

What's it like owning an electric car?

Needless to say, it's FUN

Even the non-sports cars are quite zippy

You have full torque at zero RPM, unlike an ICE's "peak" only when revved up

Most have a low center of gravity due to the battery pack, making them very stable and agile

The overall "tech factor" is second to none on most cars (not just Tesla)

Every morning you wake up to a full tank

How often would you go to a gas station if you woke up *every morning* to a full tank?

- Electric cars are recharged while you're doing something else
- Gas cars get filled while you wish you were doing something else

EV charging is similar to managing your smartphone; simply plug it in when you get home.

During trips, route-planning apps make charging during needed meal / rest stops convenient

Cost to operate the car is much lower

Yes, your electric bill goes up a bit, but your "petrol" bill goes to ZERO

Recharging at home at night can use lower off-peak electric rates

No more oil changes, tune-ups, or smog checks, or time taken off work to do them

Most public Level-2 charging stations are free for patrons

If you have home solar panels, you can be driving for FREE

EVs are very quiet, responsive; no shifting gears

It's surprising how much less stressful it is to drive an EV.

Your mileage usually improves when stuck in traffic, unlike a gas car.

Charging stops on a long trip are necessary anyway, for you and the family's comfort and safety

Environmentally responsible

EVs are so efficient that they cause fewer CO2 emissions than the greenest gas / diesel car, regardless of the source of the electric power (yes, even coal). If charged from a renewable source, they emit zero. Further, the overall electrical grid is constantly being improved.

*Every time the electrical grid gets cleaner, the **entire fleet** of EVs gets an automatic upgrade*

So, why did Tesla make the Roadster?

At the time (2006), the term "Electric Vehicle" evoked visions of golf carts. 0-60? "Maybe." Maybe 50 miles of range. "Maybe" is not a real car. Tesla realized that to succeed with their business plan, they not only had to develop the technology to make the car work, they also had to change the public's perception. The car had to be better than anything on the road at the time, and by nearly any measure, it was. It was the "super car" of its day, at a fraction of the price of the gas cars in the class. Even today, 13+ years after production started in 2008, its specs are quite respectable. (See the specs on the reverse side.) What other 13+ year old car do you know that would hold up as well?

Resources:

Sacramento EV Association: <https://www.saceva.org/>

PlugShare (charging map): <https://www.plugshare.com/>

Tesla Motors: <https://www.tesla.com/>