



ALFA ROMEO GIULIA Ti – THE TOP CHOICE FOR A SPORTY FOUR-DOOR

by Mike Covello

Alfa Romeo recently returned to the USA with the two-seat 4C and got rave reviews. Now you can satisfy your itch for the fine pleasure of Italian-style driving in a four-door sedan, the Alfa Romeo Giulia Ti (Tourismo internazionale). What are the essential elements of a thoroughbred Italian vehicle? I am glad you asked, come along for the tour.

Alfa Romeo has been producing cars for 105 years, and has an enviable history of racing victories. In pre-Formula One Grand Prix racing, Alfa Romeo was a dominant force, winning the first Automobile World Championship in 1925. The famous Mille Miglia 1,000 mile runs through Italy provided many victory trophies for Alfas. Their iconic 8C 2300 won Le Mans from 1931-1934. Enzo Ferrari started his racing career as an Alfa Romeo driver.

The Giulia Ti offers an Italian eye-for-beauty version of a family sedan that puts the competition to shame. The classic Alfa triangular grille-center and badge are accented by large air intakes below the bumper. The cabin offers plenty of glass for excellent visibility. The rear end features an integrated spoiler lip and purposeful dual exhausts.

Besides beauty, marvelous engines are another key element that charms the owners of Italian cars. The 2.0-liter turbocharged engine produces 280 horsepower and a hefty 306 lb-ft of torque. You can choose to have the abundant power fed through the eight-speed automatic transmission to just the rear wheels, or to all four. Most memorable is the sound the engine makes. There is nothing polite about the Giulia's bark when you accelerate from 0-60 in a mere 5.1 seconds.

Inside you'll find the exquisite design and craftsmanship you'd expect from an Italian manufacturer. While the standard Ti seats are covered by a very fine grade of leather, the Lusso package adds softer leather, unique wood trim

and distinctive 18-inch alloy wheels.

It is most likely the steering wheel that will confirm your passion for a Giulia. The 4C has been highly praised for its steering, and the Giulia Ti is also getting best-in-class notices. An 11.8:1 steering ratio produces a quick 2.3 turns lock-to-lock experience. The Giulia Ti feels more like a two-seater sportscar than a family transport when you start to carve up corners on your favorite back road. Add in the Sport package's limited slip differential and your traction will be even more impressive.

The Giulia Ti is not just a toy to use on Sunday. It offers a remarkably smooth ride that will even make you happy while riding in the back seat. Luggage capacity is on par with the rest of the family sedan class. LED headlights transform night driving from a chore to a delight. Heated front seats, especially when coupled with the AWD option, makes this Alfa a marvelous choice for our country's snow belt regions.

It's been a long time since Americans could add Italian zest-for-life to their family transportation. Drive the new Alfa Romeo Ti and learn how to make every outing a passionate pleasure. □

