Opel Insignia

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Opel Insignia is a large family car produced by Europe-developed and produced by the German car-producing Opel since 2008. Taking its name from a Latin word for a type of ancient Roman decorative or heraldic emblem, the Insignia succeeded the Opel Vectra and Opel Omega. The Insignia was also sold as the Vauxhall Insignia in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and as the Buick Regal in the United Kingdom, Canada and Mexico. The Insignia was produced in Rüsselsheim, Germany, and Gliwice, Poland. It was also produced in Russia from 2009 to 2017 and in Brazil from 2011 to 2017.

Sold worldwide, the Insignia is marketed under multiple nameplates. Under Opel badges, the model has been produced in Europe and sold in Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. Opel-badged generations of the model have been marketed in Latin America and North America as the Buick Regal, in Australia as the Holden Insignia, in Russia as the Vauxhall Insignia, and in Southeast Asia as the Vauxhall Insignia and the Holden Insignia (Insignia 2008 discontinuing both the model and the Opel Insignia in 2017).

The launch vehicle of the GM System's platform, Opel produces the Opel/Vauxhall Insignia in Rüsselsheim (Opel Star Modern Manufacturing Centre), Gliwice (Opel Manufacture Gliwice), and Toluca (GM Toluca Plant in Mexico).

History [edit]

In March 2006, Opel/Vauxhall announced that Vauxhall was to retire the Vectra nameplate from the previous model. Opel Insignia Motors Europe (Opel Insignia Motors Europe) and Vauxhall Motors (Vauxhall) jointly developed the Insignia, which was to be sold as the Opel Insignia and Vauxhall and the "Vectra" name would be dropped to reflect this change.[1]

In March 2007, Opel and Vauxhall revealed the sound prototype at the 2008 Geneva International Motor Show. Previously, it was thought sound prototypes at the 2008 Geneva Motor Show.[2] In October 2008, Opel Opelcars produced sponsored generated images, which showed the upcoming Insignia.[3]

The Insignia was also the first Opel to debut many new and improved safety features, including:

- Adaptive Forward Lighting (AFL), a proprietary system by Hella, gives Insignia headlamps the ability to swivel sideways to follow the driver's line of sight, based on steering wheel angle and speed. Advanced Front-Lighting System (AFS), which has three settings (City, Country, and Motorway), is a system that automatically adjusts the headlamps to provide the optimal beam pattern for each weather condition, and the driver can also select the appropriate lighting function.
- Night Vision, which is located at the top of the windscreen to monitor the area in front of the vehicle, informing the driver of any hazards by continuously scanning for obstacles and pedestrians in traffic signs. Head-lamps are used, the system can detect the heat of Opel Eyes like humans. Night Vision is available on Opel Insignia and Vauxhall Insignia models with Xenon headlamps and traffic sign recognition.

It operates above 60 km/h (37 mph). Opel Eye scans the driver if the car is about to veer off the road, and if the driver does not react, the system will alert the driver with a pulsating warning signal and an audible alarm, which is also activated when the Insignia detects a pedestrian in the road. Vauxhall is a dual function license camera with traffic sign recognition.

First generation (2008–2008) [edit]

The Insignia debuted at the Vauxhall Insignia at the 2008 Geneva International Motor Show in Leeds (Leeds International Motor Show) and Opel Insignia at the Geneva International Motor Show in Geneva (Geneva International Motor Show) and the Opel Insignia at the Leeds Vauxhall Sports Tourer, a designation for Opel which traditionally used the "Caravan" name to denote the sedan bodystyle. It uses the first production car platform, the Opel Insignia, which was also used on other models, including the Opel Astra and Opel Corsa.[4] and the Opel Insignia.

Design wise, the Insignia offers 90 mm (3.5 inch) more room than the Vectra. The sedan and Sports Tourer versions are 4.9 m (16 ft 1 in) long, 1.86 m (6 ft 1 in) wide and 1.49 m (4 ft 9 in) tall. The sedan version weighs in at 1,500 kg (3,307 lb) and the Sports Tourer weighs in at 1,510 kg (3,329 lb).

The Insignia was the first car in Vauxhall's lineup to feature both the Opel and Vauxhall brands. In Vauxhall, it was the first car in Vauxhall's lineup with the characteristic "V" on the grille, which was also used on the Vectra, Astra, Corsa, Zafira, Meriva, Vectra, Astra, Corsa, Zafira, Meriva, Vectra, Astra, Corsa, Zafira, Meriva,

On 17 October 2018, Holden halted imports of the Commodore due to slow sales, and an increasing number of unsold cars at its dealerships.[50] On 10 December 2019, Holden announced the Commodore range of vehicles is to be discontinued in Australia and New Zealand, with GM Holden shifting focus to concentrate upon SUV sales in 2020.[41]

Motorsport [edit]

The Thorney Motorsport team first ran a Vauxhall Insignia VXR in the last round of the 2011 British Touring Car Championship to prepare a two car team for the season of 2012.[51]

Only one car was run in four rounds – 1 and 2 driven by John Thorne, and 6 and 9 driven by Tony Gilham. Tony's Team HARD bought the two Insignias from Thorney Motorsport,[52] and raced one of them himself in the last round of the 2012 season.

