It is flair without flamboyance. Art without artifice. Luxury without apology.

It’s the flash of sun off a curve of chrome. The shine of paint that looks a foot deep. The glow of fine leather. It is the calm of a quiet cabin.

And the thrill of a finely tuned engine at full song. It’s physicality informed by philosophy. The security of careful engineering and assembly.

The satisfaction of well-thought details. The idea of elegance with intelligence.

The Spirit of American Style is the ethos of legendary designer Harley Earl beautifully interpreted for a new age. It is the heritage and the heart of Buick. Now come see how that spirit is offered in the 2004 Rainier.
A word about this brochure: Some features shown throughout this brochure are available at extra cost.
The introduction of Rainier represents an important landmark in the history of Buick. It is the first full-frame Buick SUV. And, like the majestic peak from which it takes its name, Rainier has a character all its own. Rainier is strong.

If engineering incantations like hydroformed side rails and full ladder frames bore you, know this: Rainier is no SUV wannabe. It’s the genuine article. Fully capable of vanquishing pretenders. Rainier is powerful. It brings the swagger of a big V8 back to Buick, in the form of an available 290-horsepower Vortec engine that goes and tows with impunity.

Rainier is peaceful. As you hustle down the highway at full interstate speeds, the cabin will stay amazingly quiet. You can thank Rainier’s exclusive QuietTuning™ for the calm. Rainier is a Buick. So you’ll nestle into leather-appointed seats. You’ll ride on a smooth-gliding rear air suspension. Chrome will sparkle. Sensuously curved bodywork will shine. And perhaps you’ll glow with the satisfaction of driving something special. Peaceful. Powerful. Rainier. It’s a brand-new Buick.

A BEAUTIFUL STRENGTH OF CHARACTER.
Whether you’re hauling or towing, Rainier has a lot to offer. With the second-row seats folded down, the cargo capacity goes up to 80.1 cu. ft., and a two-wheel drive V8 Rainier has a towing capacity of up to 6,700 lbs.

Cargo and load capacity limited by weight and distribution. Maximum trailer weight ratings are calculated assuming a base vehicle, minus for any options necessary to achieve the rating, plus options. The weight of other optional equipment, passengers and cargo will reduce the maximum trailer weight your vehicle can tow. See your dealer for additional details.
A. Integrated turn signals on the side mirrors are designed to help enhance safety during lane changes.


C. OnStar®. Safety and security at the touch of a button 24/7/365. OnStar services require vehicle electrical system and analog wireless service to be available and operating for features to function properly. Visit onstar.com for system information and details.

D. The dealer-installed ski rack will look great in the Cascades, the Rockies or the Appalachians.

E. A dealer-installed rear cargo organizer can keep things just where you want them.

F. Details, details. Even Rainier’s doorsill plates are beautifully executed.

G. GPS/DVD navigation system. Like having the auto club right in your dash.

H. With heated seats, you can warm the seat, the seatback or both.

I. The automatic dual-zone climate control lets you dial in a difference of up to 25°F between driver and front passenger.

Features described are available on some models. Refer to specifications in the back for availability.
Buick is the Official Car of the PGA TOUR. Buick has been involved in the game of golf for nearly 50 years.

That’s why we’re so proud to be partnered with the man pictured above. You see, we have a long history of supporting the game with style and elegance — and he’s making history by playing the game in the very same way.
**INTERIOR FEATURES**

- ETR AM/FM stereo with seek/scan, digital clock, and a wide array of options
- Overhead console includes storage for sunglasses
- ETR AM/FM stereo with seek/scan, digital clock, and a wide array of options
- PASSLock garage door remote and TravelNote digital voice recorder
- OnStar temperature, tachometer and speedometer
- Instrumentation
- Inside rearview mirror includes integrated compass
- Cruise control
- Power pedals
- Power seat adjuster, 8-way power driver and front passenger with 2-way lumbar
- Retained accessory power — allows accessories to be operated for 10 minutes or until a door is opened
- Remote keyless entry — includes instant alarm, delayed locking and memory feature
- Dual exhaust (not available with DVD player)

