

BLUE BOOK

BRIEFING

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INDUSTRY INSIGHTS:

Paris 2012: Slow Boat on the Seine

- Jack R. Nerad, vice president, executive editorial director and executive market analyst, Kelley Blue Book's KBB.com

Last year when I wrote the *Blue Book Briefing* column about the Frankfurt Motor Show, I noted how hopeful the automotive industry seemed in the face of a sea of pessimism about the global economy and the direction in which the global industry was going. In the interim, the U.S. market has seen its prospects improve significantly, and Kelley Blue Book analysts envision that this will be a 14-million-plus new-vehicle sales year. But I must admit that attending the press days of the still on-going Paris show prompted less hope and optimism about the global market. With the macroeconomic problems that dogged the Frankfurt show a year ago still remaining unsolved, and dire economic reports emanating from Paris as the show commenced, these issues are as far from being solved as they were 12 months ago. The will to bite the bullet and confront the excesses of the past remains elusive in much of southern Europe. Substantial portions of the populace in many countries affected by the "debt crisis" seem to believe that the problem will go away simply by wishing. Of course that is a recipe for even deeper crisis, not solution, which is a difficult message to deliver to rioters in the streets.

“THE U.S. AUTO INDUSTRY IS CERTAINLY NOT WHAT IT ONCE WAS, BUT IN COMPARISON TO THE DETERIORATING EUROPEAN SITUATION, IT APPEARS AS A SHINING RAY OF HOPE.”

- JACK R. NERAD

As the Frankfurt show unfolded in September 2011, Europeans were focused on the dismal financial news posed by the sovereign debt crisis in Greece. Today the crisis still continues in Greece, and it has accelerated in Portugal and Spain. The situation in Italy also appears to have deteriorated; meanwhile France, which was seen as one of the potential saviors of the European Union a year ago, now has slipped into the challenged category. Unemployment in France this year has been at near-record levels and worsening, and that offered a sobering backdrop to the Mondial de l'Automobile.

So how did the dreary economic news manifest itself at the Paris show? Most notably, it was felt by what *wasn't* there. While the typical world-class auto show is filled with dazzling futuristic vehicles intended to whet our collective appetites for the future, Mondial de l'Automobile 2012 featured very few genuine "concept" vehicles. As you'll note from [KBB.com's Paris Auto Show coverage](#), most of the vehicles featured by manufacturers were production-car introductions, and even those cars that bore a "concept" label often were thinly disguised production cars with special paint and wheels.

This is an obvious clue that the European manufacturers are not only suffering now, but might also have more difficulties competing in the future in a crowded marketplace that offers plenty of sellers but too few ready-to-purchase shoppers. As Europe is plunging into decline, structural change (read: factory closures) seem imperative, but the various European governments have made those changes very hard to execute. As Fiat's Sergio Marchionne told me recently, the first mover in this effort will encounter the bulk of the pain, so no manufacturer seems willing to take the first step. And the odds of a "cooperative" restructuring of the European industry seem to grow longer with every passing day.

The bright spot is the U.S. auto market. Who would have thought two years ago that the then-struggling American market would be a saving grace for European manufacturers in desperate search of buyers? The U.S. auto industry is certainly not what it once was, but in comparison to the deteriorating European situation, it appears as a shining ray of hope.

LATEST NEWS STORIES ON KBB.COM:

Check out the very latest news stories by visiting KBB.com and clicking the the *KBB.com Top Picks* tab on the home page. The following latest news stories by KBB.com's editorial staff went live on the site or were updated during September 2012.

Videos Posted to KBB.com:

[2013 BMW 6 Series Gran Coupe Video Review](#)

[2013 Dodge Dart Video Review](#)

[2012 Mercedes-Benz E-Class Video Review](#)

Written Stories Posted to KBB.com:

[2014 Chevy Impala gets variable valve lift on Ecotec 4-cylinder](#)

[2014 Ford Fiesta previewed](#)

[2014 Ford Transit and Ford Transit Connect unveiled](#)

[2014 Honda Accord PHEV Sedan detailed](#)

[2014 Jaguar F-Type Teased before Paris debut](#)

[2014 Mazda Mazda6 Wagon revealed - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2014 Mercedes-Benz S-Class previewed in 'Aesthetics S' sculpture](#)

[2014 Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2014 Porsche 918 Spyder spied testing in U.S.](#)

[2014 Volkswagen Golf VII unveiled](#)

