

Porsche 911 GT3 R wins championships and races worldwide in 2026

25/11/2026 The upgraded Porsche 911 GT3 R secured numerous victories and championship titles worldwide in its first season. Porsche Motorsport's customer teams triumphed in the Intercontinental GT Challenge, the DTM and the GT World Challenge Europe, amongst others.

The Porsche 911 GT3 R made its world debut as the Evo version in August 2025. The further-developed model made its racing debut in customer hands in January 2026 at the 24 Hours of Daytona, the season opener of the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. In refining the car, Porsche Motorsport was able to draw on the experience gained from more than 500 race starts by the predecessor model. The focus of the evolution was on optimising the chassis and aerodynamics. The aim: even more balanced handling that is easy to control, even for non-professionals and in a wide variety of conditions. The 4.2-litre six-cylinder boxer engine, which delivers up to 416 kW (565 PS) depending on its Balance of Performance (BoP) classification, and the powertrain remained largely unchanged.

Maximilian Müller, Project Manager 911 GT3 R: “2026 marks the end of a successful year for our customers and the GT3 division at Porsche Motorsport. Alongside the special highlights and numerous individual successes, I am particularly impressed by the strong overall performance across all classes and series. My thanks go to every single customer team and the crew at Porsche Motorsport for their commitment. As well as our successes, what spurs us on for the future is, above all, what didn't quite work out in 2026. I'm thinking in particular of the endurance classics at Le Mans and the Nürburgring, as well as, most recently, the FIA GT World Cup in Macau.”

Michael Dreiser, Head of Sales at Porsche Motorsport: “With the recent debuts of the 911 GT4 R and the 911 Challenge, Porsche Motorsport has fundamentally revamped its range of cars for customer motorsport. The evolution of the Porsche 911 GT3 R rounds off our range of GT racing cars at the top end. To see such a track record in its first year of competition is, first and foremost, a testament to the close bond between the Porsche team and our customer teams. The meticulous further development of the GT3 R has paid off.”

Intercontinental GT Challenge: Fourth manufacturers' title for Porsche

The 911 GT3 R has once again dominated the Intercontinental GT Challenge (IGTC), the unofficial GT3 World Championship. In three of the five races this season, the Evo model from the Flacht-based racing car manufacturer finished at the top of the podium: at the 24 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps (Belgium), the 1,000-kilometre race at Suzuka (Japan) and the 8-hour race in Indianapolis (USA). Added to this were second place at the season opener in Bathurst, Australia, and top-10 finishes at the 24 Hours of Nürburgring (Germany). This enabled Porsche to win the IGTC manufacturers' championship for the fourth time.

DTM: Third championship title in four years with the Porsche 911 GT3 R

The 911 also dominated the 2026 DTM season: Thomas Preining was crowned champion for the second time since 2023 in the 911 GT3 R. In doing so, the Austrian succeeded his Porsche factory team-mate Ayhancan Güven as DTM champion. The customer team Manthey celebrated the team title for the third time in four years. The key to this year's success in Germany's top GT3 series: two race wins and consistently strong results. Land Motorsport made a particularly strong impression at the season finale at the Hockenheimring, with pole position secured by Bastian Buus from Denmark.

GT World Challenge: The 911 triumphs on the Ardennes rollercoaster

The 24 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps is regarded as the greatest challenge in GT3 racing. The DTM driver trio – comprising former Porsche Juniors Thomas Preining and Bastian Buus, along with Ricardo Feller – secured overall victory in the Lionspeed GP Porsche after a legendary recovery from the rear of the grid. Back in 2025, the 911 GT3 R had already enabled the drivers to win the title in the Endurance Cup of the GT World Challenge Europe. This year, the trio comprising the 911, Bastian Buus and Ricardo Feller repeated that success in the Sprint Cup. They emerged victorious at Brands Hatch (UK) and Magny-Cours (France).

FIA WEC and IMSA: Victories and podium finishes for Porsche customer teams

In 2024 and 2025, the 911 GT3 R won at Le Mans and claimed the Endurance Trophy in the FIA World Endurance Championship. This year, it wasn't quite enough: the Bend Manthey customer team only lost the battle for further titles at the season finale – despite winning the last two races of the year in Barcelona (Spain) and Monza (Italy), the team leading the championship standings was still out of reach. Porsche factory driver Richard Lietz from Austria not only crossed the finish line first, but also completed his 100th race in the FIA WEC.

In the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, the Porsche 911 GT3 R shone at the 12 Hours of Sebring with a GTD Pro one-two. The crowd favourite from the customer team AO Racing, nicknamed 'Rexy', secured a total of five podium finishes over the course of the year. In the GTD category, Wright Motorsports took the podium twice with its GT3. The 911 GT3 R from Manthey 1st Phorm won its class at the 6 Hours of Watkins Glen.

FIA GT World Cup: Porsche 911 GT3 R dominates the race weekend in Macau

The customer team AO by Absolute set the pace over several days at the FIA GT World Cup in Macau with the Porsche 911 GT3 R. The 911, nicknamed the 'Chìjīn Rex', with factory driver Laurin Heinrich at the wheel, dominated the Guia Circuit from the outset. The former Porsche Junior set the fastest times in practice, secured pole position and won the qualifying race on Saturday. In Sunday's FIA GT World Cup, however, the German was pushed into the tyre barriers by an opponent whilst leading on the first lap. Porsche still secured a podium finish, though: Alessio Picariello from Belgium was classified third in another 911 GT3 R.

Video

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