**EXTERIOR FEATURES**

- Shoulder room — 58.5/58.5
- Headroom — 40.2/39.6

**DIMENSIONS**

- Maximum trailer weight ratings are calculated assuming a base vehicle, except for AWD/4.10.
- Base curb weight (lbs.)
- Fuel tank (approx. gal.)
- Engine block heater
- Torque (preliminary)
- Torque
- Type

**MECHANICAL FEATURES**

- Engine
- Transmission
- Drive information system — Meets or exceeds all SAFETYGUIDE specifications
- Air bags — Driver and passenger, seat-mounted air bags
- Air bags — Driver and passenger, seat-mounted air bags
- Brakes — Delco Freedom II with rundown protection
- Brakes

**CXL Plus**

- 2.9-liter Vortec 4200 L6
- Automatic transmission
- Four-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission
- Rear-wheel drive models only

**CXL Package**

- Shoulder room
- Headroom
- Interior (front/rear)

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- Headroom
- Interior (front/rear)
Olympic White (50) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Platinum Metallic (67) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Cashmere Metallic (15) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Augusta Green Metallic (47) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Indigo Blue Metallic (39) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Crimson Pearl Metallic (86) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Medium Red Metallic (44) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Black (41) Interior: Cashmere Pewter
Cashmere Leather Trim Pewter Leather Trim
5.3L V8 ENGINE A masterwork of modern engineering, Rainier’s V8 engine is filled with innovations. Its large displacement cast aluminum block and cylinder heads save weight while they also help provide the strength to generate class-leading power: 290 hp and 325 lb-ft torque. That kind of power and torque gives you the freedom to haul or tow heavy loads and still have enough power in reserve to pass and maneuver with confidence. Electronic throttle control: Often seen on premium automobiles but new to SUVs, electronic throttle control is the stuff of the future. There is no cable link between the accelerator and the engine. A sensor at the gas pedal measures pedal angle and sends a signal to the engine control computer to deliver fuel at the correct rate. The result is quick, precise throttle response and improved reliability.

UNIQUE PAN-AXLE OIL PAN All-wheel drive vehicles require an extra differential to transmit power to the front wheels. This can force designers to mount the engine higher than they would prefer, resulting in compromised sightlines and a higher center of gravity. The all-wheel drive Rainier has a pan-axle oil pan. The front axle runs right through this unique oil pan, allowing our engineers and designers to keep the engine mounted low in the chassis. That allows better sightlines from the driver seat. It also lowers Rainier’s center of gravity and aids in increased stability on the road.

4.2L L6 ENGINE Rainier’s standard power comes from a state-of-the-art engine that incorporates advanced design and technology virtually everywhere you look.

24 VALVES, DUAL OVERHEAD CAMS The more intake and exhaust valves an engine has, the easier it can breathe. That is to say, the easier it can draw the fuel/air mixture into the combustion chambers, and the easier it can expel the spent gases of combustion. With dual overhead cams controlling four valves per cylinder and variable exhaust valve timing, this engine breathes very well indeed. All of which results in better efficiency, better fuel economy and more power.

275 HP/275 LB-FT TORQUE – IT OUTPERFORMS MANY V8s See what deep breathing can do? It gives our 4.2L L6 the kind of power and torque many V8s will envy. But as important as having power is, it’s even more important to have that power over a broad range of engine speeds and driving scenarios.

NATURAL BALANCE Of all the wonders of Rainier’s remarkable 4.2L engine, this is a quality you’ll probably appreciate every single day. This inline six-cylinder engine has a natural balance that virtually eliminates shaking and roughness at idle or any speed. This is one very smooth operator.