[2013 Aston Martin DB9 revealed](#)

[2013 Audi A3 Sportback/Audi S3 - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2013 Audi RS5 Cabriolet revealed](#)

[2013 BMW 760Li V12 25 Years Anniversary Edition revealed](#)

[2013 Chevy Spark: Driving Chevy's Smallest Small Car](#)

[2013 Honda Accord Coupe and Sedan - more photos, more facts](#)

[2013 Honda Accord First Drive: A Stalwart Regains Its Step](#)

[2013 Honda CR-Z teased](#)

[2013 Jaguar XFR Speed Pack adds style and speed](#)

[2013 Kia Rio SX 5-door will offer 6-speed manual transmission option](#)

[2013 Kia Soul Long-term Test Car: More Heart and Soul](#)

[2013 Maserati GranTurismo Convertible MC - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2013 Mazda CX-9 refresh revealed](#)

[2013 Mini John Cooper Works GP details confirmed](#)

[2013 Mini Paceman - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2013 Nissan Sentra revealed](#)

[2013 Porsche Cayenne Diesel First Drive - Burning the Mid-Size Oil](#)

[2013 Porsche Cayenne S Diesel - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2013 SQ5 TDI Audi Exclusive Concept -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[2013 SRT Viper First Review: 21st-century Snake](#)

[2013 Suzuki Grand Vitara facelift revealed](#)

[2013 Volvo C30 Polestar Limited Edition confirmed for U.S.](#)

[2012 Toyota Camry SE Sport Limited Edition unveiled](#)

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[Buick and GMC to get nine new/refreshed models in next 12 months](#)

[Feds finalize 2025 mileage regs mandating 54.5-mpg CAFE average](#)

[Ferrari Parade at Silverstone sets new Guinness Book record](#)

[GreenGT H2 will introduce fuel cell power to Le Mans in 2013](#)

[High supply of pickup trucks leading to great deals for buyers](#)

[High used-car prices making new cars more attractive](#)

[Honda chief outlines future hybrid plans and more](#)

[KBB.com study: Luxury vehicles more affordable now than in 2011](#)

[KBB.com survey: New vs used pricing impacting buyer decisions](#)

[Kia's soul-shaking hamster posse rolling back onto the scene](#)

[Lexus LF-CC Concept -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

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[McLaren P1 Design Study -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[Mercedes-Benz Concept B-Class Electric Drive -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[Mercedes-Benz Granturismo preparing to take to the seas](#)

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Written Stories Posted to KBB.com:

[New McLaren Supercar teased for Paris](#)

[Rolls Royce Art Deco-inspired vehicles headed to Paris](#)

[Nissan TeRRa SUV Concept - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[Small SUVs, Big Capabilities: 2012/2013 Compact Crossover Comparison](#)

[Peugeot 2008 Concept - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[SsangYong e-XIV Concept previewed for Paris Auto Show](#)

[Peugeot Onyx Concept -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[TRW reveals touch-sensitive electronic horn system](#)

[Peugeot Onyx Concept Scooter - 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[smart forstars Concept -- 2012 Paris Auto Show](#)

[Peugeot Onyx Concept teased for Paris](#)

NEW-VEHICLE REVIEWS ON KBB.COM:

The following new-vehicle reviews written by KBB.com's editorial staff went live on the site or were updated during September 2012. To see any new-vehicle review from KBB.com's editorial staff, please visit KBB.com and click on the *Car Reviews* tab, then select the make and model.

[2013 Acura MDX](#)

Acura's 2013 MDX continues to wow customers and confound the competition. The 7-passenger MDX doesn't offer a host of different trims or engine choices, nor is it the freshest face on the block. What the MDX does have going for it is a long and stellar history, one chock-full of positive accolades and repeat customers...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Audi RS5](#)

Imagine the Audi A5/S5 mid-size coupe platform. Now, magically swap in a 450-horsepower V8, an advanced all-wheel-drive system and, while you're at it, swap out most of the exterior body panels with racier replacements. Do all that and what you have is the very real 2013 Audi RS5, a top-tier performance coupe built to compete with the BMW M3, Mercedes-Benz C63 AMG and perhaps the Cadillac CTS-V coupe...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Buick LaCrosse](#)

