

2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year announced

The Jaguar I-Pace EV400 AWD has been crowned the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year! This is the first time that the competition has been won by a Jaguar and also the first win by an electric car. The winner was announced on Tuesday, 21 April 2020 through a virtual finale.

The accolade is the latest in a long line of victories for the all-electric I-Pace. It won the 2019 World Car of the Year, World Car Design of the Year and World Green Car awards (the I-Pace was the first model ever to win three World Car titles in the 15-year history of the awards). It also claimed the European Car of the Year title last year.



Image by Evan-Lee Courie

The Mercedes-Benz GLE400d 4Matic was placed second while the Toyota GR Supra 3.0T came third.

The win by a Jaguar and an electric car were two firsts for the contest, which is organised by the South African Guild of Motoring Journalists. Given the lockdown, the winner of the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year was announced during a virtual awards ceremony that was streamed live - this was another first for the AutoTrader South African Car of the Year.

“ Drumroll please 🎵the moment you've been waiting for.... here is your [#AutoTraderCOTY2020](#) winner!

Congrats to [@jaguarsa](#) The [#IPACE](#) is the [#AutoTraderCOTY2020](#) Car of the Year 🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉@SAGMJ
pic.twitter.com/sqxd5fKeN— AutoTrader (@AutoTraderSA) [April 21, 2020](#) ”

Other winners

There are a number of category winners in the 2020 AutoTrader South African Car of the Year, and these winners were announced as well.

The winner in the **Urban Category** was the **Hyundai Atos 1.1 Motion**. This category covers compact budget-friendly passenger vehicles that are ideal for in-town driving. Buyers of these cars typically rate practicality over luxury and performance.

The next category - **Family** - is especially popular. It consists of mid-size sedans. Buyers of these vehicles expect quality, practicality and comfort -with an element of advanced handling dynamics thrown into the equation. The winner in this category was the **Toyota Corolla Hatch 1.2T XR CVT**.

The **Leisure** was won by the **Volkswagen T-Cross 1.0 TSI Comfortline 85kW DSG**. This category covers sports utility vehicles (SUVs) and multi-purpose vehicles (MPVs). Owners of these SUVs and MPVs enjoy the freedom of driving both on and off-road. This - combined a high seating position and flexible cargo space - makes this a popular category amongst the buying public.

The **Lifestyle Utility Vehicles Category** was won by the **Ford Ranger Raptor**. These vehicles typically offer supreme 4x4 ability and can be either an SUV or a single or double-cab bakkie.



Image by Evan-Lee Courie

The highly contested **Premium Car Category** was won by the overall winner, namely the **Jaguar I-Pace EV400 AWD SE**. Buyers of these prestigious mid to large vehicles want powerful engines, luxury features and high-end trim options.



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Evan-Lee Courie 23 Mar 2019



The **Premium SUV Category** caters for vehicles that offer a combination of versatility, comfort, style and performance both on- and off the road. Boasting genuine 4x4 ability without low range, these vehicles are luxurious, spacious and refined. This category was won by the **Mercedes-Benz GLE400d 4Matic**.

The **Sport/performance Category** was won by the **Toyota GR Supra 3.0T**. Whether it's a sportier flagship of an existing passenger range or a pure stand-alone model, vehicles in this category have one common trait: superior performance. Accordingly, thoroughbred sports cars are included in this category.

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