

New in 2008, Nissan Rogue is in just its third generation, introduced for 2021. But its 2024 styling refresh, a welcome change from their previous longstanding brandwide face, easily makes it look like an entirely new vehicle.

The big news for 2025 is the new trim we are driving here, the Rogue Rock Creek edition. In a lineup of nine trims (four FWD and five AWD), this (AWD only) is priced in the middle (see sidebar).

Its rugged adventure character starts with visuals—a gloss black grille with silver accents, a redesigned front fascia with Lava Red accents, gloss black side mirrors and a tubular roof rack, also accented in Lava Red, with cross bars. Build specifics include all-terrain tires on 17-inch satin black wheels, hill descent control and HD intelligent

Around View Monitor with off-road view, as well as Front Wide View and Invisible Hood View available throughout the lineup.

The interior is a pleasure to step into, also given an adventuresome edge, featuring water-repellent leatherette seats with red embossed name inserts, Lava Red accent stitching and black trim.

Features have some nice redundancies, such as wipers, already with clear controls for rear, front and intermittent, also displaying confirmation and options in the binnacle display.

We packed some miles on this vehicle, and we would happily do it again. Our week included multiple runs cross-valley to Phoenix Raceway, hitting plenty of heavy freeway traffic, where it proved to be highly maneuverable, with good stop and go—

the brakes performed well without a thought to them. Shift points programmed into its CVT were lag-free, although this drivetrain can produce a highly noticeable whine in some situations. One run had noise in one direction, none in the other. At other times, such as cruising speeds, we were not aware of the drivetrain noise or effects at all.

The Nissan Rogue Rock Creek has lots of happy places—rocks and creeks, for example—but we couldn't resist heading up into some eight inches of new snow still coming down north of Payson.

Headed up the Beeline Highway, we could see snow in the hills ahead, and frozen slop was soon striking our windshield. Solid going. We drove 40 miles or so along snowpacked curves and cliffs and through the forests beyond Payson, as the

temperature eased down into the 20s and variable frozen precip picked up. An orange triangle in the binnacle soon warned that forward driving aids were temporarily disabled, as the front sensors were blocked, not unusual in these conditions. (As you can see at right, they cleared up just as quickly.) It was nighttime as we drove back down the snowy, then wet, then dry hills and curves of the Beeline. Performance was tops the whole way.

We appreciate drive modes and off-road features, but we especially like a package that's so capable in default mode, you might not even think about those other options. Such was this. With constant changes in snowpack, ice, clear and/or wet pavement or dirt, we simply soldiered on, transparently and very effectively in all cases.

It's hard not to think of Nissan as a quiet giant of sorts. Anecdotally, we are surrounded by them in traffic, the newest EVs included, even in clear-



ly high-end areas. Maybe that uniform corporate face was making them all blend. The new Rogue is likely to make them more apparent. ■

Accessible adventure

BY JOE SAGE



SPECIFICATIONS

ASSEMBLY	.....Smyrna, Tennessee
ENGINE/TRANS BUILD	.....Japan / Mexico
PARTS CONTENT	.....Japan 40% / Mexico 15% / US/Canada 25%
ENGINE	.....KR15DDT 1.5L 3-cyl inline turbo, transverse, DOHC 12v, high pressure dir inj, contin var timing, alum/alum
HP/TORQUE	.....201 hp / 225 lb-ft
TRANSMISSION	.....Xtronic CVT, paddles, manual mode
DRIVE MODES	.....eco, sport, hill descent (Rock Creek only)
DRIVETRAIN	.....AWD
SUSPENSION	.....F: indep strut w coils, 24.2mm stblzr bar; R: indep multilink, (AWD) 28mm stblzr bar; twin-tube shocks, off-road-tuned (Rock Creek only)
STEERING	.....veh speed var elec pwr-asst
BRAKES	.....F: 11.65 x1.02 vented; R: 11.5 x0.63 vented
WHEELS	.....7.5x17 alum alloy, dark painted
TIRES	.....235/65R17 A/T
LENGTH / WHEELBASE	.....183.0 / 106.5 in
HEADROOM (F/R)	.....(wo mnrf) 41.1 / 39.2 in
LEGROOM (F/R)	.....41.5 / 38.5 in
GROUND CLEARANCE	.....8.2 in
APPR / DEPART / BRKOVER	.....19.0 / 23.6 / 17.9°
TURNING CIRCLE	.....35.4 ft
CARGO CAPACITY	.....31.6 / 74.1 cu.ft
TOW CAPACITY	.....(when equipped) 1500 lb
WEIGHT / DISTRIB	.....3713 lb / 59/41%
GVWR	.....4685 lb
FUEL / CAPACITY	.....reg unl / 14.5 gal
MPG	.....27/32/29 (city/hwy/comb)

BASE PRICE	.....\$35,420
PREMIUM PAINT	.....425
ROCK CREEK PREMIUM PKG:	Hands-free power liftgate, reverse tilt-down outside mirrors, memory driver seat and outside mirrors, 4-way pwr passenger seat, heated steering wheel, wireless charging pad
DESTINATION CHARGE	.....800
TOTAL	.....\$37,945

2025 NISSAN ROGUE LINEUP

	.....FWD	.....AWD
S	.....\$29,230	.....\$30,630
SV	.....30,970	.....32,370
Rock Creek	.....	.....\$35,420
SL	.....36,090	.....37,490
Platinum	.....39,520	.....40,920