



Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009) (Europe)

[Car Page ↗](#)
[Charging ↗](#)
[FAQs ↗](#)
[Video Reviews ↗](#)

General Info

Years of Production	2007 - 2009
Market Availability	USA
Country of Manufacture	USA
Current Status	Discontinued
Body Style	Roadster
Price Europe (New/Used)	€No data/No data

Range and Efficiency

Range EPA	372 km
Range WLTP	No data
Range GCC	353 km
Battery (Usable/Nominal)	50.4/53 kWh
Efficiency (Energy/Range)	14.3 kWh/100 km
Efficiency (Range/Energy)	7 km/kWh

Charging

Architecture	400 V
Max AC Charging	16.8 kW
Max DC Charging	No data
Charge Port	Type 1 (J1772)

Performance

Drive Type	RWD IM
Motor (Power/Torque)	185 kW (248 hp)/370 Nm
Acceleration 0-100 km/h	4.2 s
Top Speed	201 km/h

Dimensions

Length	3946 mm
Width (with Mirrors/no Mirrors)	1873/1852 mm
Height	1127 mm
Wheelbase	2352 mm

Cargo and Towing

Number of Seats	2
Curb Weight	1305 kg
Cargo Volume (Trunk/Max/Frunk)	150/No data/No data l
Towing Capacity	No data

Download the latest version of this PDF: [Metric units \(km, kg\) ↗](#) [Imperial units \(mi, lb\) ↗](#)

About Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009)

Overview

The 2009 Tesla Roadster 1.5 was a true game-changer, the electric rocket that kickstarted the modern EV revolution! Based on the nimble Lotus Elise chassis, it proved electric cars could be seriously quick and desirable. This discontinued pioneer offered blistering acceleration and a then-unheard-of range, carving out a unique niche as a high-performance, zero-emissions sports car. As it was primarily a US-market vehicle and is long discontinued, official new EU pricing isn't available, and used prices vary wildly based on condition and import status. It's a collector's gem now!

What's New for 2009?

The '1.5' badge on this 2009 Roadster signified a decent step up from the very first models. Tesla tweaked the formula, rolling out an improved interior with a neater push-button gear selector – much slicker! Under the skin, the power electronics module got an upgrade for better durability, and the motor was made more efficient. They even fiddled with the HVAC system for better cabin comfort, meaning it wasn't just about raw speed, but a slightly more polished experience for lucky European importers enjoying this specific trim until its production ended in 2009.

Design & Exterior

You can't mistake the 2009 Tesla Roadster 1.5's DNA – it screams Lotus Elise, but with an electric heart! Its compact, targa-topped carbon fibre body measures just 3946 mm long, a sleek 1852 mm wide (excluding mirrors), and a super-low 1127 mm tall. This two-seater roadster looks an absolute pocket rocket, designed for pure driving thrills rather than outright practicality. The '1.5' trim kept the iconic, minimalist sports car aesthetic, making it a head-turner then and now, promising a raw connection to the road.

Interior, Tech & Cargo

Inside the Roadster 1.5, it's a snug, driver-focused affair – think minimalist sports car rather than luxury cruiser. Materials are functional, designed to keep weight down. Passenger space is intimate, as you'd expect from a two-seater. For luggage, you get a modest 150-litre boot in the back; there's no frunk on this model. Tech was basic by today's standards, typically featuring an Alpine head unit for tunes and an essential vehicle info display, but don't expect fancy touchscreens or modern smartphone integration. It's all about the drive!

Performance & Driving Experience

Hold on tight! The Roadster 1.5, with its single rear-mounted Induction Motor (IM), punches out 185 kW and a chunky 370 Nm of instant torque. This rear-wheel drive setup translates to a grin-inducing 0-100 km/h sprint in just 4.2 seconds – supercar-bothering stuff for its era, with a top speed of 201 km/h! Being featherlight (1305 kg curb weight), the handling is pure go-kart: direct, agile, and incredibly engaging. Regenerative braking helps top up the battery while you're having fun, making every drive an event.

