Noise, defined as unwanted sound, is just about everywhere. High-end restaurants, luxury hotels and spa resorts are among the many businesses putting a premium on responding to guests’ desire for quiet and solitude.

Drivers of luxury cars are no different, and often see their vehicles as a refuge from busy, connected lives – a place to get away and relax a bit.

To help create a tranquil oasis on wheels, Lincoln uses clever engineering solutions, advanced materials and thoughtful design to create some of the quietest vehicles on the road.

Here’s a look at some of the advanced strategies found in the newest Lincoln, the 2015 Lincoln MKC, the brand’s first small premium utility vehicle.

**Active Noise Control**
Active noise control heightens overall cabin sound quality by reducing unwanted engine noises while enhancing desired sound to help provide a more pleasant driving experience. Microphones monitor the sound profile of the cabin, which is then replicated and inverted by a signal processor to create an opposing acoustic wave through the speakers. When the opposing wave meets the original sound wave, they cancel each other out.

**Sound-absorbing interior trim panels**
The rear trim panels are designed to capture unwanted interior sound within the passenger compartment.

**Acoustic windshield and front side glass**
Highway-speed noise levels are reduced in part by suppressed turbulence flow across the side glass; at lower speeds, the cabin is isolated from exterior noise sources.*

**Upgraded engine mounts**
The larger long-travel mount system helps isolate the driver from undesirable powertrain sounds.

**Acoustic and aero-designed mirrors**
Exterior pedestal-style mirrors are optimized to decrease cabin noise levels by controlling the airflow across the side.

**Tuned tires**
Tires are designed to reduce road-induced low-frequency rumble.

**Larger/upgraded “quiet-tuned” exhaust**
Internal muffler design and increased volume enables enhanced powertrain sound quality while quieting unwanted powertrain-induced sounds.

**Upgraded sound package**
The enhanced characteristics of the material used in the pillars, carpet and trim panels, as well as structural damping and enhanced rocker sealing, reduce levels of interior noise.

*Acoustic side glass available on 2015 Lincoln MKC Reserve.
Premium materials and execution elevate environment

The 2015 Lincoln MKC is the first to offer available Bridge of Weir® Deepsoft leather seating surfaces. Developed specifically for Lincoln, Deepsoft is a semi-aniline leather, which means it is treated with only a partial protectant to maintain its soft touch. And while many leathers are embossed to give seating surfaces a uniform appearance, Deepsoft leather is chromium-free, non-embossed and naturally milled. The natural grain of each piece remains visible.

While many automotive leathers are dried in two hours, Deepsoft leather is dried for 16 hours, with the slow process helping to create its soft, buttery feel.

Also debuting on the 2015 Lincoln MKC is an all-new leather-wrapped steering wheel available in hand-stitched Wollsdorf® leather hailing from the alpine region of central Europe.

An oasis of calm

Even before the engine is started, the interior of a vehicle can create an oasis of calm.

Reducing “visual noise” begins with a strong emphasis on horizontal lines as well as thoughtful interaction between shapes. How shapes work together can convey a sense of quiet from a visual standpoint.

To create visual quiet, the forms and lines are organized so they have less interaction and are smooth and flowing, not screaming for attention.

Rich and premium materials are comfortable of course, but also can convey a certain confidence and calm. Authentic materials, such as available natural woods and metals combined with high grades of available leather, complete the environment.

Do not disturb, please

One final way of maintaining your oasis of quiet comes via the “Do Not Disturb” feature on SYNC® standard on each Lincoln. This feature blocks incoming phone calls or text messages. Calls are diverted to voice mail, and text messages are saved on the device for later viewing.