



Image: MG Motor UK

INTRODUCTION

The ZS EV is the first production electric car from MG. Fully built in China (MG are currently owned by the Chinese SAIC Motor Group), the ZS EV was revealed at the 2018 Guangzhou Motor Show. It is worth noting that the ZS EV is not built on a dedicated EV platform, rather it is based on the existing petrol MG ZS small SUV.

Touted as the first 'inexpensive' small SUV EV to reach the Australian market, the first batch of 100 orders were priced at \$47,000 on the road. For that price however, it is loaded with many of the features that you would expect from a higher priced vehicle. These include a panoramic sunroof, rain sensing wipers, adaptive cruise control, Emergency Brake Assist (EBA), Lane Keep Assist (LKA), Lane Departure Warning System (LDWS), Blind Spot Detection (BSD), etc.

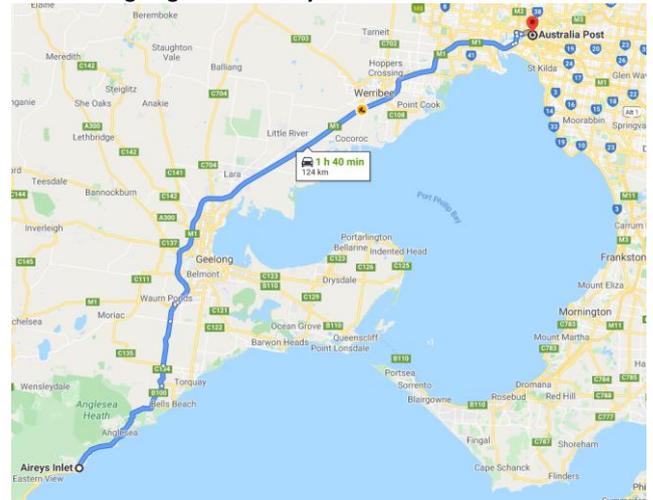
With a 44.5 kWh battery, it is likely to be regarded as more of a 'city car' - but with 50kW DC charging available via the CCS2 port, the ZS EV should be capable of the occasional longer run away from the home base.

DRIVING RANGE

The MG ZS EV has a quoted range of 260 km under the latest European WLTP test cycle[#] and 335 using the current Australian mandated (NEDC) test cycle.

For instance, the MG ZS would, at its limit, make a round-trip from the Melbourne CBD to Aireys Inlet (on the Victorian south coast) and back – provided the heating or air conditioning were not heavily used. For this sort of trip, a 30 min to 1hr top-up AC charge over lunch or a minimum 5 to 10 minute charge at one of the DC fast chargers located in Torquay, Ocean Grove or Werribee would be recommended.

WLTP range figures are not yet mandated in Australia.



ZS EV Melbourne GPO return trip range. Image: Google maps

CHARGING SPEEDS/REQUIREMENTS

Charging port

The ZS EV is fitted with a CCS2 socket allowing it to charge via Type 2 AC chargers as well as via CCS2 DC fast-chargers.



CCS2 charging plug and socket

Note: the ZS EV can be charged at any AC EVSE, however an adaptor will be needed to use EVSEs fitted with Type 1 (J1772) plugs.

CHARGING SPEEDS/REQUIREMENTS (CONTINUED)

AC charging:

Although fitted with the 3 phase type 2 AC socket as part of the CCS2 system, the ZS EV charges using single phase AC only at a maximum of 7kW (30A).

Charging speeds vary on the capacity of the EVSE (Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment) it is connected to. Approximate AC charging times for 0 – 100% and DC 0 – 80% are shown in table 1 below.

EVSE type:					
10 A socket	16 A 1 phase (3.6 kW)	30 A 1 phase (7 kW)	16 A 3 phase (11 kW)	32A 3 phase (22kW)	DC Fast charge (50kW)
20.5h	15h	7.5h	7.5h	7.5h	40m (to 80%)

Table 1: Charging times for the MG ZS EV

DC fast charging

The ZS EV uses the CCS2 fast-charge connector. This connector is fitted to all new EVs sold in Australian except the Nissan Leaf and Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV. (CCS has become the main DC fast-charge system in both Australia and overseas).

HOME CHARGING CONSIDERATIONS

General

To get the shortest home charging time for a ZS EV, a 7kW AC EVSE would be needed.

However, depending on your existing power supply and/or charging needs, it may only be practicable to fit a lower rated EVSE. (See notes below). Lower capacity EVSEs will increase charging times, as shown in table 1 above.

Important notes for any home EVSE installation:

1. High charging rates are generally not needed for overnight charging.
2. Homes do not normally have three phase AC connected.
3. Switchboard and/or electrical supply upgrades may be needed if your home is more than 20 years old. (See fact-sheet on 'Making your home EV ready', or read articles in:
(a) EV News, (AEVA newsletter) issue 231, or
(b) ReNew, (renew magazine) edition 143.

SPECIFICATIONS

Boot volumes in litres (1 litre = 10 x 10 x 10 cm)

- Boot under parcel shelf: 470
- Rear seat folded, loading space to roof: Not specified

Dimensions:

- Overall length: 4,314 mm
- Overall height: 1620 mm
- Ground clearance: 161 mm
- Overall width (edge of doors): 1809 mm
- Overall width (edge of mirrors): 2048 mm

Battery:

- 44.5 kWh, Lithium-ion

Energy consumption: (Australian/NEDC test cycle)

- 18.6 kWh/100km

Kerb weight:

- 1491 kg

Drive configuration:

- Front-wheel drive

Maximum power:

- One motor, 105kW peak.

0-100 km/h time:

- 8.5 sec

WHERE TO BUY

Currently, the best way to source a local dealer of the MG ZS EV is to enquire via the national MG website enquiry form:

<https://mgmotor.com.au/models/mg-zsev/#modelOrderYoursNow>

Note:

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