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Fuel crisis: Europcar urges businesses to access electric vehicle rental

Flexible electric van rental offers immediate cost-efficient alternative to eye-watering diesel costs with no long-term commitment

Europcar is urging businesses operating diesel van fleets to explore electric vehicle rental as an immediate and flexible alternative, as fuel costs reach levels not seen in years. EV rental will also help address the price shock for business car usage.

The conflict in Iran has triggered a record surge in UK fuel prices with diesel users facing the biggest price hikes. The average price of a litre of diesel in the UK has risen by 40p to 182.8p, pushing the cost of a full tank past £100 for the first time since December 2022.

With around 4.7 to 5 million light commercial diesel vans on UK roads, the financial impact for businesses of all sizes is significant. According to RAC data, a vehicle filling up weekly is now facing an additional overhead of over £18 per fill compared to pre-conflict levels - equivalent to more than £900 in extra annual fuel costs per van.

Tom Middleditch, Head of B2B Marketing and Sustainability spokesperson at Europcar is urging fleets to consider renting electric to tackle the price hikes across both cars and vans.

“For businesses that are feeling the pain of the fuel increases, renting some electric cars or vans could provide an immediate solution – without having to make a long-term commitment to new vehicles. And with the rental-price parity we offer with ICE (internal combustion engine) vehicles, there’s no uplift in cost for choosing to rent electric.

“Renting electric will also provide organisations with an ideal route to testing the new drive train. We understand that many commercial vehicle drivers in particular will have reservations about electric vehicle charging and the impact of payload on battery range, as well as the overall change needed in operational processes to ensure productivity isn’t affected. However, because of the investment we have made in electric mobility over the last couple of years we really know how eVans work in real-world conditions. And our flexible rental solutions mean there’s no long-term commitment needed.

“Plus we have created a number of tools and resources to help new EV drivers get to grips with the technology. We have also partnered with Octopus Electroverse to provide a streamlined process for charging.”

Customers hiring electric from Europcar can use Octopus’s award-winning charging app ‘Electroverse’ to avoid having to download multiple apps. Available via the [Europcar EV Guide](#), the digital hub makes it easy to find and start a charge, even for new EV drivers, and the route planning feature helps reduce range anxiety by showing available chargers at the most efficient points along a planned journey. And vehicle handovers are provided for drivers new to electric motoring.

Europcar's fleet of electric cars and vans - available for immediate rental across the UK - offers businesses a direct route to insulating themselves from volatile fossil fuel prices. From short-term hire to flexible rolling agreements, Europcar's EV range is suited to a multitude of use cases. And the Europcar team of EV experts are ready to support businesses to transition to electric.



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Notes to Editors

About Europcar Mobility Group

Europcar Mobility Group is a global mobility player, with 75 years of mobility services expertise and a leading position in Europe.

"We help to change the way you move" is what we stand for and brings us together. More than ever, we're committed to delivering simple, seamless, innovative solutions that make mobility easy, enjoyable and increasingly eco-friendly.

To do this, we offer to individuals and businesses a wide range of car and van rental services, be it for a few hours, a few days, a week, a month or more, on-demand or on subscription, relying on a fleet of more than 280.000 vehicles, equipped with the latest engines including an increasing share of electric vehicles.

Our brands address differentiated needs, use cases and expectations: Europcar® - a global leader of car rental and light commercial vehicle rental, Goldcar® - a frontrunner at providing low-cost car rental services in Europe, Fox-Rent-A-Car®, one of the main players in the car rental market in the US, with a "value for money" positioning, and Euromobil®, a German car rental player. The Group also operates the "myEuropcar" platform for vehicle subscription.

Customers' satisfaction is at the heart of the Group's ambition and that of our more than 9,000 employees, everywhere we deliver our mobility solutions, thanks to a strong network in over 130 countries (including 15 wholly owned subsidiaries completed by franchisees and alliance partners).

More info: www.europcar-mobility-group.com