Hybrid Vehicles

There are two types of Hybrid vehicle; Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV), such as the Golf GTE, this is where the high voltage battery can be charged via an external power source as well as by the vehicle’s own charging system, and Hybrid Electric Vehicles (or HEV), the Volkswagen Touareg hybrid falls into this category, this is where the vehicle’s high voltage battery is maintained by the vehicle’s own charging system and there is no external charging.

Currently this includes the Golf GTE, and is soon to include the Passat GTE. It offers the dynamics of a GTI alongside the sustainability of an e-vehicle. The GTE models are full hybrids with increased performance of a battery and an electric motor, with battery charging possible via a mains or charging point connection. They have both a combustion engine and a lithium-ion high-voltage battery driving an electric motor. On purely electric energy, they can travel up to 31 miles between charges and when electric and petrol combine the total range is up to 580 miles.

The car is fuelled by petrol with a standard petrol cap, alongside the plug in option behind the Volkswagen roundel on the front of the vehicle (Golf GTE). To charge the high-voltage battery with the standard mains charging cable, a standard mains socket can be utilised for around 3 hours 45 minutes. With an optional wall box or at a public charging station it takes 2 hours 15 minutes. A wall box has 55% high charger performance than a mains socket. Please note; there is no DC charge facility for Golf GTE.

http://www.volkswagen.co.uk/technology/hybrid