

National – April 27, 2018

ride review

# A MIXED BAG

**T**OYOTA has managed to put together an all-rounder of sorts in the form of the Yaris. It looks good, drives well, and comes across as a refined bit of machinery that will do the duty of ferrying you and your family around in comfort. It boasts of an outstanding build quality and a rather frugal engine as well.

## Stately appeal

As far as the looks are concerned, the car doesn't have a ground-breaking new design, however, the simple no-nonsense approach seems to have worked. The front end is dominated by the large black grille and to add a hint of spice, you do get a neat-looking projector headlamp with LED DRL strips. Viewed from the side, the vehicle actually reminds you of the older Corolla. The rear makes the Yaris look like it belongs in a more premium segment.

Set to debut in the midsize sedan segment, the Toyota Yaris is a practical choice as it ticks all the right boxes

**MOTORSCRIBES**

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## Feature-rich cabin

The interior has been kitted out quite well with the top-end variant getting leather seats and an electrically adjustable driver seat as well. There is ample room for the front passengers, however, the rear bench, while comfortable, might be a bit of a squeeze for three people. In terms of creature comforts, the Yaris gets the start/stop button, an electronically adjustable driver seat, roof-mounted air vents, cruise control, rain sensing wipers, and an infotainment system with gesture control. Sadly, Toyota has left out the ability to connect your phone via Android Auto or Apple CarPlay, but you do get MirrorLink. The CVT variant gets paddle shifts for that sporty driving feel.

## Petrol performance

The automobile is powered by a 1.5-litre, 16-valve dual VVT-I four-cylinder petrol engine that delivers 107 PS of power and 140 Nm of torque. It is a refined unit that is rather frugal as well. The six-speed manual version delivers a solid 17.1 kmpl while the seven-speed CVT variant does a slightly better 17.8 kmpl. The suspension has been tuned to be absolutely perfect in order to offer an excellent ride quality and despite that soft smooth ride, it doesn't lose its line around corners either.

## The verdict

To keep things safe, the car comes with seven airbags, ABS, brake assist, vehicle stability control, hill start assist, front and rear parking sensors, a reverse camera and a tyre pressure monitoring system. With the Yaris, Toyota has ticked all the right boxes and more. It is a car that comes across as the complete package and it has the best CVT automatic on offer in its segment. It is nice to drive, extremely refined, and is expected to be priced very aggressively.

— Vikram Gour

