

Škoda Trekka (1966-1972)

The Trekka was produced between 1966 and 1972, specifically designed and engineered for the market in New Zealand. It was based on the modified chassis of the Škoda Octavia Super and used its drivetrain including a four-stroke in-line four-cylinder engine with a displacement of 1221 cc, generating 40 horsepower. The vehicle was equipped with a four-speed gearbox, allowing it to reach speeds of up to 105 km/h. The Trekka had a shorter wheelbase compared to the Octavia Super, which improved its off-road characteristics. Additionally, a differential lock for the driven rear wheels was available as an option.

The optimal vehicle for outdoor activities

The Trekka was designed to handle various terrains and was suitable for outdoor activities and commercial applications. With nearly 3,000 units built, it was the first passenger vehicle developed and produced in New Zealand. The local Škoda general importer in Otahuhu near Auckland City initiated the development of the Trekka to create an affordable and practical vehicle for farmers, artisans, and other businesses. The Trekka was offered in different body styles, such as a three-door pick-up with a canvas or hard plastic roof, and included features like a removable top made of glass fibre reinforced plastic.

Legacy and historical context

The Trekka's production in New Zealand required Škoda' to adapt to local market needs. The experience gained with the Trekka helped the development of other models for specific markets, such as the Skopak for Pakistan and the Škoda 1202 Kamyonet for Turkey. The 1969 Trekka is now part of a private Czech collection and another one is displayed at the Škoda Museum.

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