

Weekly World Car Info

by

ceAUTO

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Table of Contents

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Global

Europe

North America

South America

Australia

Japan

China

Southeast Asia

South Asia

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Previews/Global

Faraday Future's New FX Super One Van Has an Emoji Face

Faraday Future just revealed the first vehicle in its more attainable (read: cheaper) Faraday X lineup, called the FX Super One. Taking the form of a luxurious minivan, the FX Super One is stuffed with aspirational, somewhat gimmicky technology, including the imaginatively named Front AI Communication Ecosystem (F.A.C.E. for short), which displays your choice of emoji or information on the front of the car where a grille might otherwise be. And somewhat surprisingly for the electric-forward Faraday brand, the FX Super One will also offer an extended-range variant with an onboard, gasoline-

powered generator. The automaker says it's targeting a variety of vehicles with its new van, ranging from the Honda Odyssey at the low end to the Cadillac Escalade IQ in top trim. The FX Super One, which seems to be based on the Great Wall Motors Wey Gaoshan luxury minivan, offers seating for four in its most opulent form. The individual lounge rear buckets look spacious and comfortable in the vein of other posh people-carriers like the Lexus LM and Volvo EM90, making the four-seater Super One ideal for movie stars and professional athletes. The six-passenger version is more appropriate



for executive and team travel, with a two-person bench in the third row and less substantial second-row bucket seats sharing space a bit more equally. Faraday Future also says a seven-passenger version is in the cards, presumably with a three-person second-row bench and seating for two in the third row – that one will be marketed toward families. Passenger space in the rear seats will be more egalitarian, and we presume there'll be removable and folding seats to allow for maximum cargo space if required. Parents will also appreciate the 136-inch-long continuous curtain airbag that spans all three rows, keeping everyone safe in a collision. In a significant departure from Faraday Future's brand ethos thus far, the FX Super One will enter the market first as an extended-range plug-in hybrid. A gas-powered, turbocharged 1.5-liter inline-four, front and rear electric motors, and a

39.5-kilowatt-hour battery will yield 480 horsepower and 562 pound-feet of torque, as well as an all-electric range of 86 miles. A NACS charging port will come standard, and unlike most current plug-in hybrids, the FX Super One will be capable of DC fast charging. A fully electric model will be offered soon, oddly enough. Faraday Future says it has received more than 10,000 pre-orders (valued at \$100 each) since the FX Super One's debut last night. That's a cool \$1 million in the company's coffers, which may help bring the luxury minivan to the market without much delay. Pricing for the posh people carrier hasn't been officially revealed, but Faraday Future expects the FX Super One to come in at well under \$100,000 to start – less than a third the price of its existing FF 91 super-sedan.

<https://carbuzz.com/faraday-future-fx-super-one-van-emoji-face/>

Racing Cars/Global

Nissan Unveils Special London Livery to Mark New Leaf



Nissan will take to the Excel Circuit for the finale weekend on 26 & 27 July in fresh colours as it seeks out Manufacturers' and Teams' glory. The squad currently sits second in both standings heading into the last two events of Season 11, but is determined to add to its recent success, after their driver Oliver Rowland won the Drivers' World Championship last time out in Berlin. For this weekend's racing, Nissan will showcase a special teal blue edition of its iconic cherry blossom livery, to celebrate the launch of the all-new, UK-manufactured, Nissan LEAF. A true, third-generation electric vehicle, the LEAF is built upon data and expertise collected since the debut of the pioneering first model in 2010, which was the world's first mass market electric and zero-emission vehicle. Everything learned from the close to 700,000 units sold in the last 15

years has helped to create a family-friendly EV with sleek and bold looks throughout. Nissan's ast visit to London in 2024 was a successful one. Oliver Rowland produced an excellent drive, coming through the field from ninth on the grid to take a special victory in front of his home fans. On the other side of the garage, Norman Nato returns to the cockpit of the #17 Nissan e-4ORCE 05 aiming to build on his strong track record at the Excel London Circuit, which has seen the Frenchman score points in three out of the last four races held there. Formula E returns to the capital on the 26 & 27 July 2025. Following the exhilarating, sold-out Season 10 finale, get yourself in pole position for more wheel-to-wheel action at Excel London.

<https://fiaformulae.com/en/news/755380>

Racing Cars/Global

Porsche Is Developing an Aggro 992.2-Generation 911 Cup Car

In road form, a Porsche flat-six screaming at 9000 rpm is an auditory experience akin to several shots of espresso. In race car form, a single Porsche flat-six reaching an 8,750-rpm crescendo generates a reverberation that can be felt pounding throughout your chest. But what about an entire field of Porsche flat-sixes? That sows a thunder felt from head to toe. That tempest of 911 Cup cars is preparing for a change, as Porsche just confirmed that development for an updated 911 Cup Car based on the 992.2 generation of the 911 GT3 road car is underway. The new car would replace the current 992.1 Cup Cars that compete in the Porsche Mobil 1 Supercup and several Carrera Cup series around the world. Exact changes to the new race car are not mentioned, with Porsche preferring to speak in generalities. The automaker says development

has focused on improving aerodynamics at the front of the car, which should help with drivability. Porsche said it also made changes to the electronics, brakes, transmission, and engine. Development for the 992.2 version of the Cup car began in January 2024. Development began at Porsche Motorsport in Weissach, Germany, with testing days at the Monza Circuit and the Lausitzring in Brandenburg, Germany. Production of the new race car is scheduled to start this fall, with the car making its debut for the 2026 racing season. This content is imported from poll. You may be able to find the same content in another format, or you may be able to find more information, at their web site.

<https://www.caranddriver.com/news/a65447560/porsche-911-cup-car-updates/>



Commercial Vehicles/Europe

Fiat eDucato Cargo Box Debuts

Fiat Professional just dropped a serious game-changer in Europe – the all-new all-electric eDucato Cargo Box BEV. The latest version of the popular work van is now rolling off the line at the Atessa Assembly Plant in Italy, and it's generating excitement. Why? Because it brings together everything business owners and fleet buyers want: huge storage space, quick charging, and emissions-free operation. This isn't just another panel van with batteries. The new eDucato Cargo Box BEV is a factory-built solution based on the battery-electric Chassis Cab version of the van. That means this isn't a conversion – it's built from the ground up for the job. It can handle a massive 18.3 cubic meters (646 cubic feet) of cargo, or even 20.5 m³ (724 cu. ft.) in the longer L4 variant. That's serious capacity for a fully electric vehicle in this class. Need more?

Fiat is offering flexible configurations, including side doors, tailgates, liftgates, and overhead interior storage. In fact, the most spacious setup offers a whopping 22 m³ (777 cu. ft.) of usable cargo room. That's more than enough to haul large goods, fleet equipment, or upfit it as a rolling service center. Powering this beast is a 200 kW (270 horsepower) electric motor and a big 110-kWh battery, offering up to 323 kilometers (201 miles) of range under the WLTP test cycle. The real headline, though, might be the new 22 kW onboard AC charger that cuts full charging time in half, down to just 6 hours. Perfect for overnight top-ups and ready for work the next day. Here's where it gets interesting for us in North America: could this all-electric box van be a preview of things to come for the Ram ProMaster EV? The current ProMaster is based



heavily on the Ducato platform, and Ram has already confirmed that an electric ProMaster is coming to U.S. dealers. But so far, no word yet on a factory box truck version – the kind of vehicle that’s a staple for delivery companies, electricians, and tradespeople. Given that Fiat is building these right at the plant – under Stellantis’ CustomFit program – it’s not a stretch to imagine Ram offering something similar soon. That would make Ram one of the only automakers to offer a factory-ready, electric box van in North America, skipping the aftermarket conversions and delivering a purpose-built solution from day one. There’s also big potential in the RV world. In Europe, 75% of camper vans are built

on the Ducato platform, and now that includes a BEV. Ram could tap into the same demand here for a zero-emission motorhome base. Especially with the growing interest in sustainable travel, a Ram ProMaster EV camper is sounding more and more like a smart move. With Stellantis investing heavily in electrification across all its global brands, the move to offer a cargo box variant of the eDucato may be the blueprint for what’s next from Ram. We’ll be keeping an eye out – because if Ram brings this over, it could be a real game-changer for fleets, trades, and upfitters across America.

