

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

## 2009 Land Rover LR3

BY KATHLEEN CARR

The 2009 Land Rover LR3 is a mid-luxury SUVs offering comfortable and safe ride. Termed as a versatile utility vehicle, the 2009 Land Rover LR3 comes with class-leading capability, spacious interior, innovative user-friendly technology, and a distinctive design.

As for hauling a man's worldly possessions around, it had more than enough power.

The LR3 offers strong throttle response, a departure from older Land Rovers. The 4.4-liter V8, rated at 300 horsepower, is a stroked version of Jaguar's 4.2-liter, adapted to the LR3's particular requirements. The increased stroke length enhances torque, so that the V8 delivers 315 pound-feet at 4000 rpm. Combined with the electronic six-speed transmission, the V8-equipped LR3 moves out smartly at part throttle, and has passing power in reserve. The gas mileage, however, was a sad 12 miles per gallon.

The LR3 is built with what Land Rover calls integrated body-frame architecture, which combines hydro-formed steel frame rails with a rigid monocoque body shell. Rubber mounts and dampers between the frame and body provide isolation from noise, vibration and harshness. Premium materials such as aluminum, magnesium, and high-tensile-strength alloy steel are used in key areas to



**Specifications:** 4.4L 300HP Aluminum Alloy V8 engine; Six Speed Electronically Controlled Automatic with Command Shift (normal, sport, and manual shift modes); 12 MPG City, 17 MPG Highway; \$49,300 MSRP before added packages

LR3. The high ride gives you a commanding position on the road, and the flat surfaces around you -- such as the window controls, center console and top of the dash -- seem to fit the rugged appeal of this SUV. The LR3 has a spacious, airy cabin with comfortable seats. It can seat up to seven passengers

with the optional third row, and the seats fold flat into the floor individually, making this a versatile utility vehicle.

The distinctive stepped roof line, a recognized brand element preserved from the previous-generation Discovery, creates headroom for rear-seat passengers while compensating for the high floor required to clear the center differential and to give the L

Driving on paved surfaces, the immediate sensation is of composure and protected personal space. The driver is seated high above the average car, and insulated from outside noises, vibrations or intrusions. Steering is notably solid and progressive, and very little road vibration is transmitted through the thick steering wheel.

The Land Rover LR3 offers solid handling, versatile passenger/cargo room, and many standard convenience and safety features. Land Rover leaves the LR3 relatively unchanged for 2009, with the exception of a few interior and exterior tweaks. Though it doesn't offer the raw power or better reliability of rivals, the SUV is praised for its unique blend of luxury and rugged performance.

save weight. Outer steel body panels are two-side galvanized to prevent corrosion. The two-piece tailgate is aluminum for ease of opening and closing.

This approach accounts for much of the LR3's relatively light weight, crisp handling, and solid feel.

I was comfortable driving the

### Dear Deanna!

I am over 40 and look very good for my age. I date younger men, love younger men and prefer intimacy with younger men. My daughter who is 20 years old is jealous of me and at times, we've competed for the same love interests. She's not speaking to me now because her boyfriend left her and now he wants to date me. My daughter is important but she can't control my love life. Should I just let this young man go to make her happy or keep him? --Good Looking Mom; Los Angeles

### Dear Good Looking:

You may look good for your age, but there's nothing cute about scooping up your daughter's leftovers. She's right to be upset and no man should make you this foolish to not understand her feelings. You've obviously mistaken her embarrassment for jealousy. You need to grow up and be the parent in this relationship and put your daughter's concerns before any man. In other words, don't be nasty going behind your daughter and choose her instead of her boyfriend. And for the record, Cougars belong in the zoo and not on the street.

### Ask Deanna!



**Real People, Real Advice**

*An advice column known for reality based subjects!*

### Dear Deanna!

I'm a Christian and I thought I was happily married. I think my husband may be having an affair with my cousin. He hasn't displayed any signs of cheating nor has his behavior changed. I looked at his cell phone bill and see that he's been calling my cousin on a more than regular basis. It pushed me over the edge when I came home late one night and found him at my cousin's house eating pizza and watching movies. Is there something going on or am I insecure? --Worried Christian; Natchez, Miss.

