ears be your judge.

Fuel economy is not typically of great interest to buy-

ers of premium vehicles. That said, the supercharged six — in S trim — is EPA rated at 18 city, 23 highway and 20 combined. Mpgminded buyers can also consider the diesel powered F-Pace. The 2.0L four-cylinder turbo diesel/ eight-speed is expected to return 26/33/29, albeit with more pedes-

The biggest surprise about the F-Pace is that it took Jaguar

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did not have the opportunity to take the F-Pace off-road, but with an AWD system that incorporates technology from Land Rover, it figures to be far more capable in this regard than anyone who owns one will ever need.

On road, the F-Pace's AWD system is well suited to

deal with winter road conditions when needed, and otherwise tuned to impart a suitably sporting personality to the Jaguar crossover. In normal conditions, the system channels 100 percent of its power to the back, giving the vehicle the rear-wheel-drive

trian performance (Jaguar posts a 0-60 time for that motor of 8.2 seconds).

Given their size and sticker price, few are the luxury crossovers or SUVs that actually get their tires muddy or test their skid plates' strength on a regular basis. I

this long to build it.

character favored by enthusiasts, and minimizing parasitic losses

in the drivetrain, which nibble away at mpg's. It can transfer as much as 50 percent of the available torque to the front wheels in milliseconds, to enhance traction, whether for weather or for spirited driving. Despite *Continued on page 2* 

2017 Maserati Ghibli SQ4 Demo, Auto, V6, Stk# M202, MSRP \$89,320, 257 Miles

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