Driving both cars for the season of 2013 were James Cole and Jack Goff, running under the RCIB Insurance Racing team name. RCIB Insurance Racing/Team Hard sold the cars to BMR for the 2014 BTCC season, and would be driven by Jack Goff and Warren Scott. The Insignia was not as competitive as hoped and the cars were replaced mid season with Volkswagen CCs.

The Vauxhall Insignia VXR-R of John Thorne competing in the 2012 British Touring Car Championship

Other rebranding [edit]

In Chile, the Insignia was introduced in 2008 as the Chevrolet Vectra.[53] In 2013, the model line dropped its Chevrolet name, adopting the Opel Insignia nameplate.

In August 2012, the Opel Insignia was introduced to Australia; following the 2013 withdrawal of Opel from Australia by GM, the model line was dropped from the market.[54][55] For 2015, the Insignia returned to Australia (and for the first time, New Zealand) under the Holden marque, slotted slightly under the Commodore range in market position.

2003 Insignia concept [edit]

The Opel Insignia nameplate saw its first use on a 2003 concept car. For the 2003 Frankfurt Motor Show,[58] Opel debuted a concept car previewing a potential mid-2000s full-size luxury car (F-segment) for the brand.[59]

Derived from the rear-wheel drive GM V platform used by the VY Holden Commodore,[60] the Opel Insignia concept vehicle was styled as a fastback 5-door liftback.[61] The engine was sourced from the Chevrolet Corvette C5, pairing a 344 hp LS1 V8 with an all-new 7-speed automatic transmission.[60]

The Insignia debuted several notable features, including a reconfigurable rear seat (changing between 5-passenger seating and a 2+2 layout with a rear center console[58][60]), LED headlamps (powered by 405 LEDs[58]), a reconfigurable dashboard and center console (with air-conditioned storage and humidor[60]). The rear sliding doors were fitted with pantographic hinges, allowing for the deletion of external guide rails.[59]

Intended primarily as a debut of the design language of the Opel brand for the mid-2000s, the Insignia was not officially intended for production.[59] In the beginning of 2005, Opel officially announced that it would not build a production version of the vehicle, claiming it would be too heavy and expensive. Elements of the Insignia concept design were eventually adopted by other GM vehicles, including the 2015 Buick Avenir concept (sharing a similar fastback/4-door coupe configuration) and the 2008-2017 Opel Insignia/Buick Regal (rear fascia) and the 2010-2016 Buick LaCrosse (roofline); its liftback configuration was adopted by the 2018 Insignia/Regal/Commodore.

2003 Insignia Concept	
Overview	
Manufacturer	Opel
Production	2003 (Concept car)
Designer	Mark Adams Malcolm Ward
Body and chassis	
Class	Luxury car
Body style	5-door liftback/fastback
Layout	FR layout[57]
Platform	GM V platform[56]
Powertrain	
Engine	5.7 L *LS1* V8
Transmission	7-speed automatic
Dimensions	
Wheelbase	2,915 mm (114.8 in)
Length	4,803 mm (189.1 in)
Width	1,914 mm (75.4 in)
Height	1,414 mm (55.7 in)
Chronology	
Successor	Buick Avenir

Opel Insignia Concept at the 2003 Frankfurt Motor Show

Rear sliding doors

Rear view

Notes [edit]

a. ^
General Motors (2008–2017)
PSA Group (2017–2021)
Stellantis (2021–present)

1. ^ For an outline of ANCAP tests, visit the ANCAP website.

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External links [edit]

- Official international Opel Insignia website
- Official Opel Insignia website (Ireland)

Wikimedia Commons has media related to ***Opel Insignia***, ***Vauxhall Insignia***, ***Holden Insignia*** and ***Buick Regal***.

v · t · e **Opel** [show]

v · t · e « previous — **Opel car timeline, 1980s–present** [show]

Categories: Opel vehicles | Opel concept vehicles | Front-wheel-drive vehicles | All-wheel-drive vehicles | Mid-size cars | Full-size vehicles | Luxury vehicles | ANCAP large family cars | Euro NCAP large family cars | Compact sport utility vehicles | Crossover sport utility vehicles | Sports sedans | Station wagons | Hatchbacks | Cars introduced in 2008 | Touring cars | 2010s cars | Holden Commodore

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