<https://moparinsiders.com/fiat-educato-cargo-box-debuts-could-ram-be-next/>

Updates/Europe

Opel's New Extended Range Frontera Electric Covers Over 400 km Range

With the Frontera Electric, Opel has had a decidedly affordable electric crossover in its range since the spring, which shares the platform with the Citroën ë-C3 Aircross. However, the Rüsselsheim model benefits from a significantly greater range. While its French technical brother has a maximum range of 307 kilometres, the Frontera has significantly more endurance. Opel is now launching an 'Extended Range' version, which should offer a hundred kilometres more range than the previous electric Frontera and is around 2,000 euros more expensive. Thanks to a 10 kWh increase in battery capacity, the new top version should be able to cover an extra hundred kilometres. The lithium iron phosphate

battery has a capacity of 54 kWh, which should be enough for 408 kilometres according to the WLTP standard. Opel specifies consumption of 15.8 to 16.5 kWh per hundred kilometres. The previous version had 44 kWh and offered a maximum range of 305 kilometres. In future, this cheaper version will be the entry-level version of the Frontera. Apart from the larger battery, little has changed in the crossover positioned in the B segment. The drive is still provided by an electric motor with 83 kW and 125 Newton metres of torque, which is located on the front axle and only drives the front wheels. However, the 1.6 tonne 'Extended Range' version accelerates a little slower: from 0 to 100 km/h in 14.2 seconds,



compared to 12.1 seconds for the basic version of the Frontera Electric. The top speed remains unchanged at 143 km/h. The German Stellantis subsidiary saw no need for improvement in terms of charging performance. The Frontera Electric 'Extended Range' also charges at DC charging points with a maximum of 100 kW. However, due to the higher energy content of the battery, this will take a little longer for the future top version. Ideally, the charge level of the LFP battery can be increased from 20 to 80 per cent in around half an hour. With the entry-level version, however, this process takes 26 minutes. Opel does not specify the value from

ten to 80 per cent. The Opel Frontera Electric, built in Slovakia, starts at €28,990 for the base model, while the Extended Range variant is €2,200 more expensive and available from €31,190. As with the powertrains, Opel keeps it simple in terms of equipment and only offers two different packages with 'Edition' and 'GS'. In addition to the two electric variants, the Frontera is also available as a mild hybrid combustion engine in two different performance levels.

<https://www.electrive.com/2025/07/18/opels-new-extended-range-frontera-electric-covers-over-400-km-range/>



New Vehicles/Europe

Rally-Inspired Opel Mokka GSE Revealed

Opel has unveiled the Mokka GSE, the most potent version of its electric crossover to date, taking inspiration from a prototype rally car. Some will recall the GSE badge, which adorned performance versions of past Opels. More recently, it was used for plug-in hybrid models that had higher power outputs, and now it's being applied to Opel's most powerful electric cars. The Mokka GSE uses the same 54 kWh battery that other versions of the crossover have, but the electric motor's output is increased to 280 hp, backed up by 345Nm of torque. This results in a 5.9-second sprint from 0 to 100 km/h. Opel hasn't revealed the official range of the Mokka GSE, but it is expected to be similar to the Alfa Romeo Junior Veloce's 333-kilometre figure as both cars use the same mechanical and electrical underpinnings.

Drivers will also be able to prolong the Mokka GSE's range by choosing either the Normal mode, which dials back some performance and reduces the top speed, or the Eco mode, which maximises how much range you can get from the battery. Opel has also kitted the Mokka GSE out with a Torsen multi-plate limited-slip differential and specially designed axles to help manage the performance upgrade. New double hydraulic shock absorbers have been fitted, while further optimisation of the steering and brakes comes as a result of what Opel has learned from its experience in electric rallying. Along with the modifications under the skin, the Opel Mokka GSE rides on bespoke 20-inch alloy wheels that are aerodynamically optimised and shaped in a way to show off the yellow GSE brake calipers.

The front bumper gains white-and-yellow GSE badging on the front corner with a honeycomb mesh section spanning the bottom. In keeping with previous GSE models, the Mokka sports a contrasting black bonnet and roof design. The interior features sports seats with integrated headrests upholstered with grey Alcantara inserts that carry the GSE logo and contrasting yellow stitching. Alcantara is also applied to the door inserts and the steering wheel is flattened at the top and bottom, while aluminium pedals round

out the sporty image. Drivers can customise both the 10-inch instrument panel and the touchscreen, which includes additional information such as GSE performance data and a G-force meter. There's no word on Irish pricing for the Mokka GSE yet, but it will sit atop the model lineup, which currently starts at €29,995 for the petrol version and €30,227 for the electric.

<https://www.completecar.ie/car-news/article/14260/Rally-inspired-Opel-Mokka-GSE-revealed>



New Model Introductions/Europe

Subaru Reveals Fresh All-Electric SUV Range for Europe: Solterra, Uncharted, and E-Outback



Toyota Motor Corporation and Subaru Corporation are in cahoots, and have been so for a while, but they don't always like to remind us of that. For example, they collaborate on their electric vehicles, but currently, they have made a hodgepodge of the naming strategy just to confuse us a little bit more. After years of neglecting the EV sector, Toyota Motor Corporation this year kicked off an interesting offensive both in Europe and North America. So, aside from giving the bZ4X a thorough mid-cycle refresh, they also launched the new Urban Cruiser BEV, plus the C-HR+ and the bZ4X Touring. There's no subcompact

CUV in America because the Urban Cruiser is a rebadged Suzuki e Vitara, but the refreshed bZ was joined by the new C-HR and the bZ Woodland. TMC makes sure it doesn't spend too much on any of these vehicles, so in North America, the bZ is twinned with the Subaru Solterra, as before. At the same time, the new C-HR coupe-SUV is called Subaru Uncharted, and the bZ Woodland is the Subaru Trailseeker. If you ask us, these are way cooler names than what Toyota selected. However, Subaru also can't help but confuse us a little bit, too. As such, Subaru Europe, the European subsidiary of



Subaru Corporation, recently announced the expansion of its EV range with three new models – the refreshed Solterra, as well as the all-new Uncharted compact SUV, plus the mid-size E-Outback. However, the latter is America's Trailseeker and has nothing to do with the all-new, seventh-generation ICE-powered Outback. Yep, it's going to cause a massive headache trying to remember which name is for what region and the corresponding Toyota-Subaru models. Anyway, let's look at them one by one. The refreshed Subaru Solterra comes to the Old Continent three years after the launch of Subaru's first electric SUV, packing new styling along with „significant hardware and software upgrades.“ So, mirroring the 2026 Toyota bZ, the facelifted Solterra has dual e-axes with a combined output of 252 kW (344 ps or 338 hp), enabling a sprint to 62 mph in 5.1 seconds. The battery pack also surges to 73.1 kWh, and the range is now at more than 310 miles on a charge. There's also faster DC charging from 10 to 80% in 30 minutes, and AC charging is done

at up to 22 kW. The Subaru Uncharted compact coupe-SUV will have three versions: base single-motor, FWD with a smaller 57.7 kWh battery that's good for 276 miles of range, the Long Range FWD model with the larger 77 kWh battery and up to 363 miles on a charge, plus the top AWD model with the same big battery, 338 hp, and up to 292 miles of range along with a sprint to 62 mph in five seconds. Last but not least, there's also the Subaru E-Outback, known as Trailseeker in North America. The new flagship EV has a 74.7 kWh battery pack but comes with 280 kW (380 ps or 375 hp). It will travel up to 279 miles on a single charge and sprint to 62 mph in 4.4 seconds while also packing the Symmetrical AWD system, 210 mm of ground clearance, and a dual X-MODE terrain selection system to help with the 1,500-kg towing capacity. The new models will launch in markets like the UK in early 2026 and the E-Outback next summer. <https://www.autoevolution.com/news/subaru-reveals-fresh-all-electric-suv-range-for-europe-solterra-uncharted-and-e-outback-254672.html>

