



2025 WORLD CAR FINALS POWERED BY BREMBO

THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS - Top Ten and Top Five Finalists Announced

LAS VEGAS, Nevada – Wednesday, January 8, 2025 – For Immediate Release

The **WORLD CAR FINALS POWERED BY BREMBO** begins today with the announcement of the top ten and top five finalists in six World Car Awards vehicle categories. The countdown ends on Wednesday April 16th when the winners will be announced during the World Car Awards ceremony, live at the [2025 New York International Auto Show](#). Today's vote results have been tabulated by [KPMG](#).

A jury of [96 distinguished international automotive journalists](#) from 30 countries selected the finalists by secret ballot based on their evaluation of each eligible vehicle as part of their professional work.

*Commenting on the finalists, **Daniele Schillaci, Brembo's Chief Executive Officer**, said, "The World Car Awards align perfectly with the core values and innovative spirit of Brembo, which is why I would like to congratulate the first finalists of this prestigious accolade. Your achievement is evidence of the same forward-thinking vision that motivates us every day. We look forward to the winner's announcement and wish all participants continued success in their endeavors."*

The 2025 **World Car of the Year** (WCOTY) winner will be selected from the following top ten finalists chosen from an initial list of 52 contenders:

- Audi A5 / S5
- BMW X3
- Ford Mustang
- Hyundai Inster / Casper Electric
- Kia EV3
- Mini Cooper Electric
- Suzuki Swift
- Toyota Camry
- Toyota Land Cruiser / Land Cruiser 250
- Volkswagen Tiguan / Tayron

31 vehicles competed in the **World Electric Vehicle** category this year. The top five finalists are:

- Hyundai Inster / Casper Electric
- Kia EV3
- Porsche Macan Electric
- Volkswagen ID. Buzz
- Volvo EX90

There were ten cars in the 2025 **World Luxury Car** class. The top five finalists are:

- Lexus GX
- Porsche Macan
- Porsche Panamera
- Volkswagen ID. Buzz
- Volvo EX90

The 2025 **World Performance Car** had 17 cars competing in the category. The top five finalists are:

- Bentley Continental GT Speed
- BMW M5
- Ford Mustang
- Porsche 911 Carrera GTS
- Porsche Taycan Turbo GT

There were 12 candidates in the 2025 **World Urban Car** class. The top five finalists are:

- BYD Seagull / Dolphin Mini
- Hyundai Inster / Casper Electric
- Mini Cooper
- Mini Cooper Electric
- Suzuki Swift

All vehicles competing in the five categories above are eligible for the 2025 **World Car Design of the Year** award.

A design panel consisting of five highly respected world design experts was asked to first review each candidate and establish a short-list of recommendations for the jurors' final vote. The design experts were in alphabetical order: **Anja Bracht** (Germany - Pforzheim University), **Gert Hildebrand** (Germany - Owner Hildebrand-Design), **Tom Matano** (USA - Academy of Art University, Former Head of Design – Mazda), **Victor Nacif** (USA - Chief Creative Officer, Brojure.com and Design instructor, New School of Architecture and Design) and **Shiro Nakamura** (Japan - CEO, Shiro Nakamura Design Associates Inc.)

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

- Baojun Yunduo / Cloud / MG Windsor EV
- Kia EV3
- Mini Cooper
- Toyota Land Cruiser
- Volkswagen ID. Buzz

The **Top Three in the World** finalists will be announced virtually via [World Car TV](#) on **Tuesday, March 4th, 2025**.

Winners in all six categories will be announced on **Wednesday, April 16th, 2025**, during a live World Car Awards ceremony at the [New York International Auto Show](#) (NYIAS). This year marks the 20th year of the World Car Awards partnership with the show.

Mark Schienberg, president of NYIAS said, "As we celebrate 125 years of the New York Auto Show this year, we're pleased to once again kick off the Show by also celebrating the winners of the World Car Awards. Receiving a World Car Award from 96 of the world's top automotive journalists is a major victory for all those involved and is a perfect way to open North America's first and largest-attended auto show. Congratulations to the World Car team on more than 20 years of excellence, and best of luck to all the finalists!"

The Road to the World Car Awards is an annual journey that follows our international jurors as they

test-drive, and vote on, the eligible vehicles for the awards' season. The jurors' road-test journey is captured virtually on [World Car TV](#). The jurors provide viewers with reviews and commentary on the awards' eligible vehicles in the six categories listed above.

The World Car Awards program would not be possible without the support of our official 20th Anniversary Partners: [AITASTIC Research & Consult](#), [BREMBO](#), the [NEW YORK International Auto Show](#), [KPMG](#) and [Newspress](#). Thank you to our partners.

VIDEO – [WORLD CAR TV](#)

THE ROAD TO WORLD CAR 2025 **Began September 30, 2024**

Will end at the New York International Auto Show
Wednesday, April 16, 2025 #RoadtoNYC

FOLLOW OUR 96 INTERNATIONAL JURORS:

World Car TV: [YouTube.com/worldcartv](https://www.youtube.com/worldcartv)
Instagram: #wcoty @theworldcarawards #wca2025 #WorldCarAwards
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For additional information please visit www.worldcarawards.com or contact us at:
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CELEBRATING THE BEST OF TODAY FOR OVER 20 YEARS
EMBRACING THE BEST OF TOMORROW FOR OVER 20 YEARS

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ABOUT

World Car Awards

It is the mission of the World Car Awards and its 96 global journalists on the jury panel to recognize, reward and inspire automotive excellence, leadership and innovation in a rapidly changing automotive industry on a global scale.

To that end we test drive and evaluate new or fully redesigned vehicles that are for sale in multiple markets on more than one continent each year, voting to determine the World Car Design, World Luxury Car, World Performance Car, World Urban Car, World Electric Vehicle and World Car of the Year. Full vehicle eligibility requirements and our annual timeline can be found on our website.

Now in their 21st year, the annual World Car Awards are the number one awards program in the world for the 12th consecutive year in terms of media reach and analysis of the top global markets.

The awards were inaugurated in 2003, and officially launched in January 2004, to reflect the reality of the global marketplace. The awards are intended to complement, not compete, with existing national and regional Car of the Year programs.

New York International Auto Show

The New York International Automobile Show, North America's first and largest-attended auto show, is an amazing combination of new ideas, technological innovation, and nearly 1,000 of the latest new cars and trucks on display. The Show is owned and produced by the Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association each spring in Manhattan.

2025 Auto Show Dates

Press Preview: April 16 and 17, 2025 (credentials required)

Public Show Date: April 18 – April 27, 2025

Social Media: Twitter: @NYAutoShow Facebook: [nyautoshow](#) Instagram: [nyautoshow](#) #nyauto #nyias #RoadtoNYC
