

AUDI OF AMERICA DROPS THE TOP ON THE ALL-NEW 2017 R8 V10 SPYDER

25/01/2017

- **The R8 V10 Spyder merges impressive performance with the allure of open-top driving; roof opens or closes in 20 seconds at speeds of up to 31 mph**
- **The open-top performance sports car sprints from 0-60 mph in 3.5 seconds, same as the R8 V10 Coupe, and reaches a top speed of 198 mph**
- **Utilizing the same naturally aspirated V10 engine as the Spyder, three Audi R8 LMS GT3 cars kick-off the 2017 IMSA race season at the Rolex 24 at Daytona**

Offering the breathtaking performance, precise handling and driver focused-interior of the R8 V10 Coupe combined with the allure of open-top driving, Audi of America drops the top on the second generation R8 V10 Spyder. With 540 hp and 398 lb-ft of torque, the 2017 R8 Spyder is faster and more powerful than its predecessor, delivering an even more thrilling driving experience.

The R8 Spyder features the same naturally-aspirated 5.2-liter V10 engine and seven-speed S-tronic dual-clutch transmission as the R8 V10 Coupe. The lightweight cloth roof, which is complemented by the added lower sideblade, combine perfectly with the Spyders strikingly athletic design. Its strong backbone is the newly developed ASF aluminum and carbon fiber construction. Like its predecessors, the interior pays homage to the shape of a racecar cockpit, with driver-oriented, easy-to-operate controls and functions, including the fully digital Audi virtual cockpit.

Strong motorsport DNA

Each generation of the R8 brings to the road know-how acquired on the racetrack and from the legacy of Audi endurance racing. Like the R8 V10 Coupe, the Spyder shares a foundation with the R8 LMS GT3 racecar. As a result of this close cooperation between racing engineers, racing drivers and developers, the R8 Spyder made significant performance gains over its predecessor.

Top down driving experience

The soft-top in the new R8 Spyder features an electrohydraulic drive system to raise and lower the roof in only 20 seconds, at speeds of up to 31 mph. The roof was developed with lightweight construction in mind, and weighs only 97 pounds, helping to keep the weight of the vehicle and center of gravity low. It can easily be opened or closed by operating the soft-top button in the center console.

When opened, the soft top folds into a flat storage compartment over the engine. With the top up, the rear window blocks the wind, or can be opened to allow the rich sound of the naturally aspirated V10 engine to flow into the vehicle cockpit.

Lightweight construction

The new R8 Spyder embodies the brands expertise in lightweight design through an all-new application of the iconic ASF lightweight chassis and the use of a high percentage of carbon fiber materials. Comprising 80 percent of the ASF, the aluminum components form a lattice structure that engineers used in order to incorporate specific reinforcements into the sills, A-posts and windshield frame. As a result, the all-new Spyder is more than 50 percent stiffer than its predecessor, allowing for a more dynamic, solid and visceral driving experience.

Powertrain and Performance

The R8 V10 Spyder with 5.2-liter engine and seven-speed S-tronic dual-clutch transmission delivers 540 hp and 398 lb-ft of torque. With its precise throttle response and free-revving ability all the way up to 8,700 rpm, the R8 V10 Spyder rapidly accelerates from 0-60 mph in only 3.5 seconds, one tenth of a second faster than the previous generation R8 V10 Spyder.

The S tronic dual-clutch transmission not only focuses on high levels of performance and acceleration and is fully integrated with the Audi drive select system. Additionally, the new transmission allows for a launch control program that provides a heightened level of acceleration through precise engine speed and an automated clutch release.

Chassis and Suspension

Similar to a racecar, the new R8 Spyder uses a double-wishbone design for both the front and rear suspension systems. The suspension weight is kept low through the use of forged aluminum control arms, while local dynamic rigidity has been enhanced by connecting the control arms directly to the ASF.

Available on 2017 R8 Spyder is dynamic steering, which offers a variable steering ratio that adjusts based on vehicle speed and the Audi drive select setting. At higher driving speeds, a less direct steering ratio helps to facilitate a more stable drive, and at lower driving speeds, a more direct steering ratio is utilized to help increase steering response for easier maneuvering.

The all-new R8 Spyder also features a completely unique application of the quattro system. By default, the majority of torque is transmitted to the rear wheels, however, given certain driving conditions, the Spyder has the ability to send up to 100 percent of all available torque to the front axle. This is made possible by new technologies such as the electronically controlled hydraulic multi-plate clutch on the front axle, torque vectoring, and quattro integration within the Audi drive select system.

