



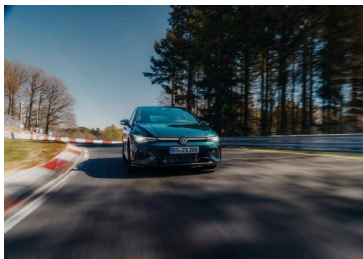
Media Information

7 May 2026

Golf GTI EDITION 50 is the fastest front-wheel drive production model on the Nürburgring Nordschleife

- With a lap time of 07:44.523 minutes, the Golf GTI EDITION 50^{1/2} has beaten the previous record for front-wheel drive production vehicles
- Exceptional anniversary model with 239 kW (325 PS) is the most powerful and dynamically precise production Golf GTI

Wolfsburg – The Golf GTI EDITION 50^{1/2} has set a new benchmark for Volkswagen in the compact segment: the 239 kW (325 PS) anniversary model is the fastest front-wheel drive production vehicle on the Nürburgring Nordschleife. The Golf GTI EDITION 50 – with racing driver and Volkswagen test and development driver Benjamin Leuchter at the wheel – took only 7:44.523 minutes to complete the 20.832-kilometre lap on the legendary racetrack. With its new record time, the Golf GTI EDITION 50 underscores its exceptional position in the Volkswagen model range – as the most powerful and dynamically precise production Golf GTI. The Golf GTI EDITION 50 is also faster than all previous Volkswagen production models on the Nordschleife.



The Golf GTI EDITION 50 sets its new record in the 'Green Hell' (here in the optionally available colour Dark Moss Green metallic)

available GTI Performance package EDITION 50, which includes a specially tuned chassis lowered by another five millimetres, a lightweight R-Performance exhaust system with rear silencers in titanium as well as 19 inch forged alloy wheels and size 235/35 R19 91Y Bridgestone Potenza Race semi-slick tyres. The most powerful Golf GTI production model was equipped with this Performance package on its fast lap at the Nürburgring.

GTI with impressive performance level. Benjamin Leuchter knows the Golf GTI EDITION 50 down to the smallest detail and knows the Nordschleife like the back of his hand. "The Nordschleife is unique with its bends, very different sections, bumps and even jumps," explains Leuchter. "And the same is true for this GTI: with impressive power, a very neutral set-up and at the same time the ability to take any bumps in its stride. The Golf GTI EDITION 50 is therefore more than just an anniversary model: it shows what performance in the compact segment can feel like when technical expertise, passion and 50 years of GTI history come together."

Media contact
Volkswagen Communications

Philipp Dörfler
Spokesperson Golf
Tel: +49 5361 9-87633
philipp.doerfler@volkswagen.de



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Five decades of GTI: three letters that have made history. Since 1976, the name GTI has been synonymous at Volkswagen with pure driving pleasure and a unique, unmistakable lifestyle. The recipe for success has remained the same over generations: a powerful drive, precise chassis tuning, systematic use of front-wheel drive, an understated and athletic design language and unrestricted everyday usability. This basic idea has been developed further in every GTI generation and adapted to new technical possibilities. More than 2.5 million GTI models have been produced worldwide to date. Volkswagen is now faithfully continuing this tradition with the Golf GTI EDITION 50 anniversary model. As the most powerful production Golf GTI so far, it combines the classic GTI virtues with the latest chassis and drive technology – and has added another chapter to GTI history with its record-breaking drive on the Nürburgring Nordschleife.

¹⁾ Golf GTI EDITION 50 – Combined energy consumption: 7.9-7.6 l/100 km; Combined CO₂ emissions: 179-173 g/km; CO₂ class: G–F

²⁾ The Golf GTI EDITION 50 is currently not available

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand has a global presence and produces vehicles at 28 locations in 12 countries. In 2025, Volkswagen delivered about 4.7 million cars. These include bestsellers such as the Polo, T-Roc, T-Cross, Golf, Tiguan and Passat as well as the successful all-electric models of the ID. family. Last year, the company handed over around 382,000 all-electric vehicles to customers worldwide. About 170,000 people currently work at Volkswagen around the world. With its "BOOST 2030" strategy, the company is consistently driving forward its development into the most desirable brand for sustainable mobility.
