



Media Information
14-18 March, 2011

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible

BMW's ultimate Gran Tourer comes to the UK
Distinctive and elegant design with unique "fin" soft-top roof
Longer, lower and wider with more cabin space and luxury
Two exceptional turbocharged petrol engines
EfficientDynamics as standard, Auto Start-Stop makes debut
Newly developed chassis offers dynamic ability and refinement
Highest ever level of standard specification on a Six

BMW has a rich heritage when it comes to producing dynamic and engaging cars that are also capable of a grand tour – with the roof up or down. The BMW 327 Coupé and Sports Convertible of the late Thirties and the BMW 503 Coupé and Convertible from the Fifties were ideal in this regard. In more recent years, the BMW 6 Series Coupé of the Seventies and Eighties and the BMW 8 Series Coupé in the Nineties exemplified the genre.

For 2011, the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is a car that offers its drivers a unique blend of distinctive styling, luxury and sporting performance. Already a synonym for style, the BMW 6 Series Convertible features a powerfully contoured roof while the sweeping bonnet, set-back passenger compartment, long wheelbase and flat waistline embody more than any other BMW the key design DNA of the marque.

Two exceptional BMW turbocharged petrol engines, a newly developed chassis and a host of class-leading driver assistance technologies ensure the new BMW 6 Series Convertible isn't all show and no go, while interior space and comfort has been enhanced. Prices start from £65,680 OTR for the 640i SE Convertible and £73,430 OTR for the 650i SE Convertible.

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Design

The BMW 6 Series Convertible is instantly recognisable thanks to its long sweeping bonnet, set-back passenger compartment and the unique finned soft-top. Complementing the fins is the 'shark nose', with a large, forward-slanted BMW kidney grille, broad air intakes, wide, contoured bonnet and muscular wheel arches. The designers took their inspiration for the harmoniously curved surfaces of the body from the movement of waves sent out by the bow of a powerful motor boat. This look creates a low, wide, wedged V shape, which accentuates the car's power and exemplary road holding.

Continuing the theme, the waistline surface, which leads the body into the interior, mimics the character of a boat deck. High-quality chrome elements, such as the fog lamps consisting of a string of three LED units, on the outer edges of the front apron further accentuate the width of the car while the standard xenon headlights have BMW's familiar double corona look.

At the rear, two-part rear light clusters give the typical BMW L-shape lights a particularly sporty, dynamic edge. Inside the units, two LED-powered light strips create a striking night-time look. The rear indicators and brake lights are also LED units.

One of the major talking points of the BMW 6 Series Convertible is its roof which is a marvel of structural engineering that gives it the distinctive "fin" architecture. The multi-layer roof – which has been optimised once again in terms of its acoustic properties, thermal insulation and structural rigidity – has fins projecting out along the flanks into the rear section, accentuating the car's gracefully sweeping silhouette even more elegantly than on its predecessor. This means the transition from roofline into the boot is achieved as smoothly as on a coupé. It also means that the upright, heated, glass rear window positioned behind the rear seats can be lowered separately from the roof.

The automatic opening and closing operation for the roof is activated as standard using a button on the centre console. The Comfort Access option allows the roof to be

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opened or closed using the remote control button on the car key. Opening the roof takes 19 seconds, with closing taking 24 seconds. Both operations can be activated while on the move at speeds of up to 25mph. The fin roof of the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is available in three colours, including a new Anthracite Silver effect, which adds a stylish lustre.

Interior

Despite its lower height, the new 2+2 BMW 6 Series Convertible offers greater headroom in both the front and the rear, and height adjustment of the driver and front passenger seats now cover a greater range too.

The cabin of the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is both driver-focused yet comforting and enveloping for passengers. High-quality materials, carefully co-ordinated colours and meticulously formed surfaces combine to produce an ambience defined by luxury, sweeping dynamism and stylish functionality.

As always in BMWs all functions, including central section of the instrument panel containing the iDrive system's Control Display, the central air vents and the controls for the audio system and air conditioning, are all angled slightly towards the driver.

The front passenger area is bordered by a surface curving elegantly from the armrest over the side edge of the centre console, upwards and outwards into the instrument panel and then horizontally into the door trim, surrounding the front passenger area with a feeling of exclusive security.