Buick's 2013 LaCrosse is intended to bring younger buyers to what has traditionally been seen as a nameplate for more senior folks. Conservatively handsome, well equipped, capable and polished, the car boasts eAssist, an impressive assortment of efficiency-enhancing technologies developed from GM's mild-hybrid system...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Cadillac CTS](#)

Cadillac is determined to reclaim its place as the world's standard of luxury, and the 2013 CTS brings the fight directly to its European and Japanese competitors. Smart styling, lots of high-tech features, a refined driving experience and impressive powertrains give the broad model lineup strong appeal...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Chevrolet Suburban](#)

The Chevrolet Suburban traces its roots to 1935, and 78 years later, this full-size SUV proudly claims its status as the oldest continuous nameplate in automotive history. While drivers' preferences have changed and gas prices have steadily climbed over the years, there are still families and fleets that yearn for or even require a massive, fuel-thirsty sport utility vehicle that can easily haul people and cargo...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Chevrolet Tahoe](#)

Big space and big capabilities have made the 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe America's favorite full-size SUV. Properly equipped, the brawny body-on-frame vehicle, based on a truck-type construction, can seat up to nine passengers, tow 8,500 pounds and manage well off-road...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Chrysler 200](#)

To the trained eye, the Chrysler 200 is a cleverly remade version of the company's former mid-size sedan, the Sebring. But look closer and you'll see so much more than just a modest facelift. The 200's suspension has been thoroughly overhauled, giving it impressive handling characteristics...

[2013 Chrysler 300](#)

Chrysler's 300 sedan for 2013 continues the Detroit tradition of producing big, rear-wheel-drive (RWD) V8-powered sedans that are all about power, comfort and style. The 300 improves upon this formula by adding all-wheel drive (AWD) and a potent yet fuel-efficient V6 to the mix, as well as a high-performance version, the SRT8...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Chrysler Town and Country](#)

The Chrysler Town & Country's history dates back 1989, when it broke new ground as the first luxury minivan ever produced. Since then, competitors such as the Toyota Sienna, Honda Odyssey and the Nissan Quest have entered the market with varying degrees of success, but the 2013 Chrysler Town & Country continues its long-standing position as one of the top-selling people movers in America – and for good reason...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Dodge Avenger](#)

The 2013 Dodge Avenger is an adequate car competing in the tough mid-size sedan segment. In this class, the Avenger aims to win over buyers who might otherwise consider the Toyota Camry, Honda Accord, Nissan Altima, Ford Fusion, Chevy Malibu, Kia Optima, and Hyundai Sonata. A recent redesign gave the Avenger an improved suspension, drivetrain and interior, as well as more aggressive looks...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Dodge Challenger](#)

With a muscular body, powerful engine choices and a whole lot of attitude, the 2013 Dodge Challenger easily plays the role of modern-day muscle car. Like its main rivals, the Ford Mustang and Chevrolet Camaro, the Challenger has the aggressive looks and performance that made these cars famous decades ago, yet boasts today's technology and a modicum of creature comforts...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Dodge Charger](#)

In creating the 2013 Charger sedan, Dodge has found a way to give the average family the comfort, safety and room they need, while giving its owner a vehicle that is as attractive to show off as it is to drive. Despite having four doors, the Charger's styling is decidedly coupe-like, with a rakish rear roofline, deep scallops on the doors and a single-bar taillight reminiscent of the original Charger...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Dodge Durango](#)

With gas prices holding steady for the near term, the full-size SUV has begun its resurgence with consumers, and the 2013 Dodge Durango is leading the pack. Not quite as large as a Chevy Suburban, the leaner Durango is no less capable, offering a choice of a V6 or HEMI V8 engine, 2- or 4-wheel drive and four well-equipped trims...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Dodge Grand Caravan](#)

The Chrysler Town & Country's history dates back 1989, when it broke new ground as the first luxury minivan ever produced. Since then, competitors such as the Toyota Sienna, Honda Odyssey and the Nissan Quest have entered the market with varying degrees of success, but the 2013 Chrysler Town & Country continues its long-standing position as one of the top-selling people movers in America – and for good reason...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Dodge Journey](#)

The 2013 Dodge Journey maintains its mid-size crossover SUV vehicle status, offering room for up to seven passengers, but with pricing and fuel economy figures on par with smaller SUVs, such as the Honda CR-V and Subaru Forester. In terms of quality and design, the Journey's interior is a cut above most, full of high-end features and clever storage compartments demanded by families on the go...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Ford C-Max](#)

As the mpg wars rage on, there is one word that typically comes to mind when shopping for a new fuel-efficient vehicle: Prius. But the 2013 Ford C-Max intends to disrupt that involuntary word association by offering eco-conscious consumers the fuel economy they expect from an efficiency leader with the driving dynamics of a conventionally-driven 5-door hatchback...