Prototype Cars/Europe

There's a New V8 Sports Car Bringing Back That Classic British Charm

Ever feel like technology is starting to go too far? Between always-on connectivity, endless touchscreens, and overbearing driver aids, even the simple joy of going for a drive is being swallowed by distraction. Getting behind the wheel and hitting your favorite roads used to be a guaranteed way to clear your head – now it often feels like you're just piloting a rolling smartphone. But there's a new sports car in the works from a small British startup that might just be the antidote to all this tech fatigue. You've probably never heard of Larkin. Most haven't – until this past week's Goodwood Festival of Speed, where the company unveiled the striking Feroxa V8. The name is only a code name for now, but you can take it as signalling

a revival of the lithe British roadsters of the 1960s; think AC Ace, which later became the Shelby Cobra, or the delicate, driver-focused Lotus Elan. There are even hints of the Aston Martin DBR1 in its lines, which makes perfect sense when you learn that Larkin's founder is a former Aston Martin engineer. Larkin is the brainchild of Douglas Larkin, an engineer who also worked for Jaguar Land Rover and today runs Capture Point, a consulting company specializing in 3D scanning and reverse engineering. The firm has helped develop several high-end restomodded cars as well as multiple projects for Formula 1, but for Larkin, his dream was always to create his own car. This goal led him to learn much of the trade while working for



major OEMs. He's now applying that experience to the Feroxa, which is still in the prototype stage. The car on display at Goodwood didn't even have a completed interior. Rather than develop the car from scratch, Larkin started with the chassis of a donor Aston Martin – specifically, the V8 Vantage built from 2006 to 2018. The chassis is a version of Aston Martin's bonded-aluminum architecture, known as VH, the original version of which debuted in the first Vanquish. However, Larkin has re-engineered it where necessary to meet the requirements for the Feroxa's performance and speedster body. The company will use donor chassis with left- or right-hand drive, and only a manual transmission will be offered. Weight reduction will lead to a big boost in performance compared to the donor car, especially thanks to the use of carbon fiber in the construction. Larkin is targeting a curb weight of less than 2,866 pounds. Larkin wants to deliver a fun driving experience over a car that is simply fast. That said, the Feroxa V8 will be plenty quick, given some of the performance

targets. The company plans to use the original V8 Vantage's 4.3-liter V8 engine, but with modifications like a lightened flywheel and a new exhaust system – including custom headers – to help liberate around 420 hp from the standard 380. Buyers seeking more performance will have options, with Larkin planning to offer a V12 version should a customer want to use the V12 Vantage as the donor. In that case, output will rise to over 500 hp. Larkin may also offer one of the tuned V8 engines from Aston Martin restoration specialist Bamford Rose. There's still a lot of development ahead, though Larkin is confident the prototype will be completed by the end of the year and ready for a full unveiling next spring. Interested buyers will need to act fast, as Larkin plans to limit production to just 10 units. A final price hasn't been disclosed and will likely vary depending on what configuration is selected.

<https://carbuzz.com/larkin-feroxa-v8-british-sports-car-revealed/>



Updates/North America

2026 Acura Integra Adds a Bigger Standard Screen



The reborn Acura Integra is getting some updates for 2026. Rejoining the Acura lineup for 2023, this minor update helps the Integra keep up with the growing demand for bigger standard screens and keeps the Integra fresh. Heading to all Integra models for 2026 is a 9.0-inch touchscreen media controller. That's up from the 7.0-inch media screen that was shipped inside of the base-model Integra models, and effectively just brings the A-Spec technology package's screen to the whole lineup. Acura says this screen boasts a more powerful processor to lessen the screen's response time. Integra shoppers will also welcome standard wireless Apple CarPlay for 2026 and a new trim pattern on the dashboard. Moving outward, the 2026 Acura Integra A-Spec models will look a little

different than the current ones you see on the road, wearing a different body kit and a new set of 18-inch wheels. This new body kit adds gloss black side spoilers at the corners of the front fascia and a new side-sill garnish. If you don't opt for the A-Spec, you'll still have the option to separate your machine from the current models with one of the three new colors or the color-matched grille insert. Solar silver metallic, urban gray pearl, and double apex blue pearl are joining the order sheet for '26. The standard gloss-black grille will make its way to every Integra except for double apex blue and performance red, which will come standard with the color-matched grille insert. As for the rest of the Integra, it's basically a carryover from '25. That means the 1.5-liter turbocharged I4 is still under the hood

of every Integra except for the Type S. That 1.5-liter mill shoves 200 hp and 178 lb-ft of torque through a continuously variable transmission or a six-speed manual on as-equipped A-Spec models. The Type S still packs the 2.0-liter turbo four-cylinder engine that shuffles 320 hp and 310 lb-ft of torque to the front wheels exclusively by a six-speed manual transmission. Acura hasn't mentioned pricing for the 2026 Integra lineup yet but has said it'll start rolling into

dealers later next month. That means we're going to get formal pricing for these before the end of August. Considering the minor upgrades and other economic factors, you can probably expect a small bump from the current \$34,195 starting price of this Integra, built in Marysville, Ohio.

<https://www.autoweek.com/news/a65465979/2026-acura-integra-updates-specs-photos/>





New Vehicles/North America

2026 Lexus LC Gets Limited Edition Ahead of Possible Retirement

The elegant and stately Lexus LC 500, available in coupe and cabriolet body styles, will be back for a ninth and possibly final model year in 2026. A new Inspiration Series model for the coupe, limited to 200 units for the North American market, has just been announced by Lexus Canada. The package comes with the new-to-LC colour Smoke Matte Gray, paired with blacked-out exterior and carbon fibre styling enhancements such as the roof. Also, 21-inch Matte Black forged alloy wheels and a white and black interior treatment are included. In addition, the package comes standard with a heated steering wheel, head-up display, Mark Levinson sound system, special door scuff plates,

front bumper canards, carbon fibre rear fixed spoiler, red brake calipers, Active Rear Steering and unique serialized badge on the centre console. The LC 500 Convertible offers a new Inspiration Series model, too, although this one will have 350 units for the North American market including 29 for Canada. It comes with the new-to-LC colour Wind, paired with an exclusive Brown and Silver soft top, plus the same blacked-out exterior elements and 21-inch forged alloy wheels as the coupe. Inside, look for Saddle Tan and White semi-aniline leather seats and unique centre console badging. The Climate Concierge system provides upper body heating for more comfortable open-top motoring



on colder days. By the way, the 2026 Lexus LC 500 lineup continues to offer the customizable Bespoke Build option, allowing customers to configure their vehicle with a mix of performance and styling components like the wheels, spoiler, roof, trim and colours. The LC 500 Bespoke Build is further distinguished with a unique interior badge and included certificate of authenticity printed on Japanese washi paper and signed by both LC Chief Engineer Yasushi Muto and Lexus Canada Director Martin Gilbert. Under the hood, the sweet-sounding, naturally aspirated 5.0-litre V8 still develops 471 hp and 398 lb-ft of torque. With the 10-speed automatic transmission it's mated to, the coupe accelerates from 0-100

km/h in 4.4 seconds and achieves a combined 12.7 L/100 km. The cabriolet completes the same sprint in 4.6 seconds and burns 13 L/100 km on average. Lexus makes no mention of the LC 500h hybrid models, which used to pair a 3.5-litre V6 with an electric motor and achieved 8.1 L/100 km. The Car Guide has received confirmation from the company that they will be discontinued for 2026. Built at the Motomachi Plant in Toyota City, Japan, the 2026 Lexus LC 500 is expected to go on sale in Canada soon. Pricing details will be shared at that time.

<https://www.guideautoweb.com/en/articles/79334/2026-lexus-lc-gets-limited-edition-ahead-of-possible-retirement/>

Updates/North America

2026 Toyota Corolla Sedan Debuts With Additional Standard Content, Base MSRP Goes Up \$400



Expected to reach dealer lots in the fall, the 2026 Toyota Corolla sedan for the United States market is that little bit pricier. Now starting at \$22,725 instead of \$22,325 for model year 2025, the increasingly popular compact sedan boasts more safety kit across the board. The highlights are Blind Spot Monitor with Rear Cross-Traffic Alert. BSM informs the driver of vehicles in the Corolla's blind spots, whereas Rear Cross-Traffic Alert leverages the Blind Spot Monitor to detect rear cross traffic approaching from either side of the Corolla. BSM functionality is available when the surrounding vehicles travel at speeds above 10 miles an hour (16 kilometers an hour). RCTA, meanwhile, is active when backing up

at speeds of up to 5 mph (8 kph) and when the approaching vehicles travel at 5 to 18 mph (29 kph). Beyond these safety features, the 2026 Toyota Corolla sedan also introduces a 7.0-inch digital gauge cluster on the entry-level LE and mid-range SE grades. XLE customers are presented with a standard 12.3-inch digital gauge cluster. Due to the discontinuation of the FX Edition, the 2026 model year lineup comprises three grades. In addition to said 7.0-inch digital gauge cluster, LE further stands for plastic wheel covers on 16-inch steelies, automatic climate control, remote keyless entry, 8.0-inch touchscreen infotainment, wireless Apple CarPlay, and similarly wireless Android Auto. The better-equipped SE has three

