

World's largest real life EV range test: 21 new cars put to the test

BMW iX3 impress in real life range test

For the second summer in a row, The Norwegian Automobile Federation (NAF) has tested the range and charge time of popular electric vehicles in real life conditions. BMW iX3 is one of many newcomers that impress.

In a time of creative marketing campaigns where the car industry vaguely presents range and charge speed of EVs, consumer organization Norwegian Automobile Federation (NAF) test the claims of the OEMs in a real life test.

-New EV owners are still not sure what they can expect in real life when it comes to range. This test aims to help new and future EV owners understand better what WLTP-range actually means, explain Nils Sødal, senior communications advisor for Norwegian Automobile Federation.

Popular SUVs put to the test

21 EVs were driven until they stopped completely and shut down, to measure their real world range. To test all the cars equally, the test drive was performed without preheating of neither cabin nor battery. All cars drove the same route on the same day, with similar style of driving, and climate control settings.

The route consist of city driving, country roads and high way speeds up to 110 km/t. All cars have to cross at least one mountain pass. The cars with the longest range cross two additional mountain passes.

The test focused on range, consumption and rapid charge time.

Hyundai Kona is the only model that has been tested previously, but was included as a reference to last year's summer range test.

It is the era of the SUV, something that is also evident by amount of electric SUV launches this spring.

Popular SUVs such as the Ford Mach-e, Skoda Enyaq iV, VW ID.4 and Hyundai Ioniq5 prove to climb the Norwegian mountains and still maintain their WLTP-range.

Tesla Model 3 LR AWD (2021) is still the EV to beat when it comes to range, efficiency and price point. It ran a total of 654,9 kilometers before it shut down.

However, it is evident by this year's line-up that Model 3 now has serious competition when it comes to range. Close on its heels was the brand new Ford Mustang Mach e (2WD), stopping at 617,9 kilometers.

The German carmaker BMW impress with their iX3 by exceeding its WLTP range by 23 percent. It drove 556,2 kilometers before it stopped completely.

-In this test we do not solely focus on having the best range. We focus on the claims of range that the OEMs make and compare the performance of each car to their own WLTP-range. This means that there are many different kinds of winners in a test such as this one, Sødal explains.

18 of the 21 cars exceeded their WLTP-range. Three cars came a few kilometers short of their estimated range.

Range is not everything

Fiat 500, Honda e and Mazda MX-30 were also put to the test – EVs that definitely are not known because of their impressive range.

-For many buyers, range is not the most important factor. Size, comfort and price point is just as important to many buyers. Especially Honda-e and Fiat 500 proves that EVs can also be fun and stylish, and still take you the places you need to go, Sødal adds.

50 cars tested in real life conditions

The consumer organization put new EVs through the same test twice a year, both in summer and winter conditions. By now, the organization has measured the real life range and charge speed for 50 different EVs.

The test concludes that EV owners can expect range loss up to 30 % in winter, while hot summer temperatures means that the WLTP-range is possible to achieve.

All cars were also put through a rapid charge-test, but these results are not ready at this moment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Photos: Please credit Motor.no/Tomm Wilgaard Christiansen

For more information about the summer test: <https://nye.naf.no/elbil/bruke-elbil/test-rekkevidde-sommer-2021>

*For more information about previous cars: <https://nye.naf.no/elbil/bruke-elbil/elbiltest>
In Norwegian, but Google Translate works completely fine.*