Porsche 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1 celebrates a racing icon

25/11/2026 The unique Porsche 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1 celebrated its world premiere in Guangzhou today. Initiated and led by Porsche China, this commission project was developed over 1,5 years in collaboration with Porsche Sonderwunsch and Style Porsche and Studio F. A. Porsche. It pays tribute to the 30th anniversaries of both the Porsche 911 GT1 and China's first FIA-certified permanent racetrack.

The 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1 is far more than a reinterpretation of its historic reference. It connects Porsche's racing DNA with a defining chapter in China's motorsport history. In 1996, the Porsche 911 GT1 made its spectacular debut, embarking on a legendary racing journey. In the same year, the Zhuhai International Circuit, China's first FIA-certified permanent racetrack, opened its doors, marking an important milestone for the international development of Chinese motorsport. On the new circuit, the 911 GT1 achieved a commanding victory, creating a memorable chapter in Porsche's motorsport history in China. Thirty years later, the Sonderwunsch Commission 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1 brings this shared history into the present through a contemporary interpretation.

“Thirty years ago, the roar of the championship-winning Porsche 911 GT1 ignited the dream of motorsport in China at the Zhuhai International Circuit,” said Phillipp von Witzendorff, Chief Operating Officer of Porsche China. “Three decades later, we have deeply rooted our pure racing DNA locally and moved forward together with China. This is the driving force behind Porsche’s continuous progress in China and our solid foundation for future development. To pay tribute to this timeless racetrack connection, we have drawn on the ultimate craftsmanship of Sonderwunsch to create a special gift – the world’s only 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1, celebrating the 30th anniversaries of the 911 GT1’s victory in Zhuhai and the establishment of the Zhuhai International Circuit.”

A modern reinterpretation of the GT1 livery

The 911 GT3 has always been the benchmark for road cars, seamlessly incorporating Porsche’s racetrack technologies. Powered by a 4.0-litre high-revving naturally aspirated six-cylinder boxer engine that reaches up to 9,000 rpm, it produces a maximum output of 375 kW (510 PS) and peak torque of 450 Nm. Paired with a 7-speed PDK dual-clutch transmission, it accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in just 3.4 seconds and reaches a top speed of 311 km/h, combining racetrack performance with everyday driving pleasure.

The most striking feature is the livery, which draws direct inspiration from the 911 GT1 race car. Rather than replicating the historical design exactly, the Porsche designers carefully reinterpreted the iconic livery of the 911 GT1 that claimed victory at Zhuhai in 1996. Using intricate hand-painted techniques, the interplay of Club Blue, Jebsen Blue and Guards Red translates the racing DNA of the original into a sharp, dynamic and flowing design of the latest-generation 911 GT3. The prominent Mobil 1 logo pays tribute to the original race car’s livery and the 30-year partnership between the two brands.

Numerous details highlight the exceptional level of individualisation achieved through Sonderwunsch. The colour Club Blue is not only used for the livery, but also for the airblades on the front apron, the exterior mirrors, the rear wing Sideplates, the model designation and the Porsche logo. The lightweight forged magnesium wheels of the 911 GT3, based on the Weissach Package, painted in BBS Gold (satin-gloss) with rim borders painted in Brilliantchrome, echo the distinctive design of the original GT1 race car. The current Porsche crest on the front bonnet was replaced by the Porsche crest that was used on the 911 GT1 in 1996.

To extend the GT1-inspired rear view seamlessly from the roof to the rear, the designers drew inspiration from the Manthey Kit for the GT3 RS and replaced the rear window with a carbon-fibre cover. Finished in white featuring a gold and black parallelogram pattern, this bespoke solution was developed exclusively for the 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1, further underlining the car’s unique character.

The “Born in Flacht” lettering on the rear apron painted in Black references the car’s close connection to Porsche Motorsport. The finely rendered outline of the Zhuhai International Circuit on the rear wing end plates provides another distinctive detail, linking the vehicle’s design directly to the circuit and its

shared motorsport history with Porsche.

A pure interior honouring motorsport

Inside, a white trim strip extends across the dashboard and centre console, precisely matching the exterior colour. The restrained use of colour reflects the functional purity of a racing cockpit: focused on the essentials, with every detail serving a clear purpose. The bucket seats are upholstered in Guards Red leather, while the seat belt pass-throughs are finished in white, creating a clean and striking contrast.

For the first time in a Porsche Sonderwunsch project, the door openers and the turnkey handle are painted in Guards Red. The Porsche Motorsport colour directly references the red interior details of the 1996 championship-winning GT1, creating another subtle link between past and present. “Tribute to 911 GT1” is printed on the Dashboard Trim Inlay and on the leather inlay on the floormats. As a final, playful detail, the carbon-fibre door sill guards feature the words “Have Fun!” – adding a personal touch to the otherwise purposeful, motorsport-inspired interior.

Sonderwunsch pushes the boundaries of individualisation

Developed over the course of two 1,5 years, the Sonderwunsch Commission 911 GT3 Tribute to 911 GT1 demonstrates the exceptional craftsmanship and technical expertise of Sonderwunsch. From its intricate hand-painted livery and motorsport-inspired interior to bespoke solutions such as the Guards Red turnkey handle and the carbon-fibre rear cover, every detail reflects the possibilities of individualisation.

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Consumption data

911 GT3 (WLTP)*: Consumo carburante ciclo misto (gamma modelli): 13.8 – 13.7 l/100 km; Emissioni CO_2 ciclo misto (gamma modelli): 312 – 310 g/km

*Further information on the official fuel consumption and the official specific CO_2 emissions of new passenger cars can be found in the "Leitfaden über den Kraftstoffverbrauch, die CO_2-Emissionen und den Stromverbrauch neuer Personenkraftwagen" (Fuel Consumption, CO_2Emissions and Electricity Consumption Guide for New Passenger Cars), which is available free of charge at all sales outlets and from DAT (Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH, Helmuth-Hirth-Str. 1, 73760 Ostfildern-Scharnhausen, www.dat.de).

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