



WORLD CAR AWARDS - LIST OF WINNERS BY CATEGORY

Updated April 1, 2026

WORLD CAR OF THE YEAR

2026 – Double Win for BMW and car: BMW iX3 WCOTY and EV
2025 – Kia EV3
2024 – Kia EV9
2023 – Hyundai Ioniq 6
2022 – Hyundai Ioniq 5
2021 – Volkswagen ID.4
2020 – Kia Telluride (Double win for Kia – two different cars. Other win was for Kia Soul EV - World Urban Car)
2019 – Triple Win for Jaguar and car - Jaguar I-PACE
2018 - Volvo XC60
2017 – Double Win for Jaguar and car - Jaguar F-PACE
2016 – Double Win for Mazda and car - Mazda MX-5
2015 – Triple Win for Mercedes-Benz - three different cars. Mercedes-Benz C-Class (WCOTY) plus Performance - AMG GT plus Luxury - S Coupé
2014 – Audi A3
2013 - Volkswagen Golf
2012 - Volkswagen UP!
2011 - Nissan LEAF
2010 - Double Win for Volkswagen and car - Volkswagen Polo
2009 - Volkswagen Golf VI
2008 - Mazda2 / Mazda Demio
2007 - Lexus LS460
2006 - BMW 3-Series
2005 – Audi A6 - inaugural WCOTY

WORLD ELECTRIC VEHICLE (inaugurated in 2022)

2026 – BMW iX3
2025 – Hyundai Inster / Casper Electric
2024 – Kia EV9
2023 – Hyundai Ioniq 6
2022 – Hyundai Ioniq 5

WORLD LUXURY CAR

2026 – Lucid Gravity
2025 – Volvo EX90
2024 – BMW 5 Series / i5
2023 – Lucid Air
2022 – Mercedes-Benz EQS
2021 – Mercedes-Benz S-Class

2020 - Porsche Taycan (Double win for the car. It also won World Performance Car)
2019 - Audi A7
2018 - Audi A8
2017 – Mercedes-Benz E-Class
2016 - BMW 7 Series
2015 - Mercedes-Benz S Coupé
2014 – Mercedes-Benz S-Class
Prior to 2014, there was no World Luxury Car category/award

WORLD PERFORMANCE CAR

2026 – Hyundai Ioniq 6 N
2025 - Porsche 911 Carrera GTS
2024 – Hyundai Ioniq 5 N
2023 – Kia EV6 GT
2022 – Audi e-tron GT
2021 – Porsche 911 Turbo
2020 – Porsche Taycan (Double win for the car. It also won World Luxury Car).
2019 - McLaren 720S
2018 - BMW M5
2017 – Porsche Boxster Cayman
2016 – Audi R8 Coupe
2015 - Mercedes-Benz AMG GT
2014 - Porsche 911 GT3
2013 - Porsche Boxster / Cayman
2012 - Porsche 911
2011 - Ferrari 458 Italia
2010 - Audi R8 V10
2009 - Nissan GT-R
2008 - Audi R8 (Double win for Audi – R8 also won Design)
2007 - Audi RS4 (Double win for Audi – Audi TT also won Design)
2006 - Porsche Cayman S

WORLD GREEN CAR

This award stopped in 2020 since most vehicles have “green” technology.

2019 - Jaguar I-PACE
2018 - Nissan LEAF
2017 - Toyota Prius Prime
2016 - Toyota Mirai
2015 - BMW i8
2014 - BMW i3 (Double win for BMW – i3 also won Design)
2013 - Tesla Model S
2012 - Mercedes-Benz S 250 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY
2011 - Chevrolet Volt
2010 - Volkswagen BlueMotion (Golf, Passat, Polo)
2009 - Honda FCX Clarity
2008 - BMW 118d with Efficient Dynamics
2007 - Mercedes-Benz E320 Bluetec

WORLD URBAN CAR

2026 - Firefly
2025 - BYD Seagull / Dolphin Mini
2024 - Volvo EX30
2023 – Citroen C3

2022 – Toyota Yaris Cross
2021 – Honda e
2020 – Kia Soul EV
2019 – Suzuki Jimny
2018 – Volkswagen Polo
2017 - BMW i3
Prior to 2017 – there was no World Urban Car category/award

WORLD CAR DESIGN OF THE YEAR

2026 – Mazda 6e / EZ-6
2025 – Volkswagen ID. Buzz
2024 – Toyota Prius
2023 – Hyundai Ioniq 6
2022 – Hyundai Ioniq 5
2021 – Land Rover Defender
2020 – Mazda3
2019- Jaguar I-PACE
2018 - Range Rover Velar
2017 - Jaguar F-PACE
2016 - Mazda MX-5
2015 - Citroen C4 Cactus
2014 - BMW i3 (Double win for BMW- i3 also won Green)
2013 - Jaguar F-Type
2012 - Range Rover Evoque
2011 - Aston Martin Rapide
2010 - Chevrolet Camaro
2009 - Fiat 500
2008 - Audi R8 (Double win for Audi – R8 also won Performance)
2007 - Audi TT (Double win for Audi - RS4 also won Performance)
2006 - Citroen C4 – World Car Design of the Year

WORLD CAR PERSON OF THE YEAR

2026 - Oliver Zipse, Chairman of the Board of Management, BMW
2025 - Stella Li, Executive Vice-President of BYD
2024 - Adrian Newey, OBE, Red Bull Racing
2023 - SangYup Lee, Executive Vice President, Head of Hyundai and Genesis Global Design Center, Hyundai Motor Company (HMC)
2022 – Luc Donckerwolke, Executive Vice President for Design and Chief Creative Officer, Hyundai Motor Group
2021 – Akio Toyoda, President and CEO, Toyota Motor Corporation
2020 - Carlos Tavares, CEO of PSA Group
2019 – Sergio Marchionne, CEO, FCA; Chairman, CNH Industrial; and Chairman and CEO, Ferrari
2018 - Håkan Samuelsson, President and CEO, Volvo Car Group (inaugural winner)
