

In all areas of our life we should be looking at ways to help protect the environment and here at Easi-Drive, this has been a priority for a number of years.

The main criteria of a car hire and specifically the car's eco-friendliness is generally seen as the energy it uses in its operation. Cars have primarily run on oil-based fuel in the form of petrol or diesel for over a century. But we are now at the point where demand for oil is rising so much, and reserves are declining, that oil is actually running out. Oil prices have always been volatile and they react to speculation about events ranging from terrorism to hurricanes, but rising demand and diminishing reserves mean that overall, oil is just going to keep on getting more expensive. However despite this, most cars today still rely on oil as their primary source of energy; and oil is obviously a key contributor to carbon emissions, and climate change.

So, Petrol or Diesel?

The Easi-Drive vehicles fleet is generally never more than 12 months old meaning we are completely at the mercy of the Manufacturers in terms of emission cutting methods.

Petrol has been the most popular fuel for cars in the UK for years; petrol engines are generally quiet and smooth, they are responsive and their performance is good. Petrol is currently slightly cheaper than diesel. Petrol engines emit around 10% more carbon dioxide than diesel. However petrol cars pump out less toxic emissions than diesel. Unfortunately at the moment there is no single source of fuel which can compare with petroleum in terms of its instant bulk availability, energy density and (relative) cheapness.

Diesel engines are more economical than petrol engines, therefore they emit less CO₂. New 'common rail' diesels are approximately 10% more efficient than older diesels, and direct-injection diesel engines give the best fuel economy, diesels emit more particulates than petrol – but diesel engines with a particulate trap help prevent emissions of sooty particulates – ie. the clouds of smoke that you'll experience if you follow old buses through towns. So diesel engines will generally provide you with more miles per gallon than their equivalent petrol models. Diesel is currently more expensive to buy than petrol, and the forecasts are that diesel prices will continue to rise more steeply than petrol in the near future.

Diesel engines have always been seen as slow and noisy, however technology has seen some remarkable advances in recent years; for instance Honda has developed their own diesel engine that is designed to be quiet, refined, clean and with instant response – fighting against all the old stereotypes.

What the future holds

Currently they are too close to call but ultimately manufacturers will have to find a proper alternative in order to survive. Most of the Easi-Drive Fleet is actually replaced every 6 months meaning we are right on top of our emission cutting targets.

At Easi-Drive we care about the environment and we therefore wish to promote good environmental practice at all levels – both internally and externally. We will continually seek to minimise the negative impacts upon the environment that may be caused by ourselves, our partners and our clients. We also strive to improve our environmental performance to ensure that our activities contribute to the sustainable development of the communities in which we operate.

- Compensation Claims
- Vehicle Recovery
- Damage Assessment
- Replacement Vehicles
- Insurance Company Liaison
- Credit Repair

0870 330 9770
www.easidrive.com