

## History of the Scion iQ by Betsy Bearden

Q—iQ: it's the brand-new number in town. If gas mileage is your game, then iQ is the name. The Scion iQ is truly the most fuel-efficient non-hybrid car on the road today. Most people may expect that due to its size, the Scion iQ would be a stripped-down car without much more than fuel economy to offer, and that its cabin would be a tight squeeze for most people at best.

Not true at all—as with all Scion models, the iQ comes fully equipped with lots of great standards. It offers 16-inch wheels; full power accessories and air-conditioning; a leather-wrapped tilt steering wheel with audio controls; a 50/50-split-folding rear seat (yes, there is actually a rear seat); Bluetooth; and a four-speaker sound system with a CD player, HD radio, an auxiliary audio jack and a USB port.

Seating—it has been categorized as a 3+1 seating capacity. There is plenty of room for three adults to comfortably fit in the iQ, leaving the seat behind the driver's seat available for a child or baby in a car seat. There are also cup holders and a few little cubbyholes for stowing things away.

This micro subcompact car can turn on a dime, zip through city traffic, park anywhere, go anywhere, and is very stable on the expressway at higher speeds. It is equipped with the Star Safety System and offers front side airbags, front side curtain airbags, front knee airbags and three more airbags not commonly found in other cars: front seat-cushion airbags and a rear-window airbag that deploys around the rear seat headrests.

The Scion iQ comes standard with front-wheel drive and has a 1.3-liter inline-4 engine that offers 94 horsepower and 89 pd-ft of torque. Not the most powerful car in the world, but this is actually what we all came for: the Fuel Economy. As far as fuel economy, the iQ gets 36 mpg city and 37 mpg highway. It might well be considered a good little grocery-getter and run-about-town while you're looking-kinda-cute-in- it, kind of car. But it's loaded with everything you could possibly want, is roomier than it appears to be, and it gets the best gas mileage in town, to boot.

### *References:*

*<http://www.autoguide.com/manufacture/scion/2012-scion-iq-review-video-1583.html>*

*<http://www.edmunds.com/scion/iq/2012/#fullreview>*