driving modes, a sportier gloss-black front grille, and 18-inch alloy wheels finished in graphite. SE customers also get LED accent lighting and premium front sport seats with sport fabric inserts. The XSE carries over the 18-inch alloys of the SE, yet improves the visual recipe with a gray metallic rear spoiler and side rocker panels. The list of standard goodies further includes a power tilt and slide moonroof with a sliding sunshade, leather on the steering wheel rim, and paddle shifters. Infotainment comes in the form of a 10.5-inch touchscreen, which is optionally available on the SE. Paint color options include Wind Chill Pearl, Blueprint, Ice Cap, Underground, Ruby Flare Pearl, Celestite, Midnight Black Metallic, and Classic Silver Metallic. The SE and XSE can also be had in bi-tone flavor as long as the body color isn't Blueprint or Midnight Black Metallic. As opposed

to the 1.8-liter naturally aspirated I4 of the Corolla Hybrid, the combustion-only Corolla sedan uses a 2.0-liter Dynamic Force powerplant. While not especially powerful or torquey, said engine is more than adequate for a compact vehicle with a continuously variable transmission. With regular unleaded in the fuel tank, it makes 169 hp and 151 lb-ft (205 Nm). Toyota estimates up to 35 miles to the gallon (6.7 liters per 100 kilometers) on the combined test cycle. Said estimate mirrors the EPA's combined rating for the 2025 model year Corolla sedan. There is no manual option to speak of, although you can have a manual Corolla in the United States of America if you're prepared to pony up top dollar for the three-pot GR Corolla.

<https://www.autoevolution.com/news/2026-toyota-corolla-sedan-debuts-with-additional-standard-content-base-msrp-goes-up-400-254883.html>



Updates/North America

2026 Toyota Sequoia Grows Minor Changes in Content, Price

As Toyota's big-boy SUV, the full-size three-row Sequoia brings some impressive stats. Entering its fourth year on the TNGA-F platform shared with the Lexus LX, global Land Cruiser, and other body-on-frame Toyota and Lexus products, the 2026 Sequoia sees minor evolutions throughout its trim levels, including new leather and exterior color options. Let's see what's new on this Texas-sized and Texas-born SUV. First, let's start with what hasn't changed. That'd be the mechanicals, highlighted by the Sequoia's rather eye-opening i-Force Max twin-turbo 3.4-liter V-6 hybrid powertrain. At 437 hp and 583 lb-ft of torque, this mighty V-6 remains capable of towing up to 9,520 pounds on lower-spec rear-drive models.

Add (weightier) equipment and move up the trim ladder, and, of course, that capacity shrinks somewhat. But still, the standard hybrid V-6 is muscular for the segment, even if it's not particularly fuel efficient. We've already covered what's new for the off-road-focused Sequoia TRD Pro for 2026, with its exclusive Wave Maker blue paint option. It's the annual stand-out color that Toyota releases just for the TRD Pro models (including the 4Runner, Tacoma, and Tundra). Otherwise, the TRD Pro stays the same. It still includes a standard electronically locking rear differential and multi-terrain monitor, both of which can also be found on the TRD Off-Road package Sequoias. New for the range-topping



2026 Sequoia Capstone is Shale Premium textured leather trimmed seats, while the Limited trim isn't left out of the new leather game, either. It gets the cowhide in black or grey instead of the SofTex faux leather material it came with last year. The black leather on the Limited will gain white contrast stitching while the gray leather gets black stitching. New across all trims is the power folding third-row seating that makes expanding the cargo space less labor intensive. New for 2026, too, are standard massaging power front seats in the 1794, Platinum, and Capstone trims, which offers 10-way power adjustments in addition to upper

and lower body massaging while parked or while driving. With the 2026 Toyota Sequoia's changes being relatively minor, the changes to the SUV's price are, thankfully, similarly modest. Entry-level Sequoia SR5 models ring in at \$66,120 for 2026, \$1,600 more than for 2025. Four-wheel drive remains a \$3,000 option on that version and other Sequoias that don't include it standard (TRD Pro, 1794 Edition, and Capstone include it). The rest of the 2026 Sequoia lineup sees smaller price bumps compared to the SR5 of between \$465 and \$970.

<https://www.motortrend.com/news/2026-toyota-sequoia-price-msrp-trim-levels-changes>





Concept Cars/North America

California Corvette Concept Revealed by Pasadena GM Design Studio

General Motors just pulled the sheets on the California Corvette, a new concept vehicle developed by the GM Advanced Design studios in Pasadena, California. The California Corvette is the second of three Vette-branded concepts slated for release this year, the first of which was revealed in April and created by the GM UK Design Studio. Like the GM UK Design Studio concept, the California Corvette is not intended for production, but rather seeks to explore “what’s possible” in terms of sports car design, while paying homage to the iconic Corvette nameplate. “Our Advanced Design teams are dedicated to shaping the future,

driving innovation, and exploring what’s possible,” said GM vice president of global design, Bryan Nesbitt. “The California Corvette concept is another example of forward-thinking design.” The California Corvette seeks to blend classic Corvette cues with striking hyper-car proportions, matching a wide stance, tapered cabin, and narrow cockpit with a front-hinged canopy that lifts the entire roof structure off the vehicle as a single piece. The front-hinged canopy transforms the machine into an open-air, track-inspired layout. Inside, the concept reveals a minimalistic layout that prioritizes performance and function, with visible structural elements integrated directly

into the design. An augmented reality heads-up display (HUD) provides essential information to the driver. Underpinning the vehicle is a carbon fiber tub and a T-shaped battery pack, allowing for both low seating and improved aerodynamic performance. Active aerodynamic elements include a deployable rear spoiler and air brake. The vehicle rides on a staggered wheels setup sized at 21 inches in the front and 22 inches in the rear. Exterior dimensions are set at 86 inches in width and 182.5 inches in length, with a 109-

inch wheelbase. With approximately 130 staff operating within its 148,000-square-foot campus, the Pasadena Advanced Design studio is a major component of GM's future vehicle strategy. GM operates several design centers around the world, including in Detroit, Seoul, Shanghai, the U.K., and California.

<https://gmauthority.com/blog/2025/07/california-corvette-concept-revealed-by-pasadena-gm-design-studio/>



New Vehicles/North America

The BMW M240i Carbon Edition Is Only for Mexico

BMW is always eager to talk shop about the M2, but what about the lesser M240i? The not-quite-M car is finally getting some attention, albeit only in Mexico. Built exclusively at the San Luis Potosi factory, the 2 Series “G42” spawns a limited-run Carbon Edition based on the M240i xDrive. Much like in Europe, the M Performance 2 Series is offered in Mexico strictly with all-wheel drive. Thankfully, BMW keeps the rear-wheel-drive formula alive in the United States. As the name implies, the Carbon Edition brings an assortment of carbon fiber-reinforced plastic (CFRP) goodies. The treatment even extends to the kidney grille, a rare visual upgrade for the M240i. Elsewhere, the carbon upgrades include the usual suspects: a front splitter, side mirror caps, a rear diffuser, and a trunk lid spoiler. Beyond the lightweight

add-ons, BMW Mexico sweetens the pot with 19-inch wheels in the 893M design, unavailable on the regular M240i. As you’d expect, the carbon makeover continues inside, with trim pieces on the dashboard and center console. The only way to get more carbon fiber in a 2 Series is by upgrading to the full-fat M2 and ticking the box for optional bucket seats. However, you can’t get an M2 with a manual in Mexico. That said, there was a limited 30 Years Edition offered in Mexico with a stick shift. As elsewhere, the M240i remains strictly an eight-speed Steptronic affair. There are no changes under the hood, where the B58 engine continues to call home. The turbocharged 3.0-liter inline-six delivers 382 hp and 500 Nm (369 lb-ft) of torque. With all-wheel drive and launch control, the M240i sprints to 62 mph (100 km/h)



in just 4.3 seconds. Flat out, it hits an electronically limited 155 mph (250 km/h). BMW Mexico is charging 1,429,900 MXN (\$76,600), a 160,000 MXN (\$8,500) premium over the standard M240i xDrive. Even with the price bump, the Carbon Edition remains significantly cheaper than the M2, which starts at 1,764,900 MXN (\$95,000), so the two aren't likely to compete directly. What does the future have in store for this car?

