FIAT 500L Trekking Makes World Debut at LA Auto Show

**Highlights:**

* FIAT 500L Trekking unveiled for first time at Los Angeles Auto Show
* Beefier external styling details and an earthy interior finish help define Trekking verison
* On sale in the U.S. in mid-2013, expected in Ireland in the autumn
* FIAT 500L makes U.S. debut, powered by a 160hp 1.4-litre turbo petrol engine

**Press Release:**

The all-new FIAT 500L Trekking has made its world debut at the 2012 Los Angeles Auto Show. Combining the fun and practicality of the FIAT 500L with distinctive and rugged looks, the Trekking version offers customers the look and feel of a roomy SUV without any of the weight or efficiency drawbacks.

Helping set the FIAT 500L Trekking apart from its siblings are aggressively-styled front and rear bumpers, wheel-arch and rocker-panel mouldings and larger 17-inch alloy wheels. Inside, a unique two-tone Nero/Marrone (black/brown) interior echoes the earthy feel of the exterior styling cues and, as with the standard FIAT 500L, there’s a choice of a 5.0 or 6.5-inch touch-screen Uconnect infotainment system, the latter offering satellite navigation and a media hub in addition to the former’s Bluetooth connectivity and music stream capabilities.

According to Tim Kuniskis, FIAT Brand Manager for North America, “With the rugged personality of the Trekking we will attract a wider cross-section of customers while keeping intact all the great benefits of the Fiat 500L.”

Meanwhile, the 2012 LA Motor Show was also the venue for the North American debut of the new FIAT 500L, which differs only slightly from the European model in terms of its final execution, mainly due to local legislation. The North American model is powered by a 160hp 1.4-litre turbo-charged petrol engine, mated either to a six-speed manual or six-speed automatic transmission.

The new FIAT 500L and FIAT 500L Trekking are produced at FIAT Group Automobiles’ manufacturing plant in Kragujevac, Serbia, and will arrive in North American dealerships in mid-2013. The FIAT 500L is expected to go on sale in Ireland in the spring of 2013 and the European version of the FIAT 500L Trekking is likely to follow in the autumn. Prices and final specifications for Ireland will be announced closer to the both vehicles’ respective Irish launches.

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