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2009 Jeep Wrangler DSI Lifted

Last week I told you about the 2009 Jeep Wrangler X from Rancho Jeep in Kearny Mesa; it was a base model with the V6 and 6-speed manual transmission. Well this review is what you want if you could wish for the perfect street/off road driven Jeep. This custom Jeep (that is fully covered under warranty) was done by a local company called Dealer Services International (DSI). DSI only employees' guys and girls that like off road and custom vehicles. If you look real close to this Jeep you will see nothing but top of the line equipment from the 4-inch lift to the custom Pro Comp tires and wheel package. This Jeep is a hardtop version that allows you to remove roof panels as you see fit, easy to do and will give the off roader a different look. Another thing different about this Jeep is the transmission, it is a 4-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission with Command-Trac which allows you to shift into four wheel drive while driving down the road, no stopping in knee-deep mud or sludge to lock the front hubs.

This is the Sahara model with a custom blue paint job called Deep Water Blue Pearl Coat, but when I looked at it the color name that came to mind was Charger Blue, perfect for the upcoming football season! You will get a lot of comfort out of the Sahara; you get A/C, Electronic Stability Control, 4-wheel disc brakes with Traction Control, and Hydraulic Brake Assist. You also get standard Roll Mitigation for those times you wish you had not done what you just did, almost roll over, and trust me that would be ugly! Off course you get the standard Next Generation Rear Dana 44 Heavy Duty Axles (you don't want to break and axle out in the hills, trust me) Hill Start Assist is standard; you get plenty of protective skid plates below to protect your investment.

Going inside you will find all seat adjustments are manually operated and the driver seat has the feature to lift the driver up or down depending on his visual level (this means if the driver, he or she is short or tall!) you also get a roll and tumble rear bench seat, a complete roll bar system with a sound bar included for those tunes you needed to hear out in the open country. Speaking of sound the base AM/FM/CD/MP3 system with seven 368 watt Infinity speakers with a sub woofer plus hiding somewhere and of course XM Radio, but wait, Rancho likes more music and added an optional AM/FM six CD in dash system.

Now that I have drifted to optional items here are a few more for you to drool over, the hardtop is optional, also included is a trailer towing package which will put you in the Class 1 hitch with a trailer sway damping system and a 4-pin trailer towing connector. You also get a new rear differential that jumps from the standard 3.21 gear ratio to 3.73 gear ratio along with Tra-Lok Limited Slip Differential.

Safety is well represented with all the items mentioned earlier in this review plus Advanced Multi-Stage Air Bags, now how did it drive on the open road? Excellent, in fact it rode better than last weeks stock soft topped Jeep Wrangler. It was very smooth on the freeway and it handled Anderson Truck Trail like it was

built for that fire road. I did not make it to the desert, still a little to hot but around town and climbing around the back country it was a blast.

Base price is \$26,045 and this test model hit \$30,530, and then add on the DSI treatment and you're up to \$35,525, but wait Rancho really wants you behind the wheel of this want-a-be Charger Jeep so they knocked the price down to \$32,475 plus tax and license.

Remember this Jeep carries a complete warranty and the powertrain is guarantee for life and that program end this year with all 2009 Chrysler Jeep vehicles, so if you're on the fence and thinking about getting a Jeep or any Chrysler vehicle see the good folks at Rancho Jeep Chrysler in Kearny Mesa or go to www.ranchogroup.com. Don't forget to tell them Dave Stall the car guy sent you!