

RANGE ROVER AUTOBIOGRAPHY VS BENTLEY BENTAYGA



BY NATASHA OVERIN

Drivers in the market for an ultra-luxury SUV will find few competitors fiercer than the 2019 Bentley Bentayga and 2019 Range Rover Autobiography. While Range Rover is known for kicking up dirt offroad, Bentley's distinct British craftsmanship has a reputation of refinement. Yet the Bentayga, Bentley's premiere SUV, offers discerned drivers the best of both worlds, combining limo-like luxury with four-wheel drive capability. With near-supercar levels of performance, the Bentayga has positioned itself to be one of the fastest, most powerful production SUVs.

While both the Bentayga and Autobiography come in at similar weights, the Bentayga has over 600hp on tap from an uprated version of the twin-turbocharged W12 engine in the current model and more than enough torque to leave the Autobiography panting in the rearview mirror.

An enticing combination of beauty and brains, the Bentayga wears the look of luxury while working with the laws of physics, sprinting to 62mph in a mere 4.1 seconds, compared with 5.4 seconds for the Range Rover Autobiography.

When it comes to design, both the Bentayga and Range Rover boast impressive detail and proportion yet are strikingly different. The Bentayga retains the benchmark characteristics of its iconic Bentley heritage, including the classic flash grill and headlights. The British car is clear of any design faux pas, and the body exudes a certain level of refinement and pedigree in which Range Rover's Autobiography noticeably falls short.

Inside the Bentayga, drivers are encapsulated in luxury. The Bentayga can tear through dirt roads, through rivers and over ice, while still enjoying every interior touchpoint of coveted Bentley luxury, including the British automaker's signature sound system.

While the Autobiography is fitted with off-road capabilities, the Bentayga does an excellent job of keeping up.Bentayga's All Terrain package features a luggage management system, underfloor protection and a top-view camera for navigating trails. An expanded choice of driving modes are featured on the rotary selector, suitable for various terrain and weather.

Now celebrating its 100th anniversary, Bentley has been at the forefront of luxury for a century, and this heritage is clear. The Bentayga is the next step in the brand's evolution: a car that can handle all terrain driving and is just as suited for business as it is for pleasure. While Range Rover is building its Autobiography, Bentley's Bentayga is already living up to a legacy.