The M240i will reportedly switch to the B58TÜ2 engine in Europe starting with November 2025 production. US-spec cars are expected to follow suit from August 2026. BMW is believed to continue producing the 2 Series "G42" through the second half of 2029, leaving plenty of time for more region-exclusive special editions.

<https://www.bmwblog.com/2025/07/23/2026-bmw-m240i-carbon-edition/>



New Vehicles/South America

2026 Chevy Onix 100 Years Edition Officially Debuts



General Motors has just debuted the new 2026 Chevy Onix 100 Years Edition in Brazil, in conjunction with the official unveiling of the refreshed model. The automaker's Brazilian subsidiary has unveiled the first official images of the 2026 Chevy Onix 100 Years Edition for the domestic market, as part of the company's and the Chevrolet brand's 100-year history of operations in Brazil. As such, the 2026 Onix 100 Years represents a special version of the popular subcompact car that will be offered in limited

quantities during the refreshed model's initial marketing phase. "For its 100 years in Brazil, Chevrolet launches a super exclusive and limited-edition Onix. The new 2026 Onix 100 Years celebrates Chevrolet's centennial in Brazil with a special edition that connects past and future," said GM Brazil in a statement. "The model includes exclusive design, more technology and that innovative spirit that has always been part of its journey," the brand added. Notably, the new 2026 Chevy Onix 100 Years Edition is an

exclusive version based on the base trim level five-door hatchback that has received a set of styling tweaks and special paintwork to celebrate the brand's centennial in Brazil. Highlights include a blacked-out overall finish, sporty 16-inch alloy wheels, and distinctive 100 Years emblems on both the exterior and interior. Under the hood, the 2026 Chevy Onix 100 Years Edition features the base naturally aspirated 1.0L I3 engine developing 82 horsepower and 77 pound-feet of torque, mated exclusively to a six-speed manual transmission. Based on the MT trim level and utilizing the simplest powertrain in the range, the Onix 100 Years Edition positions

itself as a low-priced, mainstream variant to celebrate the model's affordability. The new 2026 Chevy Onix 100 Years Edition will be launched simultaneously with the updated model lineup in the coming days in Brazil, where all units of this limited-edition car will be sold. It comes standard with a full range of technology and safety features, including the Chevy Virtual Cockpit with an 11-inch infotainment system screen and a digital driver instrument panel. Pricing is 104,490 reais, approximately \$18,850 USD at the current exchange rate.

<https://gmauthority.com/blog/2025/07/2026-chevy-onix-100-years-edition-officially-debuts/>

Previews/South America

Chevy Has a New SUV for Budget Buyers But Not Everyone Gets It

A new small SUV is on the horizon for South America, offering a fresh option for budget-conscious buyers. Chevrolet has offered an early glimpse of the model, which is set to debut in 2026. Although its name hasn't been revealed, the SUV will wear the Chevrolet badge and be built at the Gravataí plant in Brazil, now celebrating its 25th anniversary. This launch is tied to a broader investment plan worth R\$1.2 billion (around \$215.5 million) aimed at modernizing the Gravataí facility, a move announced in 2024. The new SUV is believed to ride on the same platform as the facelifted Onix hatchback and Onix Plus sedan, both of which are already

produced at the plant. In the teaser image, the upcoming SUV shows off split LED headlights and a wide grille up front. Around back, there are slim LED taillights and a subtle roof spoiler. From the side, the proportions lean into crossover territory, with a slightly larger body and increased ground clearance when compared to the Onix hatchback. While Chevrolet hasn't released any technical specs, expectations point toward a turbocharged 1.0-liter flex-fuel engine delivering up to 121 horsepower. Like its Onix siblings, the SUV will likely offer a choice between a six-speed manual or a six-speed automatic transmission, both driving the front wheels.



This new model will slot in beneath the recently refreshed Chevrolet Tracker, which measures 4,270 mm (168.1 inches) in length. For comparison, the Onix hatchback comes in at 4,163 mm (163.9 inches). The Tracker, produced at the Sao Caetano do Sul plant, is also receiving updates for 2026, including exterior tweaks, a new digital cockpit, and chassis improvements. When it arrives next year, the new entry-level SUV by Chevrolet will compete with the likes of the VW Tera, the Renault Kardian, the Fiat Pulse, and the Citroën Basalt. All of the

aforementioned models are based on the equivalent small hatchbacks, offering extra practicality and a more adventurous stance. According to Santiago Chamorro, president of GM South America, the new Chevrolet SUV was “developed 100% for the South American consumer.” That statement suggests the model is not expected to be offered outside the region.

<https://www.carscoops.com/2025/07/chevrolet-entry-level-suv-2026-south-america-debut-brazil-production/>

Updates/Australia

2026 Hyundai Kona: Expanded Line-Up Brings New Elite Trim and Updated Features

Hyundai has unveiled a refreshed and expanded 2026 Kona range for Australia, introducing three distinct trim levels and a host of feature upgrades designed to give buyers greater choice and value in the small SUV segment. The standout addition to the line-up is the all-new Kona Elite, positioned between the base model and the top-spec Kona Premium. This new mid-tier offering adds a suite of premium features aimed at customers seeking a balance of style, comfort, and practicality without stepping up to the range-topping variant. Powertrain options have

also been refined. The 2.0 MPi petrol and 1.6 GDi hybrid engines are now available across all grades, while the previously offered 1.6 T-GDi AWD has been discontinued. The base Kona now features a new 17-inch alloy wheel design, replacing the previous 18-inch style, and no longer offers the N Line option pack. Meanwhile, the 2026 Kona Premium has received a premium boost, now including a wide glass sunroof with a power sunshade as standard. Additionally, a dynamic N Line styling package is now available as an option for both the Elite and



Premium trims. The new Kona Elite stands out with key enhancements including leather-appointed upholstery, heated and power-adjustable front seats, 18-inch alloy wheels, and a high-end electrochromic mirror. Other upgrades include rain-sensing wipers, privacy rear glass, and

Shift By Wire gear control with paddle shifters for the 2.0 MPi variant.

<https://www.whichcar.com.au/news/2026-hyundai-kona-expanded-line-up-brings-new-elite-trim-and-updated-features>



New Vehicles/Australia

BMW Launches X5 Shadow Edition



BMW Australia has added to its X5 line-up with the uniquely specified Shadow Edition priced from \$146,900 plus on-road costs. Available for a limited time, the variant includes as standard metallic paint, M Sport Pro Package with red brake callipers, Alcantara headliner, exclusive bi-colour 21-inch alloy wheels which are offered for the first time in Australia, and M Shadowline with extended contents to provide a “stylish and luxurious appearance”. Power comes exclusively from BMW’s turbocharged 3.0-litre six-cylinder diesel engine outputting 210 kW/650 Nm to all four wheels via an eight-speed automatic

transmission. The X5 Shadow Edition is available in four exterior paint colours including Black Sapphire, BMW Individual Dravit Grey, M Carbon Black, and Mineral White. Premium details in the cabin comprise an M Alcantara headliner – finished in Anthracite – in accompaniment to Crafted Clarity cut glass elements, carbon-fibre trim, and a 16-speaker harman/kardon premium sound system. The 2025 BMW X5 Shadow Edition is available now.

