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Five used cars perfect for the best UK road trips this summer

A recent survey by Volkswagen Financial Services UK (VWFS) found that almost half of Brits (47%) are planning a summer staycation this year.

Exploring these shores on the open road is back in vogue for 2021, so if you're looking to change cars and are eyeing up a potential road trip this summer, we've matched five used cars to five of the best UK-based road trips.

From Scotland's answer to Route 66 zipping across the Highlands to village hopping in the Cotswolds, each of these used Volkswagen Group models are perfect matches for these stunning domestic adventures.

Scottish North Coast – Volkswagen California

This utterly epic road trip boasts some of the most awe-inspiring scenery in Europe and takes in everything from rugged natural beauty spots to ancient castles and amazing beaches.

The official route starts and ends at Inverness Castle and your journey will wind through idyllic towns and villages such as Ullapool, Durness, John O'Groats and Dornoch.

Of course, there's only one vehicle that can kick off our list – the Volkswagen California. This icon is a rolling symbol for independence and freedom and was recently awarded five stars in the Motorhome and Campervan Design Awards Buyers Guide for 2021 by The Caravan & Motorhome Club.

In fact, the number of Volkswagen California campervans financed by VWFS increased by 621% from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. This campervan can be your beach house and return ticket, all in one, featuring plenty of space to take home comforts on the road.

It's perfect for those days when you're surfing at Caithness or canyoning at Corrieshalloch Gorge.

Peak District – ŠKODA KODIAQ

The Peak District is one of the country's best loved national parks and possibly the most famous driving route through the Peak District is Snake Pass.

Perched 510 metres above sea level at its highest point, this great mountain pass along the Pennines has beautiful, rolling hills on each side and runs along the river Ashop. This road trip is ideal for outdoor explorers so if that's your thing, it's a great place to go cycling and hiking.

That's why we've matched this road trip with the ŠKODA KODIAQ – a big seven-seater SUV with more than enough room for your bikes and hiking equipment. The KODIAQ was named Best Seven-Seater in the 2019 Auto Trader New Car Awards.

Atlantic Highway (South West) – Volkswagen Golf

This incredibly scenic road trip traverses the wonderfully picturesque counties of Somerset, Devon and Cornwall on the South West peninsula of England.

You'll experience majestic vistas of the Atlantic when you venture through the Cornish leg of the trip, but you'll also encounter dense forests, chocolate box villages, rugged coastlines and breathtaking countryside views.

We think Volkswagen's Golf is the perfect car for those winding and narrow country roads. The Golf is a very practical choice for lots of people and the sharp handling of this car makes it a joy to drive – allowing you to see the best of the South West at ease.

This fan favourite is also deceptively spacious and a very enjoyable drive; it's a fantastic match for such a tranquil road trip.

The Cotswolds – SEAT Leon

The quintessentially English Cotswolds are littered with picture-perfect villages and rustic country pubs.

The region is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and you're likely to encounter plenty of wildlife up close as you village-hop around these parts – which is sure to be a favourite with the children!

So we've paired this road trip with the SEAT Leon, voted Family Car of the Year at the 2021 Car of the Year awards. It's large enough to be practical and accommodating of all your family's luggage, yet compact enough to be a comfortable and easy drive through a very charming and quaint part of the country.

The Spanish hatchback also comes with five doors as standard, which is handy if you'll be making regular comfort breaks with little ones in the back.

The Dragon's Spine (Wales) – Audi Q5

Starting in Cardiff, this amazing road trip heads up through the South Wales Coalfield to the Brecon Beacons, before heading over the magnificent northern mountains of Snowdonia to Conwy.

This trip is a mighty 186 miles long and takes you through a variety of landscapes from bustling cities, to two stunning national parks, and many miles of beautiful countryside and old-worldly pubs.

For us, there is one car that is made for this road trip and it's the Audi Q5. Built for everyday adventures, this exciting SUV can effortlessly handle both city driving as well as more testing terrain.

With its sporty charisma, the Audi Q5 is an excellent all-rounder, boasting a 520-litre boot (enough for roughly 13 carry-on suitcases!) as well as impressively spontaneous acceleration and agile handling.

Mike Todd, CEO at Volkswagen Financial Services, said: *“There’s no denying that COVID-19 has altered our everyday lives and we can see in our data that consumer trends are shifting quite dramatically. It seems that people are swapping Mediterranean mini breaks for potentially rainy road trips, which many of us wouldn’t have predicted 18 months ago. We can give customers access to a huge variety of brilliant used cars, which could be perfect for your next domestic adventure.”*

Looking for a used car?

There’s never been a better time to finance a used car, with offers now available across the range please visit Volkswagen Financial Services UK’s all-new used car hub for more information*:

<https://customer.vwfs.co.uk/approved-used-vehicles>

*T&Cs apply. Volkswagen Financial Services.

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