



Noticeable larger, the mid-size 2016 Chevrolet Malibu is 300 pounds lighter and sports three fuel-efficient turbo inline four-cylinder engines.

Malibu 2016 – bigger car, smaller engines

By Jim Robinson
Metroland Media

PALO ALTO, CA: Not only is the 2016 Chevrolet Malibu the best looking in decades, it is also the largest and most frugal yet.

Chevrolet officially says this

is a mid-size sedan, but privately admit it falls somewhere between mid- and full-size.

It is 58 mm (2.3 in) longer than the 2015 model with a 91 mm (3.6 in) longer wheelbase, allowing for 15.8 cu ft of cargo volume. Rear

seat legroom is increased by 33 mm (1.3 in) to 38.1 in, looking (to me) more like an airport limo.

And while the size is up, the 2016 is a full 300 lb lighter than the 2015, and that includes the frame that is no less than 100 lb lighter.

And you won't find a V6 in the lineup, but three inline four-cylinder engines — all with the latest fuel-saving technologies.

Standard powerplant on the Malibu is a new 1.5-litre turbo, which is much smaller than the

2.5-litre it replaces, with 160 hp and a stout 184 lb/ft of torque with a six-speed transmission driving the front wheels.

Fuel economy is rated at 8.7/6.3/7.6L/100 km city/high

Continued on page 5

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