<https://www.goauto.com.au/new-models/bmw/x5/shadow/bmw-launches-x5-shadow-edition/2025-07-24/96951.html>



New Vehicles/Australia

Mercedes-AMG A-Class and CLA Coupe Receive Edition R and Edition R+ Variants in Australia

The compact segment is about to receive a high-performance jolt with help from the A-Class Hatchback and Sedan, as well as the CLA Coupe lineup in the Land Down Under. Mercedes-Benz has been very eager to please its Australian clients as of late. The premium German automaker recently launched the all-new GLA 250 e with EQ hybrid technology, which isn't all electric but rather a new plug-in hybrid model packing 160 kW and up to 65 kilometers of EV range. If you would rather have an electric EQA or EQB, there are new 250+ City Editions that „combine confident design with smart equipment choices tailored to the urban lifestyle.” The compact A-Class Hatch and Sedan, CLA Coupe,

plus the GLA and GLB crossovers also got access to new Special Edition models that „feature exclusive styling elements, unique AMG wheels and interior enhancements.” Those include the Manufaktur Alpine Grey solid paint, and the complementary equipment is valued at up to AUD 4,800, depending on the model. Last but not least, there was also a new C 350 e plug-in hybrid sedan or a C200 Sport Edition. As you can see, Mercedes-Benz wasn't just careful to make its range more enticing to Australian customers – they are specifically catering to the compact sector, where affordability meets practicality and luxury. Now, the latest additions to the roster are again part of the compact class

– the fresh Edition R and Edition R+ models for the hatchback and sedan from the A-Class, along with the CLA Coupe. Of note is that this is the second-generation CLA that was launched back in 2019 at CES in Las Vegas, rather than the new all-electric third generation. Now, let's dive into the details. So, the Edition R is offered on compact Mercedes-AMG 35 A-Class and CLA models while the flagship 45 S variants get the Edition R+ - but all „models feature assertive styling and streamlined specification focused on dynamic driving.” Mercedes says it received great feedback related to the previously introduced C 43 and GLC 43 Edition R models, so it decided to expand the reach of the performance-focused special editions to the compact class for the very first time. Available on the Mercedes-AMG A

35 4Matic Hatch and Sedan, plus the CLA 35 4Matic Coupe, the performance-oriented Edition R includes the AMG Aerodynamics Package, 19-inch black AMG alloy wheels with red brake calipers behind them, as well as a combination of Artico and Microcut upholstery with red contrast topstitching and AMG aluminum trim inside the vehicle. The Edition R+, meanwhile, is exclusive to the flagship AMG A 45 S 4Matic+ and CLA 45 S 4Matic+, bundling all the Edition R goodies along with AMG Performance Seats and an AMG fixed rear wing on the CLA 45 S. Pricing starts from AUD 86,200 and can go all the way up to AUD 129,300 (MLRP).

<https://www.autoevolution.com/news/mercedes-amg-a-class-and-cla-coupe-receive-edition-r-and-edition-r-variants-in-australia-254892.html>



New Vehicles/Japan

Lexus Reveals What Could Be the Last LC 500 Special Edition

Lexus has quietly unveiled what could potentially be the final special edition for its LC 500: the aptly-named Pinnacle Edition. Just 100 examples of both the coupe and convertible versions will be offered to the Japanese market, with pricing starting from 17,800,000 yen (around \$121,500 USD). At this time, it's unclear if there will be a North American release. Not just anyone can buy one, either. Lexus has confirmed that half of the Pinnacle Special Editions will be available only to existing LC owners, while the other half will only be up for grabs to the general public through a lottery system. Interested customers are obliged to fill out an application at their local Lexus dealership no later than August 7, and will then be contacted directly by August

18 if they have made the cut. Though primarily a cosmetic edition, Lexus has nevertheless given both the coupe and convertible unique attributes. The coupe, for example, is available solely in a bespoke Oboro silver paint, while the convertible is finished in Neutrino Gray. The paint for both is also said to feature a newly-developed Lexus Matte Coat, specifically designed to be "dirt-removing." Both models ride on 21-inch forged black aluminum wheels. The unique touches continue on the inside. Though white leather and upholstery are the primary colors on both models, the coupe's cabin features black detailing across the dash, doors and shoulder bolsters, while the convertible's two-tone is Saddle Tan. Bespoke elements like an LC Limited Edition



plaque mounted in front of the gear lever, carbon fiber scuff plates, and embroidered dashboards have also been included. Lexus has, however, incorporated a minor chassis tweak, with rear aluminum hollow suspension components used to help increase body rigidity. But while the coupe is set up for sharper and more responsive handling, the convertible is tuned more towards a smoother, more cushioning ride. Like the Aviation Special released five years ago, a fixed rear wing made from carbon fiber-reinforced polymer has also been mounted to both the coupe and the convertible. Unsurprisingly, both special edition models continue to be powered by the same 5.0-liter V8, an unchanged 471-horsepower and 398-pound feet of torque from which is still sent to the rear wheels via a 10-speed automatic gearbox. Though the Pinnacle Edition debuts just days after Lexus released

details of a 2026 update for the LC 500, rumors persist that Lexus' flagship could be discontinued (the brand also released the US-only Inspiration Series recently, promoting the model's "summit.") Similar speculation continues to plague the IS 500, as the public debut of the pre-production LFR Concept at this year's Goodwood Festival of Speed has left many contemplating the brand's future direction. Indeed, the hybrid LC 500h – not included in the Pinnacle Edition line-up, despite the model still being sold in Japan – was recently binned in North America following a recent spate of poor sales. Just 18 examples of the LC 500h were sold in 2024 compared with 1,446 units of the LC 500 coupe, while a disastrous start to 2025 saw only seven LC 500h hybrids delivered to new owners.

<https://carbuzz.com/lexus-lc500-pinnacle-edition-coupe-convertible/>



New Vehicles/Japan

This 14-Year-Old Van Refuses to Die and Somehow Keeps Getting New Gear

While a new-generation Elgrand minivan is rumored for a late 2025 debut, Nissan is giving some attention to the Caravan in the meantime. This long-serving, 14-year-old LCV-based model gets a mild update with a focus on comfort and usability. The latest version adds upgraded front seats, a larger navigation display, enhanced driver assistance systems, and a handful of new trims tailored for outdoor-focused buyers. Despite its age, the Caravan doesn't receive any exterior design changes for the 2026 model year. What it does gain is a new trim called the

Premium GX Outdoor Black Edition, which includes black accents on the grille, bumper, mirrors, and door handles. It's a subtle visual tweak, but one that gives the van a slightly more rugged presence. What is more interesting is the optional "Sotoasobi Package", which is inspired by earlier concepts based on the X-Trail. This version includes a matte satin black hood wrap to help protect against stone chips, bolt-on-style fender flares from JAOS, and a special emblem on the front doors. Nissan says this styling package will appear on more models in



the future. The lineup also expands with the Caravan Autech Line. It comes fitted with 15-inch alloy wheels and waterproof upholstery inside the cabin. While it doesn't share the more distinctive grille, LED lighting, or front splitter found on the standard Autech model, buyers

can opt for a rear spoiler and the available Black Package to complete the look.

<https://www.carscoops.com/2025/07/nissans-ancient-van-gains-new-features-and-outdoorsy-trims/>



Updates/China

2026 Geely Galaxy E5/EX5 Gets Larger Battery, 610 km CLTC Range, New Colours

It's been nearly a year since the Geely Galaxy E5 was launched in China, so in it comes for its 2026 model year update. As previously reported, the biggest change is a larger 68.39 kWh Aegis "short blade" lithium iron phosphate (LFP) battery that provides a range of 610 km on the country's lenient CLTC cycle. Expect to get closer to 500 km in the real world. What was not mentioned before is the fact that the previous "long range" 60.22 kWh option is now the base battery. As before, this pack is capable of a CLTC range of 530 km, or 410 km on the WLTP cycle as per its Proton eMas 7 twin. The smallest 49.52 kWh

pack, which previously offered 440 km of CLTC range (345 km WLTP), has been dropped. Both options DC fast charge from 30 to 80% in 20 minutes, suggesting that the larger battery has been given a power bump over the 100 kW of the 60.22 kWh unit. According to Autohome, the vehicle-to-load (V2L) function has also increased from 3.3 kW to 6.6 kW. No changes to the powertrain – a single front motor making 218 PS (160 kW) and 320 Nm of torque, propelling the car from zero to 100 km/h in 6.9 seconds on its way to a top speed of 180 km/h. Besides the new battery, the Galaxy E5 is also the recipient



of two new colour options, Evening Forest Green and Dawn Blue, to join the existing Dawn White, Midnight Black, Evening Cherry Pink, Sky Green, Morning Mist Gray and Streamer Silver. The battery update comes with no increase in pricing,

which continues to range from 109,800 yuan to 145,800 yuan.

