



1991 ESPRIT TURBO SE

The charge-cooled SE Esprit derivative was the most powerful variant with the most accelerative power and the fastest-selling Esprit to date, with 264bhp and 0-60mph in under 5 seconds. From its formal unveiling on 10 May 1989 to the close of its debut year, the 160mph Lotus Esprit Turbo SE recorded production of 563 units. This figure handsomely exceeds the production level of any previous Esprit, save that of the S1 in 1977, and then there were no alternative Esprit models to distract customers.

Naturally, this was the most expensive Esprit to date. The SE was launched in May 1989 at £42,500 (£46,300 some eighteen months later), which was then a bold thrust that took them closer to the 'starter' Porsche 911s than for many years. The SE did embrace a number of standard items of proven showroom appeal. These included a walnut burr fascia; leather trim; lift-out/tilt glass sunroof, and air conditioning. Do not despair if a red dashboard light comes on in chilly conditions, an LED ice alert was including in the SE fascia from the start. In-car entertainment was provided only in 'a radio fitting kit' initially and it is worth emphasizing that anti-lock brakes did not become available, optionally or otherwise, until the autumn of 1990.

The SE was replaced by the S4 in 1994 with over 1,600 rolling out of the factory gates. Updated in 1992 to the High wing it gained a new wing and lost the glass back. Very few of these were produced before the switch to the re-bodied S4. No engine modifications were made in the SE's short history (1989-1993) and even ran the length of the S4 production.



Specifications:

Performance	
Top Speed	155 mph
0-60 mph	4.6 seconds
Power	264 bhp @ 6500
Torque	261 ft. lbs @ 3900
Engine	4 cylinder, 2174cc Bore/Stroke: 95.3mm x 76.2mm. Garrett T3 .63 with 0.42 Compressor, water-cooled with integral wastegate.
Cooling	Dual front-mounted oil coolers
Transmission	5-speed manual transaxle

Brake System	Front: 259mm diameter ventilated discs Rear: 274mm diameter outboard discs
Wheels	Lotus-styled alloy wheels
Dimensions:	
Length	172 inches
Height	45.3 inches
Width	74.1 inches
Unladen Weight	2635 lbs