### Dear Worried:

It's amazing that as a Christian you have the Word, but run when the world slaps you with a test of faith. Your husband doesn't need to call your cousin or any woman unless it's business. He should

also be home late at night. Yes something is going on if you didn't know where he was and found him at your cousin's house. Share your concerns and suspicions with your husband, suggest a few rules concerning your cousin and keep it moving.

### Dear Deanna!

I want to have a baby but my boyfriend is against it. He wants to wait until we get married but he has no plans to propose soon. He has threatened that he will leave me if I trick him and come up pregnant. My clock is ticking and I want a baby before I get too old. I don't understand what the problem is and I am willing to end this relationship if things don't change soon. How do I express the seriousness of this baby issue with my boyfriend? --

Tanisha; Jacksonville, Fla.

### Dear Tanisha:

Your relationship is missing the word marriage. Your boyfriend doesn't have the title of husband and going ahead with your baby plan equals ignorance. Your boyfriend should realize he can't be tricked into pregnancy if he protects himself especially if your little clock is ticking. If he hasn't proposed on his own will, pregnancy won't change his intent or urgency. Face it, he's not interested in a baby or marriage right now and you can either love it or leave it.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

### NORTHWEST VOICE OF CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

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To inquire about our Training Ministry call 503 863-6545 or email: hodgehspks@msn.com

## Moore Street Holiday Party

Area residents are invited to the fifth annual "Sights and Sounds of Christmas" celebration on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 5 p.m., at the Moore Street Salvation Army, 5325 N. Williams Ave.

The entire parking lot of the local community center is transformed for this festive trip down memory lane.

Family activities will include carriage rides, holiday foods, booths and music, including the Dickens's Carolers in their Victorian attire, brass band players and much more.

Part of the atmosphere is created by dressing warmly with stocking caps, scarves, gloves, and other "bundle up" clothes. There will be several fire pits to keep you warm and lots of glittering lights and decorations to enjoy the magic of the season.

At 7 p.m., activities will move inside to enjoy a delightful children's musical performance performed by the youth of Moore Street.

For more information, call 503-493-3925 or 503-286-4381.

## Haircuts for Homeless

A downtown Portland hair salon will open on Sunday, Dec. 21 for free haircuts for the homeless.

Lan Nguyen, the owner and

operator of Northwest Orchid Salon, 203 N.W. Second Ave., said the annual holiday charity event will take place between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## Free Community Dinner

Christ Memorial Community Church, 1552 N. Killingsworth St., invites the homeless and other disadvantaged populations to a free community turkey dinner on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 11 a.m.

Warm clothing, coats and toiletry packs will also be available for free while supplies last.

For more information, contact church pastor Rev. Roy L. Tate at 503-281-7132.

## Augustana Lutheran Church

NE 15th & Knott 503-288-6174

We invite you to join us on Christmas Eve "O Holy Child"

7 pm Candlelight Jazz Carol Service  
Marilyn Keller, Shirley Nanette, Ron Steen, Kevin Deitz, Steve Christofferson

10:30 pm musical offerings

11 pm Candlelight Carol Service  
Organ & Choirs Choir Director: Glenn Ludtke

CHRISTMAS DAY Worship 10 a.m.

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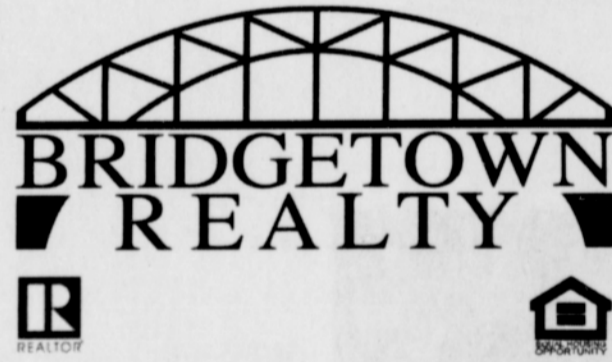
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