

Performance *and* Panache!

2006 Lexus GS Luxury Sport Sedans



GS 300 RWD

The 2006 Lexus GS Series was introduced to journalists from all over Canada, at a recent media preview at the Aerie Resort, outside Victoria, BC.

Positioned in the mid-luxury segment of the market—with the Mercedes Benz E Class, Audi 6, and BMW 5—the innovative GS Series boasts a sleek, aerodynamic shape.

The GS 300 is the first Lexus sedan to offer AWD. The GS 300 model has a brand new 3.0 L dual VVT-i 24-valve V6 engine; the GS 430 is powered by a 4.3 L V8.

We took turns driving five GS 300s and three GS 430s along winding roads to the Nanaimo Airport, to put them to the test. After exciting slalom and extreme braking trials on the tarmac, we accelerated to 50 km/h, then cranked the wheel hard to the left—without braking. The cars made a controlled 180° turn and stopped in safety.

Besides comfort and control, the new Lexus GS Series offers:

- 6-speed electronically controlled sequential transmission;
- increased fuel economy;
- ULEV rating (Ultra Low Emission Vehicle);

- optional rear backup camera;
- low-speed manoeuvrability;
- great shoulder-check visibility;
- seven next-generation airbags;
- Smart Access (push-button start); and
- optional Mark Levinson sound system.

GS 430 Breakthrough Technology

- This is the first Lexus equipped with an electronic variable gear-ratio steering system, capable of providing true, computer-controlled steering output.
- Vehicle Dynamics Integrated Management (VDIM) anticipates stability challenges and makes nearly invisible corrections.
- The optional PCS (Pre-Collision System), through a milli-wave radar sensor located behind the grille, warns if a frontal collision is imminent. A number of advanced technologies then step in to better prepare the vehicle and its occupants.



Drop-Down Control Panel



4.3 litre V8 (GS 430)

Prices range from \$64,300 to \$88,000, plus applicable taxes.

Lexus wants their vehicles recognized as the best-made in the world and the best designed. The cars are fast, handsome, and intelligent. I have no doubt that lives will be saved through this new technology.

Readers: Tell us about your favourite vehicle. Please contact scrivener@notaries.bc.ca. ▲



The author test-driving a GS 430