

# WORLD CAR AWARDS

## 2019 WORLD CAR FINALS - THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS

Toronto, ON – Tuesday, February 5, 2019 – For Immediate Release

The **World Car Finals** countdown excitement officially begins today with KPMG's announcement of the finalists in six World Car Awards categories.

A jury of 86 distinguished international automotive journalists selected the following finalists by secret ballot based on their evaluation with each candidate as part of their professional work. For more details about our jurors and their outlets, please visit our web site: [www.worldcarawards.com](http://www.worldcarawards.com) and click < Jurors.

The 2019 **World Car of the Year** winner will be selected from the following 10 finalists that were chosen from an initial list of 40 contenders. The Top Ten World Car of the Year finalists are, in alpha order:

Audi e-tron  
BMW 3 Series  
Ford Focus  
Genesis G70  
Hyundai Nexo  
Jaguar I-PACE  
Mercedes-Benz A-Class  
Suzuki Jimny  
Volvo S60/V60  
Volvo XC40

The 2019 **World Urban Car** will be chosen from one of these top five finalists:

Audi A1  
Hyundai AH2 / Santro  
Kia Soul  
SEAT Arona  
Suzuki Jimny

The 2019 **World Luxury Car** top five finalists are as follows:

Audi A7  
Audi Q8  
BMW 8 Series  
Mercedes-Benz CLS  
Volkswagen Touareg

The 2019 **World Performance Car** top five finalists are:

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Aston Martin Vantage  
BMW M2 Competition  
Hyundai Veloster N  
McLaren 720S  
Mercedes-Benz AMG 4-door Coupe

There are five finalists in the 2019 **World Green Car** category. They are:

Audi e-tron  
Honda Clarity Plug-In Hybrid  
Hyundai Nexo  
Jaguar I-Pace  
Kia Niro EV

Again this year, the cars eligible for the 2019 **World Car Design of the Year** award could be any of the contenders competing in the six award categories.

A design panel consisting of seven highly respected world design experts was asked to first review each candidate, and then establish a short-list of recommendations for the jurors. The design experts are in alpha order: **Anne Asensio** (France - Vice-President, Design - Dassault Systemes), **Gernot Bracht** (Germany - Pforzheim Design School), **Patrick le Quément** (France - Designer and President of the Strategy Committee - The Sustainable Design School), **Sam Livingstone** (U.K. - Car Design Research and Royal College of Art), **Tom Matano** (USA - School of Industrial Design at Academy of Art University in San Francisco), **Gordon Murray (U.K. - Gordon Murray Design)** and **Shiro Nakamura** (Japan - CEO, Shiro Nakamura Design Associates Inc.).

The five finalists chosen by the design panel for the jurors' final vote are:

Citroen C5 Aircross  
Jaguar E Pace  
Jaguar I PACE  
Suzuki Jimny  
Volvo XC40

**The Road to World Car** is an annual journey in partnership with the New York International Show. The journey follows more than 80 of our international journalists as they test-drive, and vote on, the 2019 eligible vehicles. The official launch took place in Paris on September 19<sup>th</sup> and will end when the winners are officially declared in all six categories at an awards ceremony that officially opens the New York show on April 17, 2019.

World Car makes several stops along the way: our fifth annual L.A. Test Drives event concluded the last week of November. The event was an outstanding success with 48 jurors attending from 18 different countries across the six day event. The journalists test-drove, and voted on, 38 car contenders that may

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not be available in their home markets. ZF was the event's exclusive host.

The **World Car Finals** countdown excitement will continue on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> during a stop at the Geneva Motor Show where the **Top Three In The World finalists** will be announced along with the **2019 World Car Person of the Year**.

The journey ends with the grande finale awards ceremony that opens the New York International Auto Show on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The **Global Trends Report**, produced annually by Prime Research and Autoneum, will also be presented during the press conference and media breakfast that officially opens the show. The report is the culmination of research and insights across the past six months.

Of course, **The Road To World Car** doesn't really stop. Just a few weeks after the New York show's grande finale, the World Car Garage will be staged for the fourth year at the London Motor Show in May of 2019; offering a glimpse of the 2020 contenders as well as celebrating the 2019 winners.

The World Car Awards is the number one awards program of its type globally for the sixth consecutive year as reported in Prime Research's independent media report released in May 2018.

Video: <https://youtu.be/tw-YvxZ1FhU>

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**THE ROAD TO WORLD CAR:  
BEGAN IN PARIS OCTOBER 2, 2018. ENDS IN NEW YORK APRIL 17, 2019.**

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For additional information either visit our web site ([www.worldcarawards.com](http://www.worldcarawards.com)) or please contact Beth Rhind, Co-founder and Executive Manager, E: [beth@wcoty.com](mailto:beth@wcoty.com)

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**Media release distributed by NEWSPRESS – The World Car Awards' Official Media Partner**

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## BACKGROUND

### World Car Awards

Now entering their 15th year, the annual World Car Awards are the number one awards program in the world for the sixth consecutive year based on Prime Research's 2018 media report. The awards were inaugurated in 2003, and officially launched in January 2004, to reflect the reality of the global marketplace, as well as to recognize and reward automotive excellence on an international scale. The awards are intended to complement, not compete, with existing national and regional Car of the Year programs.

The awards are administered by a not-for-profit association, under the guidance of an awards management group and steering committee of pre-eminent automotive journalists from Asia, Europe, and North America. Peter Lyon (Co-chair, World Car Awards Program – Japan), Mike Rutherford (Co-chair, World Car Awards Program – UK), Jens Meiners (Partnership director – Germany), Tim Stevens (director – USA), Siddharth Vinayak Patankar (director – India) and Gerry Malloy (president, WCOTY

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Association).

## **New York International Auto Show**

Owned and operated by the Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association, the New York Auto Show is an awesome combination of new ideas, technological innovation, exceptional concept cars and nearly 1,000 of the latest new cars and trucks. Over one million visitors are expected to visit the show this year to see what is truly possible from the automotive industry.

Important 2019 Auto Show Dates

Automotive Forum: April 16

Press Preview: April 17 and 18 (credentials required)

Public Sneak Preview, Friday, April 19

Public Show Dates, Friday, April 19 – Sunday, April 28th