[2013 Ford F-150](#)

Claiming the title as America's best-selling full-size pickup for 35 years running is nothing to sneeze at, which is why the 2013 Ford F-150 strikes such awe in its owners and trepidation in its rivals. With a string of modern engines, including a turbocharged V6, and the latest in transmission and 4x4 mechanical componentry, the F-150 shows it isn't resting on its laurels...

[2013 Ford Fiesta](#)

The Ford Fiesta may be the only American sub-compact that can truly stand up to the Honda Fit and Toyota Yaris. Slick Eurostyle looks, impressive 29/39-mpg fuel economy and true fun-to-drive chassis tuning do the trick. But, in addition, the Fiesta loads on features unexpected in this class, including wild interior and exterior colors, a version of Ford's SYNC audio and communications system, electronic stability control, remote engine start and a dual-clutch automatic transmission...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Ford Taurus](#)

Once a competitor to the Honda Accord and Toyota Camry, the 2013 Ford Taurus now plays in a class occupied by larger, more luxurious cars like the Toyota Avalon and Chrysler 300. The Taurus offers a choice of powerful engines, including a fuel-sipping, turbocharged EcoBoost 4-cylinder and a twin-turbocharged V6. The Taurus' base engine is a normally aspirated V6 that, unlike the EcoBoost engine, can be equipped with all-wheel drive (AWD)...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Honda CR-V](#)

Fresh from its complete makeover last year, the 2013 Honda CR-V compact SUV carries on largely unchanged. The 5-passenger CR-V remains modestly-sized on the outside, but is extremely roomy inside, with a rear seat that accommodates adults and a proper-sized cargo area...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Honda Fit](#)

More people are discovering you don't have to pay a lot to get a lot of car. Such is the case with the 2013 Honda Fit, a subcompact 5-door that is surprisingly roomy, is loaded with cool features, and is pretty darn cute to boot. Taller than most cars its size, the Fit offers upright seating with ample headroom and legroom both front and rear...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Honda Odyssey](#)

No one lusts after minivans. They are often thrust upon us due to necessity rather than desire. But, if you must have a minivan, the 2013 Honda Odyssey is one you might actually come to enjoy owning and driving. The Odyssey has an outstanding safety and reliability record as well as excellent resale value and, when it comes to hauling the family, the Odyssey's roomy cabin, multiple seating configurations and potent V6 engine make quick, easy work of short jaunts or long sojourns...

[2013 Hyundai Accent](#)

Fresh from its complete makeover last year, the 2013 Hyundai Accent clearly displays the Korean car manufacturer's ability to inject seductive styling and innovative technology into an affordable, fuel efficient and fun-to-drive package. Slotted to do battle with the Honda Fit, Chevrolet Sonic and Ford Fiesta, the Accent's affordable arsenal includes bright exterior paint choices, a high-powered audio system, a full suite of standard safety equipment including six airbags, and a roomy interior with the most cargo space of any sub-compact car...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport](#)

As it enters its third generation, the Hyundai Santa Fe has been split into two distinct variants: the compact 2013 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport and a new, mid-size Hyundai Santa Fe (reviewed separately). Improved in virtually every area over the Santa Fe it replaces, the 5-passenger Santa Fe Sport embodies a new sense of style and offers more sophisticated features than its predecessor along with enhanced performance and outstanding fuel economy that give it an even higher profile in the SUV segment...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Hyundai Tucson](#)

Hyundai's 2013 Tucson compact crossover competes with such well-established names as the Toyota RAV4, Ford Escape and Honda CR-V. To play in this league, Hyundai equips the Tucson with numerous options including front-wheel drive (FWD) or all-wheel drive (AWD), a choice of two engines and two transmissions and a healthy dose of standard equipment and styling bound to catch the youthful eye...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Infiniti G](#)

Note this revealing fact: Infiniti offers a genuine, stir-your-own 6-speed manual gearbox on every G37 body style. Performance with refinement is the message here and for 2013 the Infiniti G37 series continues to captivate hearts and minds with stylish good looks, modern technology and exceptional road manners...