<https://paultan.org/2025/07/25/2026-geely-galaxy-e5-ex5-emas-7-twin-gets-larger-battery-610-km-cltc-range-new-colours-from-rm65k/>





New Model Introductions/China

GM's Brand-New 2026 Wuling Starlight 560 Officially Unveiled

Following images leaks of the crossover in the Asian country, SAIC-GM-Wuling (SGMW) has just officially unveiled the brand-new 2026 Wuling Starlight 560 in China. General Motors' second joint venture in China debuted the brand-new 2026 Wuling Starlight 560 in that country's domestic market, revealing the first official images and other details of the compact-to-midsize crossover that will expand the brand's Global Silver logo vehicle. The automaker confirms the model as the latest member of the Starlight nameplate family. The brand-new 2026 Wuling Starlight 560 represents the next global crossover in the joint venture's expansion strategy. It will

debut in China and has the potential to be marketed in Southeast Asian markets, as well as other emerging regions around the world. The new Starlight 560 will be offered in three different powertrain configurations, including a standard internal combustion engine, a PHEV version, and a fully electric version. Aesthetically, the all-new 2026 Wuling Starlight 560 features a robust-looking appearance with well-defined wheel arches and muscular shapes that introduce a new evolution of the brand's design language. The front design stands out with straight lines and rectangular headlights with a double horizontal bar LED lighting signature, which are combined

with a black mask that wraps around the three-dimensional grille. The front end is inspired by that of the 2020 Hong Guang X Concept. The 2026 Wuling Starlight 560 also features a two-tone body that includes a contrasting white roof and a decorative trim on the D-pillar that divides the side-profile design, which also boasts a raised stance, sharp lines, and black plastic cladding that surrounds the entire lower section. The rear-end design is defined by high-mounted horizontal headlights with a lighting signature similar to the front one, as well as a sculpted tailgate with an upper spoiler. The brand-new

2026 Wuling Starlight 560 will be launched in China over the coming months, where it is expected to reach dealerships and go on sale in the fourth quarter of the year. As such, the Starlight 560 becomes the fourth member of the Starlight model family after the Starlight sedan, the Starlight S crossover and the Starlight 730 MPV. The new compact crossover will be available in five- and seven-seat configurations.

<https://gmauthority.com/blog/2025/07/gms-brand-new-2026-wuling-starlight-560-officially-unveiled/>



Previews/China

Great Wall Motors Teases V8 Hybrid Supercar

Great Wall Motors (GWM) Chairman Wei Jianjun has teased the company's first supercar in an executive photo taken to celebrate 35 years of GWM under his leadership. The model, which has been in development for five years, is expected to feature a plug-in hybrid powertrain featuring GWM's self-developed 4.0-litre V8 engine that was unveiled to great surprise at this year's Shanghai Auto Show. The supercar, which is set to compete against the Yangwang U9 and AION SSR, is expected to be priced above one million yuan (£110,000/\$140,000) when it goes on sale potentially later this year. It's expected to be launched under a new sub-brand registered by GWM under the name Zixin Qiche, or 'Confidence Auto' in English. Wei Jianjun posted the image on his official Weibo account, claiming it as a celebration of GWM's 35th birthday (though curiously, the

brand was launched in 1984, with Wei Jianjun becoming the Chairman 35 years ago). It shows Wei alongside other company executives in front of the upcoming supercar which is concealed under a reveal sheet, underneath text thanking colleagues for their efforts and urging colleagues to continue to work hard to serve every user around the world. Looking closely at the image above, which we've edited to remove the executives and adjusted for clarity of vision, we can see some of the details of the design including circular headlamps similar to a Porsche 911, bonnet air outlets, and a sharp flared air inlet in the lower bumper. Towards the rear, we can see a large air inlet behind the door confirming the new supercar will feature a mid-engined layout, as well as a long McLaren Speedtail-esque profile with an integrated spoiler at the rear. The supercar will utilise GWM's



in-house designed 4.0-litre V8 engine, unveiled at the 2025 Shanghai Auto Show, and will form part of a plug-in hybrid system, though full technical specifications remain undisclosed. GWM's supercar project has been in development since 2021, with the company formally establishing its luxury sub-brand, "Zixin Qiche," earlier this year. In April 2025, Chief Technology Officer Wu Huixiao confirmed five years of dedicated work on the supercar, emphasising cost control as a key focus. The teaser marks the first official glimpse of the model, though further details on performance, pricing, and launch timing are yet to be revealed. The model is positioned as a direct competitor to BYD's Yangwang U9 and GAC's Hyptec SSR, all-electric supercars with

1,287hp and 1,225hp respectively, and 0-100kph times of 2.36 seconds and 1.9 seconds. The Chinese supercar market remains quite niche but is growing, with domestic brands like BYD and GAC already entering the high-performance segment, and NIO previously offering the EP9. GWM's move signals its ambition to compete not just in mass-market SUVs and saloons but also in the high-performance category, although previous efforts in this direction, such as the Mecha Dragon SSR, never got off the ground. As more details emerge, industry analysts will be watching how this new contender stacks up against established rivals.

<https://insidechinaauto.com/2025/07/23/great-wall-motors-teases-v8-hybrid-supercar/>

Updates/China

Lynk & Co Introduces Budget-Friendly Z20 With 430 km Range at 15,200 USD



Lynk & Co has expanded its Z20 electric vehicle lineup with two new, more affordable variants featuring reduced specifications. Announced on July 22, these new models introduce a “Fiji Green” colour option while making strategic adjustments to battery capacity and motor power to achieve a lower price point. The two new variants are: 430 km Rear-Wheel Drive Plus, with limited-time price of 109,900 yuan (15,200 USD); 430 km Rear-Wheel Drive Pro, with limited-time price of 118,900 yuan (16,500 USD). According to Chinese media QQ, the price reduction strategy aims to attract more price-

sensitive consumers in the increasingly competitive compact EV segment. Despite the specification adjustments, the new variants retain Lynk & Co’s “The Next Day” design language, featuring hidden rain gutters, frameless doors, and frameless mirrors. The vehicle dimensions remain unchanged at 4,460/1,845/1,573 mm (l/w/h) with a 2,755 mm wheelbase and 0.25 drag coefficient. The “luminous wing” tail light design has been preserved, combining the spoiler and taillights with 504 LED lights spanning 1,463 mm, creating a distinctive lighting signature. Inside, the new variants maintain nearly identical interior design, featuring

a 15.4-inch central display, 13.8-inch HUD, and 10.2-inch digital instrument cluster. The flexible “Dynamic Island” feature, which can transform into personalised spaces like pet compartments or coffee stations, remains a key selling point. Alongside these new variants, Lynk & Co has released a software update focusing on five areas: intelligent parking assistance, sentry mode, map navigation, ecosystem applications, and vehicle controls. New features include remote parking capabilities, enhanced security monitoring, visual lane guidance, and popular apps like Bilibili and Kugou Music. Despite the price reductions, Lynk & Co claims the new Z20 variants maintain strong performance and handling characteristics. The vehicles still utilise the SEA architecture with MacPherson front suspension and five-link independent rear suspension, complemented by Brembo ventilated disc brakes

and Bosch One-box brake controllers. The Z20 achieves a five-star Euro NCAP safety rating. The body is composed of 81.62% high-strength steel, featuring 2000MPa hot-formed steel anti-collision beams, seven standard airbags, and an eight-layer battery protection system. Since launching in December last year, Lynk & Co has delivered approximately 27,000 Z20 vehicles. The company’s decision to introduce more affordable variants comes amid intensifying price competition in the compact EV segment, with rivals like Mini, Smart, and Nio’s Firefly aggressively reducing prices – the latter offering subscription models starting around 80,000 yuan (11,000 USD).

<https://carnewschina.com/2025/07/23/lynk-co-introduces-budget-friendly-z20-with-430km-range-at-15200-usd/>

New Vehicles/China

Rolls-Royce Unveils Stunning Trio Inspired by Chinese Mural Art

Rolls-Royce's customizations and bespoke projects are truly something to behold. The company's ability to bring artwork and ideas to life in physical representations push the limits of imagination. Underlining its expertise in this area, Rolls-Royce has announced a trio of bespoke commissions inspired by the ancient mural paintings of Dunhuang, China. The project includes Phantom Extended, Black Badge Cullinan, and Black Badge Spectre models. The clients worked with the Rolls-Royce team at the company's private office in Shanghai to create the final designs. The collaborative design work produced a motif dubbed Silken Spirit. The concept represents China's cultural history combined

with the Spirit of Ecstasy and the fluid nature of imperial silk. Stepping outside of the caves, the Phantom Extended's Ningye Purple paintwork is inspired by the skies above the Great Wall of China. The color gets its name from a poetic description from an 800 AD Tang Dynasty verse. The deep hue is set against English White and a Ningye Purple Silken Spirit motif is hand-painted on the C-pillar. Inside, there's a starlight headliner with 1,344 fibre-optic 'stars' and 192 'shooting stars'. The night sky shines down on a hand-painted landscape on black leather. To add another texture to the piece, the Silken Spirit motif is embroidered in white and black, designed as a nod to flying apsaras – celestial





beings in Buddhist art. The Black Badge Cullinan Series II is the most eye-catching model of the trio with its Danqian Pink paintwork. The pink theme continues inside with blushing pink leather and more than 100,000 tiny perforations to create cloud patterns across the leather. The bright front seats contrast against navy leather in the rear with blushing pink piping and stitching. Again, the Silken Spirit motif features throughout the vehicle including in a contrasting black on the C-pillar and more prominently inside. The Black Badge Cullinan's custom starlight headliner is arranged in a Silken Spirit graphic and illuminated with blushing pink lights and white

