

A Rare Gathering: 911 R Models Converge at Porsche Plática in Tennessee

28/05/2026 In a world where rare vehicles are often kept behind velvet ropes, gatherings like this offer something different: a chance to see, hear, and drive Porsche history in motion - together.

ATLANTA. Nearly 40 of the rarest and most revered models in Porsche history, the 911 R variant, came together in an unlikely yet breathtaking setting: a limestone quarry in East Tennessee, part of an enthusiast-led gathering that underscores the enduring passion around Porsche in the U.S. The occasion was Porsche Plática 2026, in its third year. The event took place at The Quarry Venue in West Knoxville, Tennessee.

At the heart of the gathering was an extraordinary lineup of more than 30 examples of the 991-generation 911 R, Porsche's 2016 homage to the original lightweight sports car limited to 991 units globally. Alongside them, five vintage 911 R models were showcased, representing nearly a quarter of the roughly twenty 911 R models, produced between 1966 and 1967. Displayed against the quarry's

natural textures, the group highlighted not only the rarity of the model, but also the unique specifications and stories behind each car, reflecting the depth of owner engagement that continues to define the Porsche community.

“Experiencing these cars where they belong - on the road, surrounded by nature and the people who are passionate about them - is what makes moments like this so special,” said Timo Resch, President and CEO of Porsche Cars North America, Inc., who joined participants for portions of the event. “It’s a powerful reminder that our cars are not just about engineering and performance, but about the connections they create between people, across generations.”

Surrounding this centerpiece was an equally compelling array of models spanning decades of Porsche innovation and motorsport heritage. Paint-to-sample 997 GT3 RS models demonstrated the possibilities of Porsche Exclusive Manufaktur, while race-bred legends like the 917, 962, and 962C reinforced the brand's deep roots in endurance competition.

Beyond static displays, participants tackled renowned routes such as the Tail of the Dragon and Cherohala Skyway, bringing together cars and drivers in a way that reflects how the brand is meant to be experienced. Additional track sessions at Flatrock Motorclub offered a chance to explore performance across generations of the 911 on a 3.5-mile circuit.

On the road at Plática

“Plática started with a simple idea - create a space where owners could come together, share their cars, and spend time driving them the way they were meant to be used,” said Shannon Harper, Dealer Principal of Harper Porsche and the creator of Porsche Plática. “Seeing it evolve into what it is today has been incredibly rewarding.”

While Plática is still a relatively new addition to the enthusiast calendar, it reflects a broader trend across the U.S. - owners creating opportunities to celebrate Porsche heritage in ways that are personal, immersive, and community-driven. For Porsche Cars North America, that continued energy at the grassroots level remains an important part of the brand’s identity.

The next Plática is planned for May 2, 2027.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES



Frank Wiesmann

Manager, Product Communications, Motorsport and Brand Heritage
Porsche Cars North America
404-539-5031
frank.wiesmann@porsche.us



Jennifer Pifer Bixler

Corporate Spokesperson
470-827-1201
Jennifer.Bixler@porsche.us

Image Sublines

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Subline: (L to R) Timo Resch, President and CEO of Porsche Cars North America, Inc., and Shannon Harper, Dealer Principal of Harper Porsche

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