[2013 Jeep Compass](#)

Although it wears the Jeep name and "Trail Rated" badge, the 2013 Jeep Compass compact SUV isn't exactly born of the same metal that forges the Wrangler and Grand Cherokee. Built from a platform once shared with the now-defunct Dodge Caliber, the Compass is more car than truck, more commuter than off-road warrior...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Jeep Grand Cherokee](#)

It's not much of a stretch to declare the 2013 Jeep Grand Cherokee the finest version ever to wear the storied nameplate. Designed during the reign of Mercedes-Benz over Chrysler, the 2013 Grand Cherokee enjoys the benefits of this short-lived marriage by borrowing parts of the M-Class platform. The result is a vehicle so rigid and tight that it makes older Grand Cherokees feel like centuries-old rickshaws...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Jeep Patriot](#)

It made sense at the time: Offer a whiff of that rugged Jeep ethos at a cut-rate price. The original Jeep Patriot was created in 2007. To be fair, effort did go into providing a degree of off-road capability, but it was built on an economy-car foundation, which tells you most of what you need to know about the 2013 Jeep Patriot...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Jeep Wrangler](#)

Although it is larger and safer than past models wearing the CJ and Wrangler nameplate, the 2013 Jeep Wrangler is still true to its heritage as America's best-loved off-road escape artist. A wide model range spans the spectrum, from the basic 2-door soft-top Sport, to the maxed-out trail-blazing Rubicon...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Kia Rio](#)

Among the more well-established subcompacts like the Honda Fit, Ford Fiesta and Hyundai Accent comes another contender: the 2013 Kia Rio sedan and Rio 5 hatchback. All new last year, the Rio takes subcompact styling and content to new levels...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Kia Sportage](#)

In evolutionary terms, the 2013 Kia Sportage is as far removed from the original 1993 Sportage as we are from our Neanderthal cousins. No longer a rugged off-road SUV, the current Sportage rides atop a car platform, has a sophisticated engine and suspension setup and is loaded with safety and creature comforts more common to luxury cars than compact SUVs...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Mazda Mazda6](#)

Roughly the same size as the Honda Accord and Hyundai Sonata, the 2013 Mazda6 wears an aging design whose styling has held up well over the years. With lines inspired by the now-defunct RX-8, the Mazda6 definitely isn't a ho-hum family sedan...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Mercedes-Benz C-Class](#)

While Mercedes-Benz is mostly associated with providing high-priced cars to the rich and ultra-rich, the company also has a series of coupes and sedans built to the same high-quality standards but wearing a 5-digit price tag...

[2013 Mercedes-Benz M-Class](#)

In the 2013 Mercedes-Benz M Class, buyers will find an SUV that delivers safety, luxury and the status that comes with having the three-pointed star on the hood. The M-Class's wide and varied trim levels make it a multi-faceted SUV, with a diesel model for those seeking good fuel economy and two V8 engines for the performance-oriented set...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

NEW-VEHICLE REVIEWS ON KBB.COM (CONTINUED):

[2013 Subaru Forester](#)

Big, heavy gas-guzzling SUVs have their place, but if you don't need room for seven or the ability to tow a heavy trailer, a vehicle like the 2013 Subaru Forester makes much more sense. Easy on gas, the 4-cylinder Forester combines car-like ride and handling with the ground clearance and AWD tenacity of a light-duty off-road vehicle...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Subaru Legacy](#)

For 2013, Subaru's Legacy sedan continues to win consumers with its pleasant styling, roomy rear seat and unbeatable all-wheel-drive (AWD) setup. Despite the AWD's added weight and power demands, the 4-cylinder Legacy manages very respectable fuel economy ratings of 24-mpg city and 34-mpg highway, when equipped with continuously variable automatic transmission (CVT)...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Toyota Corolla](#)

The 2013 Toyota Corolla sedan is the current incarnation of the best-selling automobile ever. It continues to be one of the most familiar - if not exactly most popular - compact sedans in America. The Corolla's reputation is built on legendary longevity, low fuel consumption and high resale value...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Toyota Tacoma](#)

The Toyota Tacoma is America's best-selling compact pickup and for several good reasons. It's a modern, capable, high-value vehicle with few real competitors. The Dodge Dakota and Ford Ranger are gone, and the Chevrolet Colorado (and GMC Canyon) is aging and feels cheap...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Toyota Venza](#)

During another era the 2013 Toyota Venza might well have been called a Camry Liftback. With today's Venza Toyota incorporates a crossover utility's higher seating position and good outward vision with expressive sheetmetal, an aggressive footprint, generous cargo capacity and a choice of two powertrains...