High Performance Design

The exterior design of the new R8 Spyder is more strikingly athletic than its predecessor. The cockpit is positioned very far forward and prominent wheel arches are a cue to the quattro all-wheel drive. Dimensions have increased more than an inch in width but decreased in length, further emphasizing the flat, wide and muscular characteristics of the vehicle. For the first time on the Spyder, the strong shoulder line is now complemented by retaining the lower sideblade. Trapezoidal exhaust outlets highlight the distinctive rear and added ventilation across the deck lid replaces the adaptive rear spoiler and helps to improve engine cooling.

Similar to the R8 V10 Coupe, the interior is defined by the monoposto, the large arc that pays homage to the shape of a racecar cockpit, with driver-oriented, easy-to-operate controls and functions. Behind the wheel is the Audi Virtual cockpit, which replaces the classic instrument panel and instead features a large, high-resolution 12.3-inch display, delivering vibrant color at 60 frames per second.

Additional design highlights include:

- Singleframe grille with three dimensional honeycomb design and Anthracite Gray finish

- Full LED headlights with LED daytime running lights and LED taillights with dynamic turn signals
- Standard 19 5-V-spoke design cast aluminum wheels in silver finish
- Heated 18-way power sport seats including four-way power lumbar, pneumatic leg and side bolster adjustments
- Three-spoke multifunction flat-bottom sport steering wheel with shift paddles and two steering wheel-mounted satellite buttons (engine Start/Stop and Audi drive select)
- Standard Bang & Olufsen Sound System featuring 13 speakers (including integrated headrest speakers) produce 550 watts of pure, crisp sound
- MMI touch with handwriting-recognition technology

Also available for the first time on the all-new Spyder is Audi connect, offering infotainment features such as 4G LTE connectivity, destination entry via myAudi, travel information, Internet radio and a Wi-Fi hotspot for passenger use. Also, with available Audi connect, Google Earth satellite maps appear across the entire virtual cockpit allowing the driver to better navigate each turn in the road or the track ahead

Pricing Detail

Model year 2017 R8 starting manufacturer suggested retail prices:

MODEL	S t a r t i n g M S R P
R8 V10 Spyder	\$ 1 7 5 , 1 0 0

**Prices above exclude destination charge (\$1,250), taxes, title, options, and dealer charges.*

Audi R8 LMS race teams kick-off 2017 season at the Rolex 24 at Daytona

Coming off of a historic 2016 season, the all-new Audi R8 LMS won its US debut at the 2016

Rolex 24 at Daytona, as well as clinched the Manufacturers championships in GTD for both NAEC and WeatherTech. Utilizing the same naturally aspirated V10 engine as the Spyder, the Audi R8 LMS returns to the prestigious Rolex 24 at Daytona to defend its title with 3 cars from Stevenson Motorsports, Alex Job Racing and Land Motorsports.

Television coverage of 2017 WeatherTech Championship season kicks off with the 55th Rolex 24 at Daytona beginning on Saturday, January 28th at 2 p.m. ET on FOX. Television coverage in Canada will mirror the U.S. schedule on FOX Sports Racing and will also offer live streaming on IMSA.tv and the IMSA mobile app.

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Jan. 28-29

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For more information, please visit www.audiusa.com/models/audi-r8-spyder.

Always pay careful attention to the road, and do not drive while distracted.

2017 EPA estimates not available at time of publication. See www.fueleconomy.gov for updated information. Your mileage will vary and depends on several factors including your driving habits and vehicle condition.

Top track speed electronically limited in U.S. Obey all speed and traffic laws.

Audi connect should only be used when it is safe and appropriate. Audi connect services and

features are optional, provided with the support of authorized affiliated and third party service providers, and may require additional subscriptions with separate terms and conditions. Services are subject to change, and Google Earth and Street view services may not be available after December 2017. Certain services collect location information, see Terms of Service for information about how to disable and for other details.

About Audi

Audi of America, Inc. and its U.S. dealers offer a full line of German-engineered luxury vehicles. The Audi Group is among the most successful luxury automotive brands globally. In 2016, AUDI AG delivered about 1.871 million Audi automobiles and broke all-time company sales records for the seventh straight year in the U.S. Visit www.audiusa.com or media.audiusa.com for more information regarding Audi vehicles and business topics.

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