The contour of the rear waistline surface, which extends slightly into the interior between the head restraints, highlights the individual seat layout of the rear. Typically, 2+2 convertibles are compromised in the back, but the increase in dimensions means that passengers in the rear seats also benefit from additional legroom.

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Another area often compromised on convertibles is boot space, but even with the roof down, the 300 litres available in the new BMW 6 Series Convertible allows enough room for two golf bags. With the roof closed, boot capacity reaches an impressive 350 litres.

In tune with the rest of the car's optimised performance and greater comfort, the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is fitted with newly developed lightweight seats with an integrated seatbelt system. Access to the rear seats is effortless courtesy of an Easy Entry function. A brief tap of a switch automatically sees the seats move as far forward as possible for easy entry. Sport seats and, for the first time, the multi-adjustable Comfort seats can be fitted as an option too. Both the standard Dakota leather and optional Exclusive Nappa leather come with BMW's exclusive SunReflective Technology. The car's leather is integrated with special colour pigments which reflect the infrared rays of sunlight, significantly reducing the build-up of heat on the surfaces when the car is parked with the top down.

Longer, lower and wider, the new car is larger in every dimension than its predecessor except height, where it now stands nearly a centimetre closer to the ground. At 4,894mm in length, the new model is 74mm longer than its predecessor, while the wheelbase has stretched similarly, to 2,855mm. The car has also grown by 39mm in width, and now measures 1,894mm across, while 9mm have been shaved off its height, to 1,365 mm.

The BMW 6 Series Convertible is produced at BMW's largest production facility in the world, Plant Dingolfing which is also home to the 5 Series and 7 Series models.

Drivetrain

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible is available from launch with two petrol engines: the 650i and 640i. Both offer unique character from their respective V8 and inline six-cylinder engines through the use of twin and single turbocharger technology to produce



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even more responsiveness and flexibility, exceptional smoothness and efficiency and, of course, high levels of power.

Model	Power Hp	Torque Nm	0 – 62mph Seconds	Top Speed Mph	Combined Mpg	CO2 Emissions g/km
BMW 650i SE Convertible	407	600	5.0	155*	26.4	249
BMW 640i SE Convertible	320	450	5.7	155*	35.8	185

*Electronically-limited.

The 4.4-litre eight-cylinder engine in the new BMW 650i Convertible is unique in that the brace of turbochargers are positioned in the V-shaped area between the cylinder banks. This design results in more efficient packaging and greater engine efficiency, in part, due to the reduced pipe length and larger cross section that minimizes pressure loss on the intake and exhaust sides of the engine. With each turbocharger supplying four cylinders and a Double VANOS variable valve system in place a maximum 407hp is developed between 5,500 and 6,400rpm, with peak torque of 600Nm available between 1,750 and 4,500rpm.

The new BMW 650i Convertible sprints from zero to 62mph in 5.0 seconds, with a top speed electronically-limited to 155mph. For a model with such blistering performance and refinement, it is also extraordinarily efficient, with an average combined fuel consumption of 26.4mpg and CO2 emissions of 249g/km.

The BMW 650i Convertible compared to its rivals:

Model	Power Hp	Torque Nm	0 – 62mph Seconds	Top Speed Mph	Combined Mpg	CO2 Emissions g/km
BMW 650i SE Convertible	407	600	5.0	155*	26.4	249
Mercedes SL500	388	530	5.4	155*	24.4	272
Jaguar XK Portfolio 5.0L Convertible	385	515	5.6	155*	25.2	264

*Electronically-limited.

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The six-cylinder in-line engine in the new BMW 640i Convertible uses single turbocharger technology alongside direct injection with Double VANOS and VALVETRONIC fully variable valve control. This enables the 3.0-litre unit to develop a maximum 320hp at 5,800rpm and maximum torque of 450Nm between 1,300 and 4,500rpm. This engine propels the BMW 640i Convertible from zero to 62mph in 5.7 seconds and on to an electronically limited top speed of 155 mph.

Perhaps even more remarkable are its efficiency figures. The BMW 640i Convertible achieves 35.8mpg on the combined cycle, while CO₂ emissions are only 185g/km, proving that at BMW luxurious sporting performance does not come at the expense of economy.

