



GCOTY AWARDS 2027

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GCOTY AWARDS 2027: THE CLASS WINNERS

22 September 2026, 10:00 CEST: Volkswagen ID. Polo, Kia PV5, Mercedes-Benz GLC, Xpeng X9 and Hyundai Ioniq 6 N lead their segments; Klaus Zellmer is Automotive Person of the Year; special awards for BMW, Geely, Porsche, Renault and Škoda

Dietzhöhlztal: A jury of 47 renowned automotive journalists has selected the class winners of the **GCOTY AWARDS 2027**. They were chosen from all new models launched over the past twelve months.

The **Volkswagen ID. Polo** wins the “Budget” segment, which covers all new model ranges with a starting price below EUR 25,000. The **Kia PV5** leads the EUR 25,000-40,000- category (“Compact”). The electric **Mercedes-Benz GLC** takes the “Premium” segment (starting price EUR 40,000-70,000), while the **Xpeng X9** takes the top spot in the “Luxury” category (above €70,000). The **Hyundai Ioniq 6 N** is the “Performance” class winner.

During two days of test drives, the jury will select the overall winner, the German Car of the Year 2027, from these five class winners. The winner will be announced on 2 November 2026.

For the first time, the jury also selected winners across all classes for individual attributes. The **Geely E2** offers the best Value of all vehicles across all classes. The **Renault Twingo** received the award for best Exterior Design, and the **BMW iX3** for best Interior Design and infotainment. The **Porsche 911 Turbo S** has the best Powertrain, while the **Škoda Peaq** is Family Car of the Year.

The jury was also asked to select the most outstanding figure in the industry. In recognition of his achievements, Škoda CEO **Klaus Zellmer** has been named Automotive Person of the Year 2027.

The awards were presented to the winners at an evening event at the National Automobile Museum in Dietzhöhlztal/Germany. In a dedicated message, VDA President **Hildegard Müller** emphasized the importance of the awards: “Nine years of German Car of the Year - that is a genuine success story. The award has become one of the most important independent honors in the automotive world, and it owes this standing above all to one thing: its openness to different perspectives.”

The independent jury consists of 47 German and international automotive journalists. The GCOTY Awards are supported by **Aitastic, AvD, AutoCom Associates, Bridgestone, Gentex, KST Motorenversuch, Ronal** and **ZF**.

Further information and media assets: gcoty.com.

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