

The 2018 Alfa Romeo Stelvio: What the critics say

Chicago Tribune

Alfa Romeo's first SUV "has the versatility and cargo room of a crossover but the driving feel of a car." Built on the same platform as the sporty Giulia sedan, it combines good looks, a "pleasing" power train, and "some of the best steering and handling" in the crowded compact crossover class. Just as Jaguar's F-Pace restored lost luster to that storied British brand, the Stelvio "should return Alfa to a place of distinction."

Motor Trend

The Stelvio "looks fast just standing still." And it proves fast in motion too, zoom-

ing from 0 to 60 mph in just 5.4 seconds, thanks to its turbocharged 280-hp engine. "An absolute blast to drive on twisty roads," the Stelvio also loads up on standard features and delivers a 28-mpg highway rating. Should the BMW X3 or Jaguar F-Pace put up a fight, just wait: Early 2018 will usher in a 505-hp performance variant that'll "destroy all comers."

Automobile

Only one problem: Many Giulia sedans have suffered minor electrical problems, and the Stelvio we tested illuminated a dashboard warning light that disappeared when we shut down and restarted the



An Italian SUV, from \$42,990

engine. Sure, a glitch is just a glitch. But "for Alfa to be a genuine contender in the premium SUV market," the brand's reputation for eccentricity is "something it must address quickly."

The best of...affordable summer dresses



Pixie Market's 'Audrey' Dress

Stand out at your girlfriend's wedding with this striped cotton mini. A long bow tie hangs from the left shoulder, and the one loose-fitting sleeve is split open along the side.

\$122, pixiemarket.com
Source: Glamour



A.L.C.'s 'Sally' Dress

Sundresses don't need to be bursting with color. This comfy, throw-on T-shirt dress falls just above the knee, and a gathered seam running along the right hip creates rolling folds.

\$147, nordstrom.com
Source: Vogue



Farrow's 'Pattie' Dress

The buttons, pointed collar, notched lapel, and kimono cap sleeves give this dress the look of an elegant blouse. It's 100 percent rayon, but the threaded textures in the floral pattern create an embroidered feel.

\$24, needssupply.com
Source: Glamour



Toms/ & Other Stories Embroidered Dress

Air your bohemian side with this beautifully embroidered cotton mini. The loose fabric, wide sleeves, and deep-V neckline will keep you cool, while the waist tie creates a flattering silhouette.

\$72, toms.com
Source: Elle



Madewell's Denim Azalea

The denim and off-the-shoulder crazes keep going strong, and this breezy number adds a third fun summer trend with its flared peasant sleeves.

\$98, madewell.com
Source: PopSugar.com

Tip of the week...

How to stop robocalls

■ **Ignore them.** The most effective defense is to not answer calls from numbers you don't recognize. If you do answer, don't accept any prerecorded invitation to opt out by pressing a key: "That will merely verify that yours is a working number and make you a target for more calls."

■ **Use DoNotCall.gov.** List your number on the U.S. government's National Do Not Call Registry, but know that many spammers don't fear being fined. When unwanted calls do get through, report them.

■ **Get a screening app.** Apps like Truecaller, RoboKiller, Mr. Number, and Hiya block robocalls. Some, like YouMail, inform the caller that your number is out of service.

■ **Turn the tables.** Subscribe to the Jolly Roger Telephone Co. (jollyrogertelco.com) and you can transfer telemarketing calls to a robot that'll frustrate the caller by keeping up your end of the conversation indefinitely.
Source: The New York Times

And for those who have everything...

The average person will spend 3.9 years of life staring at a smartphone screen—unless, perhaps, that person has a **Punkt MP01**. This stylish "dumbphone" from Switzerland can't take a photo or access the web. It only handles calls and texts. But "repeat after us: 'Offline is the new luxury,'" and carrying a cheap flip phone will never adequately convey how little you care for email and Instagram. Nokia recently jumped into the dumbphone market with a new edition of the company's iconic 3310. But does that \$60 brick phone come with bespoke birdcall ringtones? The MP01 does.

\$295, punkt.ch
Source: Wired



Best apps...

For doing paid work at home

■ **Fiverr.com** is a site where freelancers list their services and attract clients. The site—part of a wave finally delivering legit web-based work-at-home opportunities—tends to attract freelancers in creative fields. It takes a 20 percent commission on earnings.

■ **FlexJobs.com** invites companies to post opportunities for freelancers to consider. Technical, accounting, and engineering skills are often called for. Membership costs \$15 a month, or \$50 a year.

■ **Skillshare.com** and **Udemy.com** are platforms that let you earn money by creating online courses and sharing your expertise with online students.

■ **Tutor.com** and **Chegg.com** hire tutors who help students with classroom subjects like physics and computer science.

■ **Convergys.com** and **SutherlandCloudsource.com** let firms outsource customer-service tasks and other work to remote hires.

Source: The Washington Post