The BMW 640i Convertible compared to its rival:

Model	Power Hp	Torque Nm	0 – 62mph Seconds	Top Speed Mph	Combined Mpg	CO ₂ Emissions g/km
BMW 640i SE Convertible	320	450	5.7	155*	35.8	185
Mercedes SL350	315	360	6.2	155*	29.1	226

*Electronically-limited.

As with all BMWs, both derivatives of the new 6 Series Convertible come with a raft of BMW EfficientDynamics measures to reduce fuel consumption and emissions. Technology such as Brake Energy Regeneration, Electric Power Steering (EPS), the need-based operation of ancillary components and intelligent lightweight construction to ensure maximum efficiency are all standard.

Both engines also benefit from second-generation direct injection. This spray guided fuel injection technology sees injectors positioned centrally between the valves and very close to the spark plug, ensuring that fuel is injected into the cylinders with great

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precision – both in terms of the quantity of fuel involved and the duration of the injection process. The fuel is sprayed into the combustion chambers with up to 200 bar of pressure in order to deliver extremely high energy output and clean combustion. In this way, measurable reductions in fuel consumption can be achieved in everyday driving conditions. In addition, the cooling effect of the fuel injected directly into the cylinders enables a higher compression ratio, which further enhances the efficiency of the engine.

EfficientDynamics

Both new 6 Series Convertibles deploy elements of BMW's award-winning EfficientDynamics programme. These include Brake Energy Regeneration, lightweight engineering, Electric Power Steering, needs based use of ancillary components and the use of low friction fluids. On the 640i derivative things are taken a stage further with the implementation of Auto Start-Stop and active aerodynamics behind the car's kidney grille – the former being a technology that is unique in its segment.

Transmission

An eight-speed Sport automatic gearbox is standard fitment on both models, and its wide range of ratios offer a perfect balance of muscular, sprinting performance, refined high speed cruising and low speed efficiency.

Chassis

Large, luxurious and sporting convertibles need to be able to cosset passengers and also offer a thrilling driving experience. As a result, the newly developed chassis of the new BMW 6 Series Convertible comes as standard with Drive Dynamic Control, a system which allows drivers to choose how responsive they want the gearbox, steering and throttle to be. Both the double wishbone front axle and the integral rear axle are made predominantly from aluminium.

In the interests of weight optimisation, the doors, bonnet and front axle spring mounts are all aluminium, while the front side panels, roof lid and boot are made from glass fibre composite. Torsional rigidity is now 50 per cent greater than that of its predecessor.

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The chassis set-up is geared to the requirements of drivers looking for a sporting character, although the dampers also respond sensitively to bumps in the road surface under high lateral acceleration. BMW's innovative Adaptive Drive system is also available as an option so the driver can further tune the car to their desired setting. Electrically controlled dampers and an anti-roll stabilisation work together to absorb road surface imperfections according to the configuration and counteract the natural lean of a car in a corner for better handling. Adaptive Drive can be configured to 'Comfort', 'Normal', 'Sport' and 'Sport+', with each having differing performance parameters.

In addition to the standard electromechanical power steering, another unique feature in this segment is the optional Integral Active Steering system. This system combines Active Steering for the front axle with a steering rear axle, allowing the steering angle and power assistance to be controlled at both the front and the rear with the help of electric motors. This precise system sees the rear wheel turn by up to 2.5 degrees and offers extraordinary agility in dynamic driving situations, while allowing for an impressively deft touch around twisty mountain passes and in city traffic. At speeds up to 37mph the rear wheels turn in the opposite direction to the front reducing the car's turning circle by 0.5metres. Above this speed the wheels turn the same way for a more composed high speed ride.

Safety

The latest BMW 6 Series Convertible comes for the first time with an active bonnet safety system for optimum pedestrian protection. At speeds between 12mph and 34mph should the vehicle be in collision with a pedestrian and pyrotechnic actuators raise the bonnet at the front and rear. This rapid movement creates greater deformation space under the bonnet for enhanced impact absorbing capacity, thus reducing the risk of serious injury to the pedestrian.

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The Six also comes as standard with four airbags: dual stage driver and front seat passenger ones and two front side airbags. It also comes with active roll over protection system in the event of an accident and run-flat tyres with a Tyre Pressure Warning Indicator. Rear ISOFIX child seat attachments are standard. To aid driving performance and enhance safety the BMW 6 Series comes with one of the most advanced chassis systems available. Dynamic Stability Control+ features all of the functions that enable a car to make swift progress whatever the condition, but with an electronic safety blanket on hand. In addition to this the Brake Drying, Brake Fade Compensation, Brake Pre-Tensioning and Hill-Start Assistant features ensure optimum brake performance and driver comfort.

