



Technology features include a wireless smartphone charging system.

The Avalon hy-brid is available in EV, Eco and Sport trims. The EV mode allows running on battery power alone at speeds of up to 25 mph. The Eco mode cuts down on throttle response and climate control output. The Sport mode is touted by the manufacturer as “sharpening the throttle and transmission responses.”

The Avalon’s exterior styling is enhanced by arguably the most attractive exterior car color on the road, a dark blue called Parisian Night Pearl. The Avalon’s tone is subdued and handsome and it further adds to the car’s overall attractiveness. Technology features have also been enhanced with a wireless smartphone charging system standard for the XLE Premium and Limited trims, and the Toyota Safety Sense package is available as an option for the Limited trim.

Add it all up and the 2016 Toyota Avalon, with its European styling, impressive driving qualities and equally impressive gas mileage, is a fine choice in the large sedan segment—hybrid or otherwise.

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## What’s In Your Bag?



**PHOTOGRAPHER MILA BRIDGER** is known for her creative portraits that often combine an alluring mix of fantasy and reality. The Poland native has been published nationally and internationally. She keeps a few items on hand when traveling to shoot.

- >1. Canon EOS 5D Mark III (\$2,599, [shop.usa.canon.com](http://shop.usa.canon.com)): *Bridger recently upgraded after using the same shooter for 10 years.*
- >2. Kingston CompactFlash 8GB Memory Card (\$13.65, [kingston.com](http://kingston.com)): *“If something goes bad I know I always have a brand new memory card.”*
- >3. RAVPower Portable Charger (\$31.99, [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)): *Power outlets are never guaranteed, so Bridger keeps a charger for her phone. “It’s got two USB ports,” she says. AA batteries (\$5.99, [walgreens.com](http://walgreens.com)) are also key.*
- >4. LUMIX DMC-LX7 (\$299 and up, [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)): *Bridger uses the point-and-shoot camera for behind-the-scenes photos.*
- >5. Miniature wood log: *Fellow Southwest Florida artist Veron Ennis gifted Bridger with a log inspired by a character from ABC’s retired series Twin Peaks. The Fort Myers art scene is a rather tight-knit group, Bridger says.* —Melanie Pagan