

First drive in Morocco: hybrid meets high performance in the new Audi RS 5

Ingolstadt, March 3, 2026 – The new Audi RS 5* is Audi Sport’s first high-performance plug-in hybrid (PHEV) – with real RS DNA and the highly tuned hybrid technology to match. This sports car marks a bold new direction for Audi, pairing maximum performance with remarkable efficiency. For the first time at Audi Sport, the powertrain pairs a 2.9-liter twin-turbo V6 outputting 375 kW (510 PS) and a 130-kW electric motor. Global media gathered in Morocco to experience the A5 series’ flagship model in action for the first time. As well as bespoke RS sport suspension with twin-valve shock absorbers, the guests put the brand-new quattro drivetrain with Dynamic Torque Control – enabling electromechanical torque vectoring at the rear axle – through its paces in a first drive. Here are some of the key takeaways from Audi CEO Gernot Döllner, Product Line Manager Horst Hanschur, Audi Sport GmbH Managing Director Rolf Michl, and Steffen Bamberger, Head of Technical Development at Audi Sport GmbH.

Gernot Döllner, CEO of AUDI AG:

- “With the [new RS 5*](#), our first high-performance plug-in hybrid, we’re delivering triple the value to our customers: genuine everyday usability, the benefits of electric mobility, and undiluted RS performance. As in motorsport, efficiency and excitement complement each other to create a perfect overall driving experience.”
- “Driving here in Morocco – with scorching heat, dust, and challenging mountain roads – shows just how confidently and reliably our first high-performance plug-in hybrid handles real-world conditions. This is what *Vorsprung durch Technik* is all about: true innovation proves itself not on a test rig but out on roads around the world. The new Audi RS 5* stands for exactly that – high performance that delivers everywhere.”
- “Our world-first technology, quattro with Dynamic Torque Control, really demonstrates that ultimate agility and absolute stability aren’t opposites – they actually complement each other. Electromechanical torque vectoring at the rear axle gives the new Audi RS 5* precision and control that seamlessly blend sporty dynamics and safety. In Morocco’s tight mountain bends, you instantly feel how harmoniously these capabilities interact to create a completely new driving experience.”

The equipment, data and prices specified in this document refer to the model range offered in Germany. Subject to change without notice; errors and omissions excepted.

**The collective fuel/electric power consumption and emissions values of all models named and available on the German market can be found in the list provided at the end of this text.*

Horst Hanschur, head of the PPC/MLB product line at AUDI AG

- “The sporty design – with wheel arches widened by 40 mm and alloy wheels up to 21 inches – combines muscular proportions with elegant lines. The RS 5* is unmistakably a true quattro.”
- “The combination of sports car and practical interior layout makes the new RS 5* a real all-rounder. The new sedan design gives customers a generously sized trunk lid for easy loading and unloading, with a look that’s short and truly dynamic.”
- “We aim to deliver performance when you want it, comfort when you need it. The RS 5* does just that.”
- “Performance is definitely a core focus for the RS 5*. At the same time, we’ve built a car that promises enjoyment and practicality every day, thanks to authentic RS interior packages and a spacious cabin.”
- “If you want to take it easy in the RS 5*, you’ll appreciate the acoustic insulation, comfortable seats, and the balanced driving mode.”
- “Our lighting engineers and designers have equipped the RS 5* with dynamic highlights – optional darkened matrix LED headlights with an RS-specific, digital light signature in a checkered-flag design lend the car a powerful presence.”

Rolf Michl, Managing Director of Audi Sport GmbH:

- “As an Audi subsidiary, Audi Sport stands for high-performance models, small series, and fully customizable vehicles with Audi exclusive. The Audi RS 5* is the dynamic flagship model of the A5 line, setting new standards in technology – more than ever, the red rhombus symbolizes the perfect alliance of next-gen engineering and quattro-driven performance. And now, we’re bringing everyday usability to a new level, paired with bold, expressive design.”
- “With the Audi RS 5*, we’re launching a new performance class in the segment – thanks to cutting-edge PHEV technology, it’s nearly 200 PS stronger than its successful predecessor, the RS 4, and offers up to 825 Nm of torque. Plug-in hybrid hardware does add some weight, but that opens fresh possibilities for driving dynamics. Our electromechanical torque vectoring at the rear axle, together with the RS sport suspension, use that weight smartly. The result is a new RS 5* that drives with more precision and stability but still feels agile and light on its feet.”
- “With our Audi exclusive customization program, we offer new sporty and elegant design packages for the RS 5* that perfectly complement the high-quality materials. Extensive use of carbon – Carbon Camouflage is also available as an exterior option – accentuates the muscular look of our top athlete, continuing the widebody tradition RS models are known for.”

