

## Kuala Lumpur electric vehicles evs

The countdown to the 2024 Kuala Lumpur International Mobility Show has begun, and it is all set to kick off next month with all pomp and show. Touted as one of the largest automotive industry events in Malaysia, this grand show promises to unveil a range of exciting new cars that Malaysians have been eagerly waiting for.

The most-awaited model of 2024, the Proton e.MAS 7, is finally ready to unveil at the upcoming auto show. This is the first Malaysian brand EV, developed in close association with Geely. It is a C-segment SUV that rivals the likes of the Neta X, GAC Aion Y Plus, Leapmotor C10, and Chery Omoda E5.

Proton opened the ordering books for the EV last month and unveiled its preliminary specifications and estimated pricing tag reading RM 120,000. The e.MAS is offered in two variants - Prime and Premium, both powered by a front-mounted electric motor tuned to generate a maximum power of 218 PS and a peak torque of 320 Nm. It is Proton's fastest-accelerating car with a 0-100 kmph sprint time of 6.9 seconds.

Another showstopper model to watch out for at the Kuala Lumpur auto show is the Mazda CX-60. It is a 5-seater, stylish, and classy SUV set to compete against the big names such as the Mercedes-Benz GLC and BMW X3.

Globally revealed in 2022, the CX-60 is Mazda's first car built on the new 'Multi-Solution Scalable Architecture' platform. The SUV is already available in our neighbouring countries, including the Philippines, Singapore, and Indonesia, where it is offered with various powertrain options, including a 3.3-litre inline-six petrol/diesel and a 2.5-litre naturally aspirated engine. However, the mechanical specifications for the Malaysia-spec model have not yet been confirmed.

The Omoda C9 is offered as a locally-assembled model in 2WD and AWD variants, estimatedly priced at RM 185,000 and RM 195,000, respectively. Both trims are equipped with a 2.0-litre four-cylinder turbo engine good for making 261 PS of maximum power and 400 Nm of peak torque. It will square up against the Proton X90, Kia Sorento, and Chery Tiggo 8 Pro in the local market.

Honda showcased the new Prelude Concept at the Japan Mobility Show in October 2023, which is now ready to make its debut in Asia. It is a two-door coupe, which brings back an iconic name with a fresh, modern twist. It showcases the brand's vision for the future of sports cars, blending its rich heritage with innovation.

The Honda Prelude Concept features a bold design with a low, sporty stance and sharp, futuristic lines. The interior focuses on the driver with modern tech and high-quality materials. Under the skin of this new Honda model lies a petrol-electric hybrid drivetrain.

Kia is also one of the participating brands of the 2024 Kuala Lumpur International Mobility Show, where it

will launch the long-awaited Sportage. Dinamikjaya Motors, the local distributor of the brand, started accepting bookings for the SUV at an estimated price of RM 150,000 earlier this month.

Currently in its fifth generation, the Sportage is offered as a CKD model in Malaysia, locally assembled in Kulim, Kedah. The local-spec model comes in two drivetrains - a 2.0-litre naturally aspirated and a 1.6-litre turbocharged. The upcoming Sportage will compete against the Proton X70, Honda CR-V, and Chery Tiggo 7 Pro.

The Cyberster is offered in a single CBU variant, powered by a dual-motor all-wheel-drive setup generating a combined output of 544 PS and a peak torque of 725. The motor is fed by a 77 kWh battery, offering a WLTP-claimed driving range of up to 446 km. Developed by the MG Advanced Design Centre in London, the EV is built on the Modular Scalable Platform (MSP), which also underpins the MG 4 EV.

The UMW Toyota booth will also be stealing the limelight at the Kuala Lumpur auto show with the new Corolla Cross Hybrid. UMW Toyota started accepting bookings for the facelift electrified SUV earlier this month while announcing the estimated pricing and key upgrades.

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