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7:38.585 minutes to reach "Heaven's Gate" in China: Volkswagen sets first record on Tianmen Mountain with the ID.R

- "China Challenge" mastered – Volkswagen's fully-electric prototype sets new benchmark on Tianmen Mountain
- Romain Dumas conquers the 99 hairpins on the 10.906-kilometre "Big Gate Road" in less than 8 minutes
- ID.R is the sportiest representative of the electric ID. family of products

Wolfsburg (Germany) – An extraordinary drive on the limit, with spectacular images and the first record on Tianmen Mountain: Volkswagen has achieved a major milestone with the ID.R in China – one that literally helps drive electromobility to new highs. Romain Dumas (F) completed the 99 tight corners on the Tianmen Mountain road in 7:38.585 minutes – faster than ever before. The ID.R currently holds the records on Pikes Peak (USA) and at the Goodwood Festival of Speed (GB), the electric lap record on the Nürburgring-Nordschleife (D), and now the fastest time for an ascent of Tianmen Mountain in China. The car is the motorsport ambassador for the new, fully-electric range of vehicles from Volkswagen, the ID. family, the first of which – the ID.3¹ – will have its world premiere on 10 September at the Frankfurt Motor Show (IAA).



ID.R sets record at Tianmen Mountain

"A new record on a truly spectacular road – Volkswagen and the ID.R have once again shown what the electromobility of the future is already capable of today," said Ralf Brandstätter, Chief Operating Officer of the Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand. "Not only has it proven that electric cars like the ID.R can

break established records and set new benchmarks, but the ID.R also shows how emotive and exciting the mobility of the future is."

Demanding record run for man and machine
"Tianmen Shan Big Gate Road" on Tianmen Mountain is a true test. Romain Dumas approached the 10.906-kilometre "China Challenge" to "Heaven's

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Gate" – a 131.5-metre natural arch – with respect and courage. 99 hairpins, some with a radius of just six metres, followed by short sprints, fast winding sections with speeds of up to 230 km/h, and hard braking manoeuvres in extremely narrow tunnels – Dumas brilliantly overcame these extreme challenges for any driver, setting a new official record in the process. The ID.R is driven by two electric motors with a total system performance of 500 kW (680 PS), riding on tailor-made Bridgestone Potenza tyres. A start and finish line were defined for notarial purposes, especially for the record attempt with the ID.R.

Further quotes on the record-breaking run on Tianmen Mountain
Romain Dumas (F), Volkswagen ID.R

"I will certainly remember this record run on Tianmen Mountain for ever as my most spectacular outing. I am proud to have set a record with the electric Volkswagen ID.R in China. The little information and testing we had beforehand made it a huge challenge. The road is incredibly narrow and winding, but the drive was unbelievable fun with the electric power of the ID.R. The huge torque was a big advantage on the short straights, while the aerodynamics provided additional traction in the fast sections."

Dr. Stephan Wöllenstein, Member of the Board of Management of the Volkswagen Passenger Cars Brand and CEO of Volkswagen Brand China

"With the record set on the dramatic Tianmen road, we have mastered another challenge in our fully-electric ID.R race car. Seeing the ID.R race at this impressive Chinese monument of nature, has been truly spectacular. The ID.R underlines Volkswagen's capabilities in terms of e-mobility and gives customers an exciting outlook for our fully-electric future."

¹⁾ *The vehicle has not gone on sale in Europe.*

About the Volkswagen brand:

Volkswagen Passenger Cars operates in more than 150 markets worldwide and produces vehicles at more than 50 locations in 14 countries. In 2018, Volkswagen produced around 6.2 million vehicles, including bestsellers such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta and Passat. Volkswagen has a current workforce of 195,878 employees around the globe. Added to this are more than 10,000 dealerships with 86,000 employees. Volkswagen is forging ahead consistently with the further development of automobile production. Electric mobility, smart mobility and digital transformation of the brand are the key strategic issues for the future.
