

2018 Porsche 911 Carrera GTS: In-Depth Breakdown

The 2018 Porsche 911 Carrera GTS is a high-performance sports car that sits between the Carrera S and the track-focused GT3, offering an ideal mix of power, precision, and daily usability. Let's break down its key features in greater detail.

1. Design & Aerodynamics

The 2018 Carrera GTS builds on the classic 911 silhouette with subtle but important changes that enhance both aesthetics and aerodynamics.

Exterior Design

Wide body (shared with the AWD models) gives it an aggressive stance.

Sport Design front bumper features larger air intakes to improve cooling.

Rear spoiler automatically deploys at high speeds to reduce lift.

Black exterior details, including: Black GTS badging

Darkened taillights

Satin black 20-inch center-lock wheels for a track-inspired look

Lightweight materials like aluminum and magnesium contribute to its optimized power-to-weight ratio.

Aerodynamics & Downforce

Lower ride height (-10mm) due to PASM (Porsche Active Suspension Management) improves cornering stability.

Active rear spoiler adjusts automatically to enhance stability at high speeds.

Rear diffuser & optimized underbody panels reduce drag and improve airflow.

2. Interior & Technology

The GTS model balances luxury and sportiness, featuring premium materials with a driver-focused cockpit.

Interior Features

Alcantara & leather upholstery for a premium, race-inspired feel.

GTS-exclusive trim with carbon fiber and brushed aluminum accents.

GT Sport steering wheel with drive mode selector for quick performance adjustments.

Sport Seats Plus with 4-way power adjustment provide excellent support for spirited driving.

Infotainment & Connectivity

Porsche Communication Management (PCM) with a 7-inch touchscreen.

Apple CarPlay integration (but no Android Auto).

Navigation system with real-time traffic updates.

BOSE & Burmester premium sound systems available as options.

Driver Assistance Features

Front and rear parking sensors.

Adaptive cruise control (optional).

Automatic emergency braking for added safety.

3. Engine & Performance

At the heart of the 2018 Porsche 911 Carrera GTS is a 3.0L twin-turbocharged flat-six engine that provides more power than the Carrera S.

Engine Specifications

Displacement: 3.0L (Twin-Turbocharged Flat-Six)

Horsepower: 450 hp @ 6,500 rpm

Torque: 550 Nm (406 lb-ft) @ 2,150-5,000 rpm

Compression Ratio: 10.0:1

Transmission Options

7-speed manual transmission (for purists who love a traditional driving experience).

7-speed PDK dual-clutch automatic (for lightning-fast gear changes).

Acceleration & Speed

Model

0-100 km/h (Manual)

0-100 km/h (PDK + Sport Chrono)

Top Speed

Carrera GTS (RWD)

4.1 sec

3.6 sec

312 km/h (194 mph)

Carrera 4 GTS (AWD)

4.0 sec

3.6 sec

310 km/h (193 mph)

Exhaust & Sound

Standard Sport Exhaust System with adjustable exhaust modes.

Aggressive growl at high revs, with pops and crackles in Sport Mode.

4. Chassis & Handling

Porsche fine-tuned the GTS model for superior handling and driving engagement, making it one of the best-balanced 911s.

Suspension & Ride Quality

PASM (Porsche Active Suspension Management) lowers the car by 10mm for better stability.

Optional rear-axle steering improves cornering precision.

Braking System

6-piston front & 4-piston rear calipers with ventilated discs.

Optional Porsche Ceramic Composite Brakes (PCCB) for extreme performance.

Steering & Driving Modes

Rear-wheel steering (optional) enhances maneuverability.

Drive Mode Selector (Normal, Sport, Sport+, Individual).

5. Comparison: GTS vs. Other 911 Models

Feature

Carrera S

Carrera GTS

911 GT3

Horsepower

420 hp

450 hp

500 hp

Torque

500 Nm

550 Nm

460 Nm

0-100 km/h (PDK)

3.7 sec

3.6 sec

3.4 sec

Top Speed

306 km/h

312 km/h

318 km/h

Aerodynamics

Standard

Wide-body, Sport Design

Track-focused

Suspension

PASM

PASM (lowered)

GT3-specific adaptive

Daily Comfort

High
High
Lower

6. Fuel Economy & Practicality

Despite its high performance, the 911 Carrera GTS remains relatively fuel-efficient compared to other sports cars.

Transmission

City (L/100 km)

Highway (L/100 km)

Combined (L/100 km)

7-Speed Manual

13.2

8.4

10.2

7-Speed PDK

12.6

7.8

9.8

Front trunk (frunk) offers 132 liters of storage space.

Decent fuel economy for a sports car.

7. Pricing & Final Verdict

2018 Porsche 911 Carrera GTS Starting Price: \$120,700 USD (Base Model)

With options, prices can exceed \$150,000+ USD.

Who is it for?

- ✅ Enthusiasts who want more power than a Carrera S but don't need a GT3.
- ✅ Drivers looking for a balance between track performance and daily usability.
- ✅ Collectors who appreciate Porsche's engineering and timeless design.

Final Verdict

The 2018 Porsche 911 Carrera GTS is a perfect middle ground in the 911 lineup, offering superior performance, enhanced aerodynamics, and a thrilling driving experience without sacrificing daily drivability. It's an excellent choice for enthusiasts who want the best blend of power, precision, and practicality.