Steffen Bamberger, Head of Technical Development at Audi Sport GmbH:

- “We had a clear goal: a car that feels nimble, precise, and always under control. The new center differential has a preload to always remain partially locked, managing longitudinal torque distribution. Transverse torque distribution at the rear is provided by a new differential that can shift torque between the wheels in milliseconds. The RS 5* lifts traction and steering to a new level.”
- “Even in demanding, dynamic driving situations, the RS 5* keeps full control and grip, no matter what. When you want to kick out the rear, the car always stays predictable.”
- “Our RS sport suspension with twin-valve shock absorbers reacts incredibly fast, keeping the ten-percent-stiffer body perfectly in check. Whether you’re carving through twisty back roads or pushing hard on a closed course, the RS 5* offers a driving feel that’s more direct and controlled than ever.”
- “With the advanced twin-turbo V6 and electric motor working in tandem, the RS 5* gets off the line with class-leading power, covering more than 22 meters in just 2.5 seconds. Customers will feel this instant power delivery, especially in dynamic acceleration.”

Performance:

- “The hybrid drive in the new RS 5 is a crucial advantage. The electric motor works perfectly alongside the combustion engine from a standstill, delivering instant and powerful acceleration. Our high-performance plug-in hybrid offers stunning responsiveness, ultimate athleticism, and sheer driving pleasure.”
- “We’ve also improved the combustion engine. The updated 2.9-liter V6 TFSI with 510 PS delivers even more power and operates more efficiently thanks to a revised combustion process. Two variable-geometry turbochargers, optimized fuel injection, and a redesigned air intake mean quicker throttle response and maximum performance.”
- “With all components working together, the V6 engine delivers more power and works more efficiently. It transfers that power to the road with unprecedented immediacy and poise.”
- “We’ve further refined the front axle with new joints, links, and rubber bushings. Drivers will instantly notice the improved suspension tuning – meaning less pitch and roll from the body.”
- “In RS torque rear mode, all the driving excitement is sent to the rear axle for controlled drifts on closed courses. Here in Morocco, we’re testing this on parts of the course that demand expert handling. The drive torque is directed to the outer rear wheel for full control and manageability. This is the kind of dynamic maneuver that RS torque rear mode is all about, promising the playful agility our customers love.”

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The Audi Group is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium and luxury segment. The brands Audi, Bentley, Lamborghini, and Ducati produce at 22 locations in 13 countries. Audi and its partners are present in more than 100 markets worldwide.

In 2024, the Audi Group delivered 1.7 million Audi vehicles, 10,643 Bentley vehicles, 10,687 Lamborghini vehicles, and 54,495 Ducati motorcycles to customers. In the 2024 fiscal year, Audi Group achieved a total revenue of €64.5 billion and an operating profit of €3.9 billion. As of December 31, more than 88,000 people worked for the Audi Group, more than 55,000 of them at AUDI AG in Germany. With its attractive brands and numerous new models, the group is systematically pursuing its path toward becoming a provider of sustainable, fully networked premium mobility.

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Fuel/electric power consumption and emissions values of the models named above:

Audi RS 5 Avant

Fuel consumption (weighted, combined): 4.4-3.9 l/100 km (53.5-60.3 US mpg); power consumption (weighted, combined): 18.6-17.8 kWh/100 km; CO₂ emissions (weighted, combined): 100-88 g/km (160.9-141.6 g/mi); CO₂ class (weighted, combined): C-B; Fuel consumption on discharged battery (combined): 10.1-9.6 l/100 km (23.3-24.5 US mpg); CO₂ class on discharged battery: G

Audi RS 5 Sedan

Fuel consumption (weighted, combined): 4.3-3.8 l/100 km (54.7-61.9 US mpg); power consumption (weighted, combined): 18.4-17.7 kWh/100 km; CO₂ emissions (weighted, combined): 98-86 g/km (157.7-138.4 g/mi); CO₂ class (weighted, combined): C-B; Fuel consumption on discharged battery (combined): 10.0-9.5 l/100 km (23.5-24.8 US mpg); CO₂ class on discharged battery: G