Range, Battery & Charging

Packing a 50.4 kWh usable battery, Green Cars Compare calculates a real-world range of around 353 kilometres for the Roadster 1.5 – impressive for its day, with an efficiency of 7 km/kWh. For charging, it

features a surprisingly potent 16.8 kW on-board AC charger, meaning a full top-up could take around 3 hours. However, it uses a Type 1 (J1772) port, common in North America, so European owners would need an adapter for Type 2 outlets. Standardised DC fast charging wasn't a feature on this 400V architecture early pioneer.

Safety & Driver-Assistance Features

Safety kit in the 2009 Tesla Roadster 1.5 was pretty basic, reflecting its sports car roots and the era it was born in. Don't expect a Euro NCAP star rating, as it was a low-volume specialist vehicle and official ratings are unavailable. Standard features likely included essentials like anti-lock brakes (ABS) and traction control to keep things pointing the right way. However, the advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) we see today, such as adaptive cruise control or lane-keeping assist, were simply not part of its electrifyingly raw package.

Warranty & Maintenance Coverage

Back in 2009, Tesla's warranty for the Roadster 1.5 would have been competitive for an early EV, likely a few years for the vehicle and a longer period, perhaps 8 years, for the precious battery pack. Maintenance is generally simpler than combustion cars – no oil changes! – but specialist knowledge for its unique powertrain was key. Being a trailblazer, early Roadsters had some quirks, but many have proven surprisingly resilient, becoming cherished icons. Finding specialist support today is crucial for upkeep of this discontinued model.

How powerful is it? How fast does it accelerate?

The Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009) can accelerate from 0 to 60 mph in 4 seconds ([Nº24 out of 119 ranked positions](#), among 968 electric vehicles, with some cars sharing positions) and reach a top speed of 125 mph.

The car's powertrain delivers up to 185 kW (248 hp) of power and 273 lb-ft of torque.

How far can it go on single charge? What is the real-world range?

Real-world range of the Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009) is 219 miles ([Nº155 out of 264 ranked positions](#), among 968 electric vehicles, with some cars sharing positions) — depending on several factors, including:

- Speed: Higher speeds deplete the battery faster.
- Temperature: Extreme cold and hot weather impacts range.
- Terrain: Hilly or mountainous terrain reduces range.
- Driving style: Aggressive driving with frequent acceleration and braking consumes more energy.
- Use of features: Features like climate control and media system also affect range.

It's important to remember that these are just estimates, and your actual range may vary. It's always best to factor in these various factors when planning your trip and be prepared for potential charging stops.

Plan your trips using the [EV Navigation interactive map](#).

What charging options are available? How long does it take to charge it?

In the USA Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009) has a Type 1 (J1772) charge port.

- You can charge it at home using a standard domestic socket or plug into any public AC charging station using the right cable. Keep in mind that the car's on-board charger (inverter) limits the maximum AC charging rate to 16.8 kW, which translates to approximately 66 miles of range added per hour of charging.
- The car doesn't support DC charging

Estimate charging time, rate and cost using [EV Charging Calculator](#).

How big is it? What are the dimensions (length, width, height)?

Here are the dimensions and weight for the Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009):

- Length: 155.4 in
- Width: 73.7 in (including side mirrors) or 72.9 in (excluding side mirrors)
- Height: 44.4 in
- Wheelbase: 92.6 in (distance between the center of the front and rear wheels)
- Curb weight: 2877 lbs (weight of the empty car, no people or cargo)

How much cargo space does it offer? Does it have a front trunk?

Here's a breakdown of the Tesla Roadster 1.5 (2007-2009) cargo space:

- Trunk capacity: With the rear seats up, you get 5.3 cubic feet of cargo space in the back ([Nº162 out of 165 ranked positions](#), among 968 electric vehicles, with some cars sharing positions).
- Max cargo capacity: Fold down the rear seats, and you open up cubic feet of total cargo space ([Nº out of ranked positions](#), among 968 electric vehicles, with some cars sharing positions).
- Frunk capacity: The car doesn't have a "frunk" (front trunk).

Is it suitable for towing? What is the maximum towing capacity?

The car isn't officially rated for towing.

Download the latest version of this PDF: [Metric units \(km, kg\) ↗](#) [Imperial units \(mi, lb\) ↗](#)

<https://greencarscompare.com/cars/tesla-roadster-2007/>