Park Assist

Thanks to the use of Electric Power Steering, the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is the only car in its class available with automatic parking as an option. Park Assist uses ultrasonic sensors integrated in the side indicator surrounds to measure the length and width of possible parking spaces next to the road at a speed of up to 20mph. By simply pressing the controller when in Park Assist mode, all the driver has to do is operate the accelerator and brake pedals and oversee the actual driving manoeuvre, while the system moves the steering wheel in order to back into the parking space.

BMW ConnectedDrive in the new 6 Series Convertible

In the new 6 Series Convertible, BMW ConnectedDrive provides a range of systems and services which, even in the premium luxury segment, are unique. Features such as Surround-view, BMW Night Vision with pedestrian recognition, Park Assist, Lane Change Warning System, Lane Departure Warning System, and Speed Limit Display are all offered.

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible is also the only car in its segment to be available with Head-up Display. The latest generation Head-up Display system features a full colour display and three-dimensional graphics to create an even sharper image. The standard 12 GB hard disk can store numerous forms of music as part of the standard Professional Multimedia Navigation system, while BMW Online systems connect the



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driver and passengers with the wider world through an integrated SIM card.

It isn't all play and no work though: BMW is the first carmaker in the world to offer in-car email display via Bluetooth. In the new BMW 6 Series Convertible, owners of a BlackBerry smartphone can access their mobile phone's email folder using the iDrive control system. Using a new Bluetooth interface to integrate the BlackBerry into the vehicle, it is possible to receive emails, show them on the Control Display and have them read to you aloud using a text-to-speech function.

Pricing and specification

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible comes with the highest ever level of standard specification on a Six. Standard for the 640i Convertible are 18-inch light alloy wheels, while the 650i Convertible comes as standard with a 19-inch light alloy wheels. Both derivatives feature Dakota leather upholstery with Sun Reflective Technology, eight-speed Sport automatic transmission, electric seat adjustment, BMW Professional Multimedia Navigation system, Xenon headlights, LED front fog lights and front and rear Park Distance Control to name but a few of the standard specification highlights.

Residual values and whole life costs:

Model	Price OTR	Residual value	BIK (year1, 40%)	Monthly BIK (40%)	Cost per mile	VED
BMW 640i SE Convertible	£65,680	31.9%	26%	£566	£1.35	£700
Mercedes-Benz SL350	£68,120	29.9%	34%	£765	£1.49	£1,600

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Model	Price OTR	Residual value	BIK (year1, 40%)	Monthly BIK (40%)	Cost per mile	VED
BMW 650i SE Convertible	£73,430	30.4%	35%	£847	£1.60	£1,600
Mercedes-Benz SL500	£81,655	27.6%	35%	£941	£1.78	£1,820
Jaguar XK Portfolio 5.0L Convertible	£75,900	28.5%	35%	£874	£1.66	£1,820

Every BMW comes as standard with three years' unlimited mileage warranty in addition to unlimited mileage 12 years' anti-corrosion warranty and three years' paintwork warranty. Likewise the first three years of ownership sees customers provided with the added peace of mind with BMW Emergency Service package and its bespoke seven day a week, 24 hour roadside care via a team of highly qualified technicians.

Historic sales:

Model	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
BMW 6 Series Coupé	1,745	1,667	1,538	1,053	1,001	538	472
BMW 6 Series Convertible	1,165	1,355	1,218	951	718	311	262

Sales breakdown of previous BMW 6 Series sales (2010):

Model	630i	635d	650i	M6
BMW 6 Series Coupé	6%	91%	1%	2%
BMW 6 Series Convertible	17%	76%	5%	2%

The BMW 6 Series Convertible goes on sale in the UK on 26 March, 2011. BMW UK expects to sell 1,000 BMW 6 Series Convertibles in its first full year.



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Further information on the new BMW 6 Series Convertible can be gained at:

www.press.bmwgroup.co.uk

www.bmw-web.tv

<http://bmw.connecteddrive.info/stage.php> *

*Some of the functions highlighted on this website are currently not available in the UK.

Ends