BROAD TORQUE CURVE = POWER WHEN YOU NEED IT Sometimes you need power coming off a stoplight. Or when you need to make a low-speed pass. Or while making a high-speed pass. The fact is, there are lots of times, and lots of speeds, when you need all the power your engine can muster. An engine with an extended torque curve addresses those needs. And with 90% of its torque available between 1,600 and 5,600 rpm, and peak torque at 3,600 rpm, Rainier’s 4.2L L6 can deliver the power to make you feel confident in virtually any driving situation.
ALL-WHEEL DRIVE WITH LOCKING DIFFERENTIAL  Rainier’s on-demand all-wheel drive system is intuitive. Thanks to its technological sophistication, the driver doesn’t have to think about pushing buttons or pulling levers. The system is constantly monitoring road conditions. If it senses wheel spin, it reacts in 1/4 of a second and sends the right amount of power to the wheel or wheels with the most traction. Under normal conditions, when the vehicle is moving at less than 20 mph, Rainier’s active all-wheel drive system sends 100% of the power to the rear wheels. Above 20 mph, a small amount (about 15%) of the power is sent to the front wheels, even when no slippage is detected. This speed-sensitive system allows for up to 100% of torque to be transferred to the front axles during a slip condition, maximizing available wheel traction. When slippage is no longer detected, the system returns to its predominantly rear-wheel drive mode. It’s a fully automatic system drivers will love.

TRACTION ASSIST AND LOCKING REAR DIFFERENTIAL  Rear-wheel drive models have wheel-speed sensors that are constantly monitoring each drive wheel for signs of slipping. If they detect a slip event, they instantly send a signal to the power control computer which reduces the amount of fuel going to the engine. That slows the engine, reducing power to the slipping wheel until it gains traction once again. At lower speeds, the differential notices the slippage and locks the rear axle, sending power to both rear wheels. Together, these technologies can help the driver maintain control and regain traction through ice and snow.

Features described are available on some models. Refer to specifications in the back for availability.

ELECTRONICALLY CONTROLLED AIR SUSPENSION  Rainier’s independent front suspension incorporates a coil spring over Bilstein® shock absorber design with a double-A arm configuration for both four-wheel and two-wheel drive systems. So you get touring car precision with SUV toughness. But Rainier’s rear suspension is so sophisticated it’ll literally have you riding on air. This electronically controlled air suspension features air springs that are continually monitored by sensors that feed data to a compressor/control unit. The compressor inflates or deflates the air springs whenever necessary to give you three important benefits: load leveling – the system works to continually maintain the proper trim height of Rainier as it’s loaded or unloaded for stability and smoothness over the full load range; impressive damping – the air spring is continually tuned to give you an improved ride, even over rough or broken concrete surfaces; improved isolation – the air springs are made of rubber, which naturally retards noise travel from the axle up into the frame and into the cabin.

FULL LADDER FRAME WITH HYDROFORMED SIDE RAILS  Some SUVs have unitized body construction – where the body itself must provide much of the strength of the vehicle. Our engineers think that’s fine for some SUV applications, but not for this new Buick. So Rainier has a tough body-on-frame structure – a body firmly mounted to a full frame. Rainier gives its drivers world-class ride and handling and high standards in noise isolation. Rainier’s chassis design also incorporates fully hydroformed side rails along the entire length of the frame. Hydroforming uses the power of pressurized fluid sealed in a hollow round steel frame rail to help precisely form the shape of the rail for consistent steel wall thickness and dimensional control.
RAINIER'S EXCLUSIVE QUIETTUNING™ From its inception, Rainier was designed to achieve impressive levels of interior quietness. But our relentless engineers wanted more. So they developed QuietTuning. It’s an exclusive process using acoustic materials, treatments and products that transform Rainier’s cabin into a sanctuary from the outside world.

As you might expect, a lot of noise can get into any vehicle’s interior through the windows. So Buick experimented with a variety of treatments for Rainier and found one that made a real difference. An **acoustic laminate windshield** is utilized as part of QuietTuning. Essentially two layers of glass with a thin film of plastic laminated in between, it is this layered construction, as well as glass layers of different thicknesses, that helps block sound from entering the passenger compartment. **Laminated front side-door glass** is installed for the same reason, particularly because the front side-door glass is in such close proximity to the driver and front-seat passenger’s ears.

Tires rolling over pavement can create a lot of noise, so Buick specifies special **quiet-tread tires**. These tires have a unique tread pattern designed not only to provide good grip, but also to produce very little tread noise.

Additionally, increased attention is also given to the exhaust systems of both the six- and eight-cylinder engines to reduce the amount of noise generated.

Finally, the body and doors are treated with over 26 strategically positioned acoustic absorbers and seals to help block outside noise from ever reaching the cabin.