To read the latest Consumer Reviews & Ratings on this vehicle, click [here](#).

[2013 Volkswagen Tiguan](#)

The awkwardly named (and possibly harder to pronounce) Tiguan is a compact SUV from Germany's Volkswagen. While this segment of vehicles is becoming increasingly crowded, the Tiguan often gets forgotten among more mainstream rivals like the Honda CR-V, Toyota RAV4 and Ford Escape...

WHAT'S NEW

KBB.com Announces Three 2012 W3 Award Wins for iPhone App, Vehicle Video Reviews

Kelley Blue Book Earns Silver Award Recognition

IRVINE, Calif., Sept. 27, 2012 - The KBB.com app for iPhone from Kelley Blue Book and the company's '[2012 Mitsubishi i-MiEV Hatchback](#)' and '[2012 Lexus CT Hatchback](#)' video reviews, today were honored with W3 Silver Award recognition. Receiving more than 3,000 entries, the W3 Awards recognize outstanding websites, Web marketing, Web video and mobile apps created by the best interactive agencies, designers and creators worldwide ... [MORE](#)

KBB.com Forecasts New-Car Sales to Reach 1,140,000 Units in September

Kelley Blue Book Predicts Overall Annual Sales Gains Between 7 and 10 Percent through Year-End

IRVINE, Calif., Sept. 26, 2012 - September [new-car sales](#) will hit a 14.3 million seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) in September, slightly down from the 14.5 million SAAR achieved in August, according to Kelley Blue Book, the leading provider of new car and used car information. This equates to an 8 percent year-over-year improvement, which is well below last month's 20 percent year-over-year increase. Although September sales do not appear as strong as August, to grasp the full picture, the sales environment at this time last year must be considered.

"This time last year Toyota and Honda were able to boost production and sales after several months of downtime following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan," said Alec Gutierrez, senior market analyst of automotive insights for Kelley Blue Book... [MORE](#)

KBB.com Wins 2012 WebAward for Outstanding Website in Automobile Category for Second Consecutive Year

Kelley Blue Book Site Offers 5-Year Cost to Own Information, Consumer and Expert Reviews and Ratings, Fair Purchase Prices for New Models

IRVINE, Calif., Sept. 25, 2012 - For the second year in a row, [www.kbb.com](#) has been recognized as an Outstanding Website in the Automobile category of the Web Marketing Association's WebAward competition, according to Kelley Blue Book, the leading provider of new car and used car information. With more than 2,000 entries from 45 countries for 2012, each nomination was judged on design, copy writing, innovation, content, interactivity, navigation and use of technology... [MORE](#)

Five Great Car Lease Deals Under \$200 Per Month Identified by KBB.com

Auto Leasing May Make More Sense for Some 2012 Car Shoppers, Finds Kelley Blue Book

IRVINE, Calif., Sept. 13, 2012 - Leasing makes sense for car shoppers looking for the best bang for the buck on a monthly payment versus [buying a car](#). During September 2012, consumers can find a multitude of compact and subcompact cars available with lease rates less than \$200 per month, while a mid-size sedan or compact crossover auto lease can easily be found for less than \$300 per month, according to Kelley Blue Book, [www.kbb.com](#), the leading provider of new car and used car information.

"Those who need new wheels, but are holding tight to their purse strings, will find some incredible lease options this month due to unusual but favorable new-car market conditions," said Alec Gutierrez, senior market analyst of automotive insights for Kelley Blue Book... [MORE](#)

Honda CR-V Takes Top Spot in New Compact Crossover SUV Comparison, According to KBB.com

Comprehensive New-Car Assessment Reveals CR-V Bests Chevy Equinox, Ford Escape, Mazda CX-5, Toyota RAV4

IRVINE, Calif., Sept. 12, 2012 - The [Honda CR-V](#) is the winner of Kelley Blue Book's all-new [2012/2013 Compact Crossover SUV Comparison](#) according to the expert editors of KBB.com, the leading provider of new car and used car information.

Concerns about fuel prices may have tempered America's love affair with sport-utility vehicles, but it has by no means brought it to an end. Instead, many Americans seem to be aligning their vehicle shopping based on a realistic assessment of their needs and economic situation... [MORE](#)

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