

Liberty Gone

WILD

Story and photos by Richard Truesdell



Liberty CRD

The timing couldn't be better for the introduction of the Jeep® brand's advanced 2.8-liter turbo diesel engine, available in the 2005 Liberty. The Jeep Liberty is the first midsize SUV to offer this powerful yet economical option.

The 2.8-liter four-cylinder Common Rail Diesel engine is packed with innovative technology that results in a diesel engine that is powerful, quiet, smooth and clean-running.

Thanks to modern advancements such as Multi-Pilot Direct Injection, dual overhead camshafts and gear-driven balance shafts, Jeep Liberty CRD's engine runs as smoothly as a conventional gasoline engine.

Beyond the improvement in fuel economy, the CRD offers Liberty owners two other major advantages. The excellent low-end torque characteristics provide increased capability off-road, while the wide power band gives the Liberty extreme towing capabilities.

Liberty CRD—it's a cleaner-running diesel that's ready to hit the dirt!

 For more information about the Jeep Liberty CRD, visit jeep.com.

The stunning settings were out of the pages of *National Geographic*; Victoria Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of the world; Botswana's Elephant Valley and spectacular vistas and sunsets, known nowhere else on the planet. What could be a better real-world test of the 2005 Jeep® Liberty than to challenge its "go anywhere, do anything" capabilities here?

The Jeep brand used the occasion of its international 2005 introduction last fall to invite automotive journalists to southern Africa to see for ourselves the many ways the new Liberty (or Cherokee as it's known in markets outside of North America) has been updated. We also got a firsthand

look at the new 2.8-liter Liberty CRD with the same turbo diesel power now available in the United States.

Forget everything you know about old-time diesels—their noise, vibrations and smell—this one is different; it's quiet, smooth and unobtrusive. Off-roaders will enjoy its class-leading low-end torque, while those who commute great distances will appreciate its fuel economy. Over our 500-mile route spanning three days, our Liberty averaged more than 21 mpg*, including several challenging off-road sections.

"With its 160-horsepower four-cylinder CRD engine, you have the best of all worlds—the torque



As they traveled throughout southern Africa, groups of journalists shared bottles of water with children and spent time with the locals.



of a V8, the performance of a V6 and the fuel economy of a four-cylinder engine," says Craig Love, Jeep® Vice President, Rear Wheel Drive Product Team.

All of the new Liberty's capabilities were put to the test over the three-day program that started at the Royal Livingstone Hotel, a short hike from Victoria Falls. The first night we were briefed on the rough-and-tumble route, getting instructions from a team of experienced guides led by Canadian Duncan Barbour.

Day two we traversed much of Namibia, about 250 miles mostly on-road over the famed Caprivi Strip, to reach our destination, the Elephant Valley Lodge in Botswana near the border of Zimbabwe.

Day three was the highlight of our adventure, with a drive through Chobe National Park, where we were fortunate enough to see wildlife of every size and stripe. Over one 10-mile stretch just before sundown we got up close and personal with elephants, giraffes, impalas and even a jackal.

The Jeep 4x4 was up to the task, including a formidable off-road section littered with fallen trees, deep trenches, dry riverbeds and rocky bush tracks. The Liberty CRD tackled and overcame all obstacles, especially tricky and

THE LIBERTY CRD TACKLED AND OVERCAME ALL OBSTACLES

technical downhill sections that took full advantage of the low range of the Liberty's transfer case, and the engine-braking abilities of the diesel.