QuietTuning brings a peaceful calm to the brand-new Rainier. You’ll be amazed by what you don’t hear.

MODULAR COCKPIT Rainier’s entire cockpit is delivered to the vehicle production facility as a fully assembled unit. The instrument panel is completely assembled on a magnesium/steel composite frame, including the instrument cluster, radio, pedals, steering column, steering wheel, brake booster, master cylinder, wiring harness and most of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning components. The entire assembly is loaded through the door for final installation. This modular, pre-build process helps assure build quality and reliability while it also virtually eliminates instrument panel squeaks and rattles.

TUNING COMPONENTS SO THEY DON'T MAKE A SOUND A violin is designed to vibrate harmoniously when it’s played. A finely tuned Rainier is designed not to. Each part of any vehicle vibrates at a specific frequency when excited by external forces, like inputs from the road. The instrument panel, chassis and idling engine all do it. Our engineers separated the specific vibration frequencies of each of these major components, so when one of them responds to an input, it doesn’t trigger a series of sympathetic vibration reactions in any of the other components. Using modal hammers and oscilloscopes, noise and vibration specialists measured each component’s response to make sure the proper frequency separations were achieved. The result of finely tuning each of these components is a vehicle that is uncommonly quiet. Sounds rather nice doesn’t it?
ONSTAR®

A pioneering technology in the area of advanced in-vehicle safety and security, OnStar uses global positioning satellites to locate a vehicle, and a hands-free wireless phone to provide a communications link and seamless integration into Rainier’s electrical system. Professionally trained OnStar Advisors can provide a number of safety, security and convenience services twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year. These services can include: directing roadside assistance to you should your car become disabled or run out of gas; sending a signal to your Rainier to unlock your doors if you lock your keys inside; assisting police in locating your vehicle if it’s been stolen; and directing emergency service providers to your exact location if you require help when your air bags have been activated. OnStar, with a one-year Safe and Sound service agreement, is standard on every Rainier.

OnStar services require vehicle electrical system and analog wireless service to be available and operating for features to function properly. OnStar uses existing emergency service providers as well as analog wireless and satellite technologies and is subject to their limitations. Visit onstar.com for system information and details.

GPS/DVD NAVIGATION SYSTEM

Imagine your Rainier reading the signals coming from at least three global positioning satellites in high earth orbit, and using those signals to compute your exact position on the planet, give or take a few feet. Now imagine that data being fed into a sophisticated DVD-based navigation program that can show you exactly where you are on a virtual map sent to a screen on the instrument panel, and watch your position on the map move as you move down the road. That’s what Rainier’s GPS/DVD navigation program can do. The system can also suggest best routes to your destination, as well as the locations of gas stations, restaurants and points of interest along the way.

XM® SATELLITE RADIO

Two satellites (one named “Rock,” the other “Roll”) hover in geosynchronous earth orbit beaming down CD-quality digital sound into your Rainier. Terrestrial repeaters fill in the signal whenever the line of sight with a satellite is lost. The digital signal delivers 100 different music/news/sports/talk/comedy formats. And you can receive the signal in all 48 coast-to-coast states. That’s the attraction of XM. Activation and service fees extra. Visit gm.xmradio.com for details.

BOSE® PREMIUM SOUND SYSTEM

This Bose system is probably a better stereo than you’ll find in most homes. Six Bose speakers are driven by six Bose amplifiers that have been equalized and optimized especially for the acoustic environment found in Rainier’s interior. The amps deliver a total of 275 watts. There’s a six-disc CD changer integrated into the instrument panel. Pop-out controls. Multi-media capability. You can even select optimum performance for the driver, optimum performance for the rear-seat passengers, or balanced performance for all passengers.

DVD ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

Mounted in the headliner between the first and second row of seats, this DVD entertainment system has the capability of playing studio quality audio/video in both CD-audio and DVD formats. There’s a flip-down 7-inch screen utilizing a color active-matrix liquid-crystal display; two wireless infrared headphones and an infrared remote control for rear-seat activation; video and audio RCA jacks for camcorder playback; ports for complete gaming capability; and even a parental switch on the front of the unit for stopping play and muting sound. Use it occasionally just to make sure the kids are still capable of human conversation.