

## Fashion First, Function Second

### Compact Luxury SUV Prioritizes Looks and Cachet Over Practicality

By Derek Price

CARGAZING.COM

The 2025 Range Rover Evoque continues to turn heads with its striking design, proving that sometimes, looks really do matter.

After a week behind the wheel of the Dynamic SE trim, it's clear that while the Evoque may not be the most practical choice in its segment, it offers a uniquely upscale experience that's hard to match at this price point.

Years after its debut, the Evoque remains one of the most visually appealing SUVs on the road. Its sleek silhouette, floating roof and distinctive Range Rover design cues create a presence that punches well above its weight class.

The interior follows suit, with a minimalist design that somehow manages to feel both modern and luxurious. It's a testament to Land Rover's ability to create an upscale ambiance even in its smallest Range Rover offering.

Under the hood, a 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine produces 246 horsepower and 289 lb-ft of torque. While not earth-shattering, it provides adequate performance for daily driving. The nine-speed automatic transmission shifts smoothly, contributing to the Evoque's refined driving experience.



The Evoque's striking silhouette and distinctive Range Rover design cues make it one of the most visually appealing compact SUVs on the market.

The Evoque's on-road manners are commendable, with a comfortable ride and composed handling. However, it's worth noting that despite the Range Rover badge, this is very much an urban crossover. It lacks the serious off-road chops of its larger siblings, focusing instead on delivering a polished on-road experience.

Inside, the Evoque's cabin is a study in minimalist luxury. The centerpiece is an 11.4-inch curved glass touchscreen that controls most vehicle functions. While it fits the car's aesthetic perfectly, it can be distracting to

use while driving, and some may miss the tactile feedback of physical buttons.

Space utilization is a mixed bag. Front passengers enjoy comfortable, supportive seats and a good driving position. However, rear seat space is tight for adults, and cargo capacity is less than you might expect from an SUV, even a compact one.

The Evoque comes well-equipped with modern tech features. Our tester included the optional Technology Pack, adding features including a head-up display and premium sound system. The Meridian surround sound

system is particularly impressive, delivering rich, clear audio that enhances the premium feel.

Fuel economy, rated at 20 mpg in the city and 27 mpg on the highway, is disappointing for a vehicle of this size. Competitors in this class often deliver better efficiency, which may be a consideration for some buyers.

At \$61,765 as tested, the Evoque Dynamic SE isn't cheap. However, for those who prioritize style and brand prestige, it offers a lot of curb appeal for the money.

The Range Rover name

carries significant cachet, and the Evoque delivers that experience in a more accessible package than its larger stablemates.

Ultimately, the 2025 Range Rover Evoque is a niche product that knows its audience. It's not the most practical, efficient or off-road capable vehicle in its class.

But for buyers seeking a distinctively stylish, luxurious compact SUV with a prestigious badge, the Evoque delivers in spades. It's a rolling fashion statement that happens to be a quite competent urban runabout.

#### AT A GLANCE

##### WHAT WAS TESTED?

2025 Range Rover Evoque Dynamic SE (\$54,900). Options: Cold climate pack (\$980), technology pack (\$1,400), black exterior pack (\$750), premium paint (\$950), interior protection and storage (\$560), Meridian surround sound (\$450), WiFi enabled (\$360), emergency pack (\$75), handover pack (\$65). Price as tested (including \$1,275 destination charge): \$61,765

##### BY THE NUMBERS

Wheelbase: 105.6 in.  
Length: 172.1 in.  
Width: 82.7 in.  
Height: 64.9 in.  
Engine: 2.0-liter turbocharged four cylinder (246 hp, 289 ft. lbs.)  
Transmission: Nine-speed automatic  
MPG: 20 city, 27 highway

##### RATINGS

Style: 10  
Performance: 8  
Price: 7  
Handling: 8  
Ride: 8  
Comfort: 8  
Quality: 7  
Overall: 8

##### WHY BUY IT?

The Evoque offers distinctive styling, a luxurious interior and brand prestige in a compact package. It's perfect for style-conscious urban dwellers who want Range Rover cachet without the full-size footprint or price tag.

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A minimalist dashboard centered around a large curved touchscreen creates a modern, upscale ambiance in the Evoque's cabin, despite its compact dimensions.

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#### A CLOSER LOOK



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FACTS, FIGURES AND RATINGS

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