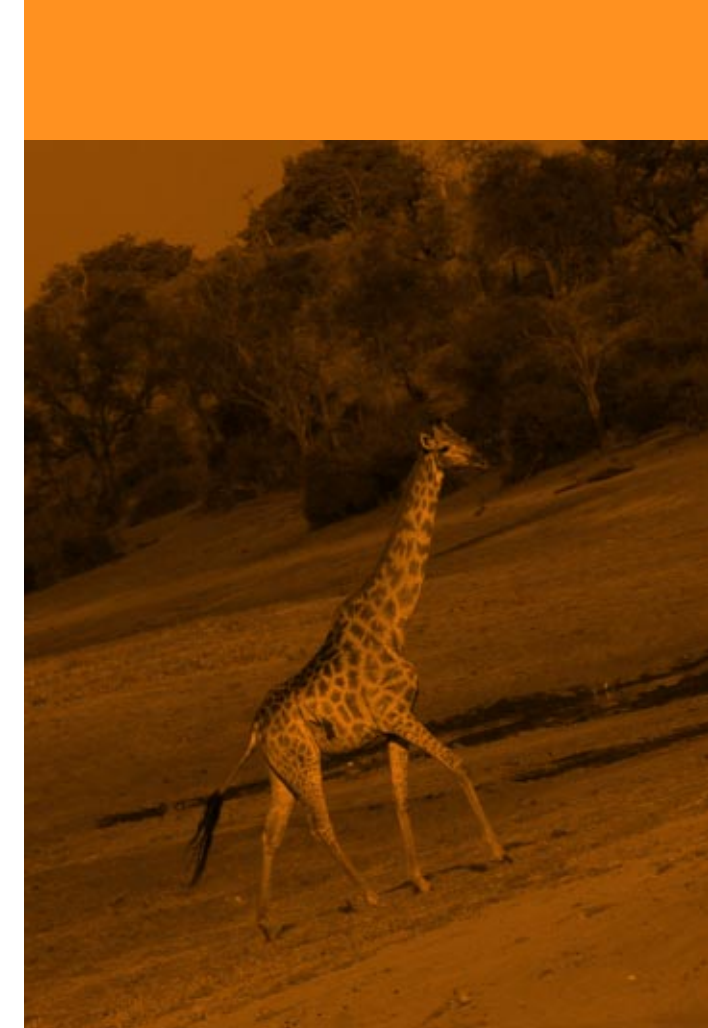
Day four, after a short drive back to the Royal Livingstone and an exciting 30-minute helicopter flight over Victoria Falls, we departed to the Livingstone International Airport for the start of our journey back to the United States. During the four-day visit we amassed a lifetime's worth of memories, and the abilities of the 2005 Jeep Liberty CRD made capturing the experience easy.

Behind the scenic splendor and diversity of the southern African outback is the abject poverty under which most of its inhabitants live combined with the scourge of the AIDS virus.

One way this plague can be contained is through education, and the Jeep® brand is doing its part.

DaimlerChrysler showed its appreciation for the hospitality the people of the town of Mable extended to groups of visitors by painting the local day care center and installing windows in the town's schools.

*Based on preliminary 2005 Liberty CRD EPA Estimates.



Exceptional Coverage Comes Standard

At DaimlerChrysler Corporation, our goal is to make the highest-quality Jeep vehicles ever. We're so confident in our products that we back them with a 7-Year/70,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty*. It covers the hardest-working parts of your new Jeep vehicle—including the engine and transmission—so you're protected best where you need it most. It also features 24-hour towing assistance†. To top it off, all of this is in addition to the standard 3-Year/36,000-Mile Basic Limited Warranty*.

***See our dealership for a copy of this Limited Warranty.**

Excludes normal maintenance and wear items. A deductible applies to the 7-Year/70,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty. Transferable to second owner with fee.

† Covers the cost of towing your vehicle to the nearest Jeep dealership if it can't be driven because a covered part has failed. Towing administered by Cross Country Motor Club, Inc., Medford, MA 02155.



B4U GO OFF-ROAD MAINTENANCE

After extended operation in mud, sand or water, or similar dirty conditions, it's a good idea to have your brake drums, brake linings, and axle joints inspected and cleaned as soon as possible. This will prevent any abrasive material from causing excessive wear or unpredictable braking action. You should also completely inspect the underbody of your Jeep® vehicle, with particular attention to the tires, body structure, steering, suspension and exhaust system. And, of course, remove any vegetation or brush that may become a fire hazard or be concealing damage to fuel lines, brake hoses, etc.