

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

## 2007 Nissan Armada SE 4X4 Super-Sized Style!

BY KATHLEEN CARR

The bigger the scale, the better we Americans are at crafting the product. It's no surprise that this country is the birthplace of super-size fries. Given this logic, it makes perfect sense that the U.S. has long been the dominant force in the full-size SUV segment. This category was founded by domestic marques, and for years, homegrown nameplates were the only option for buyers seeking a sport-utility vehicle endowed with king-size brawn.

Nissan first introduced the 2004 Pathfinder Armada in an effort to capture a section of this U.S. domi-



**SPECIFICATIONS:**  
5.6 Liter, V8, 317-HP engine; 5-Speed Automatic Transmission - 4X4; MPG is 13 City and 18 Highway; \$45,000.00 MSRP.

nated market. Nissan's largest SUV, now known simply as the Armada, is as big as the big boys when it comes to power and size.

The 2007 Nissan Armada, seats six to eight passengers; and boasts truly spacious accommodations for its passengers, offering more first and second row legroom than its competitors.

This makes the Armada a strong candidate for buyers seeking a

large SUV with real muscle power towing capability and a 9,100-pound tow rating. Not only is this one of the top numbers in the full-size class, our experience has shown that the V-8 has impressive stamina in towing situations.

The 2007 Armada is a carryover from 2006. Nissan has made a few minor changes, which include E85/flex-fuel capability; this feature allows it to run on either gasoline or

E85 (an 85% ethanol/15% gasoline blend), for its standard 5.6 liter V-8 engine, which also gets a small bump in rated output to 317 from 305 previously. Acceleration is one of the Armada's strengths. The big V-8 has as nice throaty rumble when pressed and at the same time delivers smooth power. The engine moves the Armada off the line with authority and gives this "Big Bad Boy" lots of brawn.

This sturdy Armada is based on the Titan pickup, so it's built on a fully boxed truck frame. The extremely efficient 4WD system, establishes the Armada as a dominant presence in off-road capability. The massive girth of this truck is obvious when cornering or coming to an abrupt stop. Still, ride quality is smooth and comfortable, and the well-weighted

steering makes the Armada easy enough to maneuver in everyday driving situations.

The 2007 Armada received extensive, interior refinement. Nissan's hope being that this attractive revamp would reinvigorate truck sales despite rising gas prices. The Armada refinements include DVD entertainment system, SM or Sirius satellite radio, leather seats, navigation system, power lift-gate, fog lights, memory settings for driver seat, side-curtain airbags and Vehicle Dynamic Control. There are also power folding mirrors with heat, power adjust, auto dim and integrated turn signals.

The Armada is power without compromise, and plenty of room for everyone. Explore the full-sized world of the Armada. Prowl off-

road with this confident SUV and enjoy the easy-riding smoothness of super-sized luxury.

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## Turkeys Bring Holiday Relief

Giveaways continue this weekend

The Radio Cab Holiday Foundation will be at Radio Cab Co. again this weekend for the "Turkey Project", with a goal to empower hundreds of disadvantaged families with a turkey dinner this holiday season.

Radio Cab wants everyone to enjoy the holidays regardless of life circumstances, and this is the foundation's 10th year to hold the event. The turkey giveaway includes a full dinner with potatoes, bread and vegetables. The donations help people hurting from tragedies caused by everyday life, individuals on unemployment, military families and military veterans. The turkey dinners are also available to families or individuals who do not qualify for state services or whose benefits have run out or have not started yet.

Organizer David Yandell of Radio Cab said they have a capacity to feed 400 to



David Yandell of Radio Cab (right) and other volunteers help feed hundreds of families in need this holiday season with the "Turkey Project," a free turkey giveaway that continues this weekend.

450 more families.

He said the Turkey Project will continue at the cab company located at 1613 N.W. Kearney

St., on Saturday, Dec. 23 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 24 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call Yandell at 503-380-8027.

## Community Resources

### Holiday Food:

Salvation Army-Portland Tabernacle  
1712 N.E. Sandy  
503-239-1264

Loaves and Fishes  
Weekend/Holiday Site  
4610 S.E. Belmont  
503-988-6223

### Emergency Food:

Food Box/Sack Lunch Program-Portland  
424 S.W. Mill St  
503-228-8629

Emergency Food Assistance-PACS  
11020 N.E. Halsey St  
503-252-8500, ext. 118

Rent Assistance, Monthly Food Box Services  
7780 S.W. Capitol Hwy.  
503 246-1663

Esther's Pantry  
3315 S.E. Harrison St., Suite A  
503-593-5569

Fish Emergency Service, Inc.  
1335 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd.  
503-233-5533

Portland Police Sunshine Division  
687 N. Thompson  
503-823-2102

Food Box Ministry  
522 S.W. 13th Ave.  
503-916-4009

Salvation Army-Moore Street Center  
5325 N. Williams Ave.  
503-493-3927

Northeast Emergency Food Program  
1912 N.E. Killingsworth  
503-284-5470

Snow Cap  
17805 S.E. Stark  
503-674-8785

Outreach in Burnside-Hospitality & Emergency Services  
203 N.W. Third Ave.  
503-225-0590

St. Vincent de Paul-Portland  
3601 S.E. 27th Ave.  
503-235-8431

Christ Community Ministries  
2627 N.E. MLK Blvd.  
503-282-7683

Union Gospel Mission  
15 N.W. Third Ave.  
503-274-4483

Community Service Center-Transition Projects  
475 N.W. Glisan St.  
503-823-4930

William Temple House  
2023 NW Hoyt St.  
503-226-3021

Crossroads Cupboard  
2407 N.E. 102nd Ave.  
503-257-9345

William Temple House North  
7704 N. Hereford Ave.  
503-283-3511

Downtown Chapel of St. Vincent de Paul Parish  
601 W. Burnside St.  
503-228-0746

The resources listed below are "first-come, first-served" walk-in only:

Francis Center  
6535 S.E. 82nd Ave.

Emergency Food Box Program  
5606 N.E. Killingsworth  
503-288-1055

Friendly House-Community  
1808 N.W. Irving St.

Emergency Assistance  
806 N.E. Alberta St.  
971-244-0339

Good Samaritan Center North  
8307 N. Ivanhoe

Helping Hand-Emergency Food

Sunset Presbyterian Church

Hope House Food Bank  
3837 N. Gantenbein Ave.

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