'shooting stars'. A two-tone Diamond Black and Qingshan Blue Black Badge Spectre completes the commissions. Its special paint color was inspired by the mountain blues and greeny tones seen in the Dunhuang murals. At the front, a turchese illuminated grille finishes off the exterior specification. The color scheme carries through to the inside with contrasting turchese and black leather. Illuminated treadplates bear the Silken Spirit motif and the Spectre also features starlight doors and a starlight headliner with more than 1,000 stars individually placed by Rolls-Royce's craftspeople.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/trinity-francis/2025/07/24/rolls-royce-unveils-stunning-trio-inspired-by-chinese-mural-art/>





Facelifts/Southeast Asia

Facelifted Hyundai Stargazer Premieres in Indonesia

No more teasing; Hyundai has finally bared it all with their refreshed 7-seater MPV. Making its debut in Indonesia is the new Hyundai Stargazer. As seen from the teaser images a few weeks back, the 7-seat MPV features a major update to its exterior but now it's been revealed that the Stargazer also gets some updated tech inside for the 2025 model year. Starting with the looks, the new Stargazer flexes its new LED light signature to its more squarish front end. The grille receives bigger horizontal slats that complement the blocky silver under garnish, and a completely new wheel design. Not much has changed to the Stargazer's side profile, but the rear end has been given a thorough redesign. The signature H-shaped LED light bar at the back has thicker vertical elements,

and the license plate holder has been repositioned to the lower part of the rear bumper. Inside, Hyundai has once again revised the upper part of the Stargazer's dashboard. The blocky panel that housed the digital instrument cluster and the infotainment touchscreen has been replaced with a slimmer panoramic panel, combining the two screens. Likewise, the horizontal panel for the A/C vents have a revised design, one that's closer to the new Tucson. The rotary knobs have been replaced with toggle switches for the new climate control system while the center console and steering wheel have been carried over from the pre-facelift model. Likewise, the 1.5-liter Smartstream G gasoline engine continues to power the new Stargazer, putting out 115 PS and 144 Nm of torque. For the Indonesia-spec

version, the new Stargazer is offered with a choice of 6-speed manual or an IVT. Higher-spec models of the new Stargazer in Indonesia come with captain seats for the second row, and are equipped with Hyundai's SmartSense ADAS, where things like blind spot collision avoidance assist, forward collision warning, and rear cross traffic avoidance alert are available,

along with smart cruise control with stop & go function, lane keep assist and driver attention warning in its list of intelligent driving features. For lower-spec variants, the bench seats for the second row are still available.

<https://www.autoindustriya.com/auto-industry-news/2025-hyundai-stargazer-facelift-debuts-in-se-asia-ph-launch-soon.html>



Previews/Southeast Asia

i2C Is Indonesia's Next National Car

Here's a surprise from the 2025 Gaikindo Indonesia International Auto Show (GIIAS) – a new national car for Indonesia, and it's called i2C. i2C stands for Indigenous Indonesia Car and the company behind it is PT Teknologi Militer Indonesia (TMI). As its name suggests, TMI deals with military equipment. According to the company's 'about us' description on its website, TMI is a "strategic platform for acquisition of innovative technologies to enhance the national defense and security sectors, also the system integrator for combat/battle management system embodying advance military technology development" and

the products section lists air, land and sea defense systems. So, why would a defense contractor dabble in passenger cars? I'm guessing that it's somewhat like a free-for-all in Indonesia if you have a partner to supply a donor car and the right connections. Speaking of partners, local reports say that i2C's SUV will be based on a platform of a foreign partner which identity is yet to be disclosed. Another partner is Italdesign. The famous Italian design studio's work is here at GIIAS 2025, tucked in a rather hidden nook of ICE BSD. When we first saw the 1:1 clay model, all four of us here exclaimed 'Kia EV9'



for the mockup's angular lines, Kia-style rear end and scale, which contains three rows of seats. Next to Italdesign's logo on the backdrop is Fincantieri, which describes itself as one of the largest shipbuilding companies in the world, with over 230 years of history and more than 7,000 ships built. "We are a reference player for major cruise operators, the exclusive supplier for the Italian Navy, a partner of the US Navy and numerous foreign navies, and a key player in some of the most important European defence partnership programs," the company says. As mentioned, the donor car remains a mystery, but it's most likely to be a Chinese company, as i2C quotes a CLTC range of 617 km from an 83.4 kWh NMC battery. There's a single rear-mounted motor pushing out 204 PS and 310 Nm

of torque (identical figures to the BYD Atto 3), which pushes the big SUV from 0-100 km/h in an estimated 9.1 seconds. Top speed is 200 km/h. As for charging, i2C quotes max rates of 150 kW DC and 11 kW AC. Anyway, two other national cars from Indonesia were recently announced – Aletra L8 and Polytron G3. The Aletra is a rebadged Livan Maple 80V L, which is essentially a Geely Jiaji EV, while the Polytron is a Skyworth EV6 SUV. Just like how Skyworth is known as a 'TV maker', Polytron sells electronics and home appliances ranging from rice cookers to fridges. TVs too, of course.

<https://paultan.org/2025/07/23/i2c-is-indonesias-next-national-car-indigenous-car-previewed-by-italdesign-penned-ev-suv-clay-model/>



Facelifts/South Asia

Renault Triber Facelift Launched at Rs 6.3 lakh



Renault has launched the Triber facelift in India, marking the first major update to the compact MPV in about 6 years since its launch. The new Triber is priced between Rs 6.3 lakh and Rs 9.17 lakh (ex-showroom), translating to a variant-wise price hike of Rs 14,000 to Rs 41,000. Renault's new Triber gets cosmetic changes and new features, typical of a facelift. The Triber facelift gets a thoroughly redesigned fascia, reprofiled headlamps and LED DRLs, as well as a slimmer gloss-black grille with thick diagonal slats. Updates further extend to the bumper, now housing a larger air intake and restyled fog lamps. However, the most notable is the retro-influenced diamond

logo, debuting on a Renault India model. We recently saw it on the Renault Boreal SUV, which was globally unveiled earlier this month. Barring the bonnet, there are no sheet metal changes on the 2025 Triber facelift. Changes to the Triber MPV's profile are limited, save for the redesigned 15-inch flex steel wheels and gloss black door handles, instead of chrome ones. The pre-facelift model got alloy wheels as an option, and the same ones are available here too for Rs 9,990. At the back, a new blacked-out trim bridges the smoked LED tail-lights. It also houses the new Renault diamond motif instead of the 'TRIBER' lettering, which has now slid

further down the tailgate. Renault India has thoroughly updated the Triber's cabin with black and greige upholstery, improved driver's display, and a Kiger SUV-like dashboard. New trim pieces have also been added, and the AC vents, as well as the 8-inch touchscreen, have been repositioned. Features such as Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, a wireless charger, push-button start/stop, and second- and third-row vents continue to be on offer in the 7-seat MPV. Safety is one area where the Triber facelift gets the most upgrades, including 6 airbags (front, side and curtain) as standard, cruise control and front parking sensors. TPMS, ABS, traction control, hill-hold assist, and ISOFIX child seat mounts are retained as safety equipment in the

new MPV. The 2025 Triber facelift remains unchanged under the hood and continues to be offered with Renault's 1-litre, 3-cylinder naturally aspirated petrol engine with modest outputs of 72 hp and 96 Nm. Also offered in the Kiger SUV, this E20-compatible motor can be paired with either a 5-speed manual transmission or an AMT (Automated Manual Transmission). This also means that a more powerful turbo-petrol Triber version, which has been long overdue, is still not on sale. CNG retrofitment is available for the facelifted Triber MT models, along with a 3-year warranty.

<https://www.autocarindia.com/car-news/renault-triber-facelift-launched-at-rs-6-29-lakh-436306>



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