

# Surprise package By Joe Sage

**W**e did a full writeup of this highly developed multi-purpose vehicle (Kia does not like the term minivan) two issues back, following its launch in California, which you can find online. The Kia Sedona is evolutionary, able to work as a traditional minivan—it still has sliding rear doors—or taking on the functions and feel of anything from a luxury SUV to a daily driver sedan.

We have here an SX Limited (a.k.a. SXL)—the top of the line. Sedona starts at just \$25,900, while this one as outfitted passes the \$40,000 mark. Every trim level has the same powertrain, steering, braking and appealing, un-minivanlike handling. By the time you get to the SXL, you have added a lot—some of which kicks in at various midlevel trims, some of which may be optional and some of which is unique to this model.

One of everybody's favorite SXL-only features is the second row, featuring "first class lounge seats." Slide back, feet up and stretch out in full recliner-and-ottoman living room comfort. Grab some chips and tune in the big game, or make that confident business call—from this luxurious

perch, the world is yours. (These reduce the top model's total seat count from eight to seven.)

No chauffeur? As the driver, you will enjoy Kia's well-implemented UVO infotainment and eServices interface, as well as nimble rack and pinion hydraulic steering and surprisingly fine handling from a chassis of 76 percent ultra-high and high-strength steel. We were seldom reminded of the van's large size, as it turns tight, parks easily and handles the Valley's competitive freeways like something much smaller and sportier.

If you need a minivan's capabilities, the Kia Sedona delivers them all, in reinterpreted premium style and finish. If you don't need a minivan, Sedona still delivers a premium ride and personal environment, with tons of room for daily hauling and special activities—augmented by the fact that this vehicle has a tow capacity of 3500 pounds. And if you do need a minivan but are in some degree of denial about that, the Kia Sedona—with its modern, aggressive styling and carlike road handling—is clearly a remarkably balanced choice for you. ■

## SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE / DRIVETRAIN	.....3.3L DOHC GDI V6 / FWD
HORSEPOWER / TORQUE	.....276 hp / 248 lb-ft
STEERING	.....Rack & pinion hydraulic power
TURNING CIRCLE	.....36.8 ft
SEATING	.....7 passengers
CARGO VOLUME	.....total 142.0 cu.ft.
	.....behind 2nd row 78.4 cu.ft.
	.....behind 3rd row 33.9 cu.ft.
WHEELS	.....6.5x19
BRAKES	.....Power hydraulic vacuum, ABS
WEIGHT	.....4414-4720 lb
TOW CAPACITY	.....3500 lb
MPG	.....17/22/19 to 18/25/21 city/hwy/comb

**FEATURES:** Power-fold heated mirrors w turn signals, power sunroof w tilt front row, solar control glass, heated rear glass, dual power sliding doors, height adjustable smart power liftgate, variable wipers, rear wiper/washer, projector beam headlights, LED markers, fog lights, LED taillights, roof rails, keyless entry and start, Infinity audio, Bluetooth-USB, wheel-mounted controls, UVO infotainment/eServices, rear camera, backup warning, front-rear park assist, blind spot detection and rear cross traffic, drive mode select, chilled glovebox, leather seats, lumbar support, heated/vented front seats, first class 2nd row lounge seats.

<b>BASE PRICE</b>	..... <b>\$39,700</b>
<b>SXL TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE:</b> Xenon HID headlights, lane departure warn, forward collision warn, surround view monitor, smart cruise	.....2700
<b>DESTINATION CHARGE:</b>	.....895
<b>TOTAL</b>	..... <b>\$43,295</b>



*Convenient one-touch up/down windows on all four doors bring our eye to a greenhouse with great visibility and an invitation to wide open spaces, whether as a family or a solo enthusiast driver. Eyes forward, you can completely forget that whole volume of space you're carrying.*

