



# Why summer heat is hard on your car

Understanding the reasons behind the toll that summer takes on vehicles is essential for ensuring safety, preserving performance, and avoiding unexpected breakdowns

Summer brings with it the joy of bright skies, long road trips, beach outings, and holidays. However, the season's intense heat can quietly but powerfully impact your vehicle in ways that many drivers underestimate. The effects of scorching temperatures are not limited to discomfort inside the cabin—they extend deep into the mechanical, electrical, and structural components of your car. Grasping why summer heat affects vehicles so severely is crucial to maintaining safety on the road, keeping your car running smoothly, and preventing costly and inconvenient breakdowns when you least expect them.



When the temperature rises dramatically, it affects every aspect of a car's functionality. The engine, being the heart of the vehicle, is especially vulnerable. Engines already operate at high temperatures during regular use, and when the external environment adds to this heat, the likelihood of overheating increases. The engine's cooling system is the first line of defense in such situations. It consists of a complex network involving the radiator, coolant, water pump, thermostat, and various hoses. If any component within this system is compromised—say, due to low coolant levels, cracks in hoses, or a failing thermostat—the cooling process becomes inefficient. This inefficiency causes the





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engine to retain excessive heat, which can damage internal parts, reduce overall performance, and in extreme cases, lead to total engine failure. The consequences are not just inconvenient but potentially expensive and dangerous.

In addition to the engine, the car's battery faces significant strain during the summer. While most people associate battery problems with the cold of winter, the reality is that heat causes more harm. In hot weather, the chemical reactions inside a car battery accelerate. Though this might momentarily boost performance, it simultaneously causes the battery fluid to evaporate at a faster rate, which leads to internal corrosion and reduces the battery's overall lifespan. Often, a battery weakened by summer heat may not fail immediately but will likely give out in the months that follow, especially when the weather turns cooler again. This makes it all the more important to monitor your battery's health throughout the hot months.

Tires also bear the brunt of summer's heat. As temperatures rise, the air inside the tires expands, leading to increased tire pressure. This may not seem significant, but it has a direct impact on the car's handling, braking distance, and even safety.

Overinflated tires can wear unevenly and are more prone to blowouts, especially when driving at high speeds on hot pavement. The heat softens the rubber, which increases the rate of tread wear and reduces the tire's grip on the road. Furthermore, worn-out tires are at a higher risk of bursting during summer because the combination of heat and friction creates a perfect storm for failure.

The fluids within the car—such as engine oil, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and power steering fluid—are also susceptible to high temperatures. These fluids are vital to the vehicle's overall operation, acting as lubricants and temperature regulators. When subjected to extreme heat, these fluids can evaporate or degrade, losing their viscosity and effectiveness. Engine oil, for instance, becomes thinner and may not lubricate the engine components adequately, leading to increased friction, overheating, and premature wear. Similarly, if brake fluid becomes too hot or absorbs moisture, it can lead to a decrease in braking performance, which can be dangerous in traffic or during emergency stops. Without regular checks and timely replacements, degraded fluids can severely compromise your car's functionality and safety.

Inside the cabin, the effects of summer heat are not merely uncomfortable but can be damaging over time. The sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays penetrate through the windows and gradually deteriorate the car's interior materials. Prolonged exposure can cause the dashboard to crack, warp, or fade. Leather seats may dry out and become brittle, while fabric upholstery fades and weakens. The interior temperature of a parked car can soar well above 130°F (55°C), posing a real threat not just to materials but to people and pets left inside, even briefly. Using sunshades, tinted windows, or parking in shaded areas can help reduce these effects, but the cumulative damage over multiple summers can still be substantial if not mitigated with protective measures such as interior conditioners and seat covers.

The vehicle's air conditioning system also becomes a crucial element during summer. Not only does it ensure driver and passenger comfort, but it also plays a role in maintaining driver alertness and preventing fatigue. However, the increased demand placed on the A/C system means it must work harder, especially during long drives or while stuck in traffic. Components such as the compressor, condenser,

and refrigerant lines are all operating under high stress. If any part of this system is malfunctioning, the cooling effect is diminished, and the engine may also experience additional strain. Over time, neglected air conditioning issues can escalate into costly repairs.

Even parts of the car that are not immediately visible, like the brakes, are not immune to the effects of high temperatures. Brakes function by generating friction, which naturally produces heat. During summer, this heat builds up faster and takes longer to dissipate. In extreme cases, it can lead to brake fade, where the brakes become less effective, requiring more distance to stop the vehicle. Additionally, if the brake fluid boils or absorbs moisture—both of which are more likely in hot weather—it can result in spongy braking or a total loss of braking power. This is particularly dangerous when descending hills or driving in heavy traffic.

On the exterior, the vehicle's paint and finish face constant exposure to sunlight. Ultraviolet radiation can cause oxidation, which dulls the color and leads to the fading of paint. Over time, this results in a weathered appearance and may even damage the clear coat layer, exposing the base paint to the elements. The accumulation of dust, grime, and pollutants further contributes to this wear, especially when these particles become abrasive in combination with sun-heated surfaces. Frequent washing, polishing, and waxing can help preserve the exterior's luster and protect against sun-induced degradation.

In conclusion, while summer is a time of leisure, relaxation, and exploration, it also poses a series of challenges to your vehicle. The relentless heat affects multiple systems simultaneously—from the engine and battery to the tires, fluids, air conditioning, and interior finishes. These effects often manifest silently, accumulating over time until they result in a noticeable drop in performance or an outright mechanical failure. By understanding the specific ways in which summer heat impacts your car, drivers can take proactive steps to protect their investment. Regular maintenance, mindful driving habits, and protective measures can ensure that your car remains reliable, efficient, and safe throughout the hottest months of the year.

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Volvo EX30

A Five-Star Safe, Sustainable Vision for Qatar's Future

V O L V O



- Advanced Driver Alert: Monitors driver fatigue and distractions, enhancing safety on Qatar's Roads.

**These systems reflect Volvo's philosophy:** safety extends beyond crash ratings to real-world scenarios, from West Bay's high-rises to Al Wakrah's family neighbourhoods.

**Sustainability in Every Detail**

The EX30's five-star safety credentials are matched by its eco-conscious design. Over 25% recycled aluminium, 17% recycled steel, and 17% recycled plastics underscore Volvo's goal to slash lifecycle emissions and achieve full electrification by 2030.

With a WLTP range of 440 km and rapid charging compatibility, the EX30 supports Qatar's expanding EV infrastructure. Its energy efficiency and low carbon footprint align with national efforts to prioritize clean transport and energy innovation.

**Scandinavian Innovation Meets Qatar's Vision**

The EX30's minimalist interior, powered by a Google-integrated touchscreen and voice control, complements Qatar's tech-forward mobility landscape. Premium finishes and adaptive cruise control ensure serenity and confidence while navigating Souq Waqif's vibrant corners or cruising Lusail Boulevard.

As Qatar accelerates its transition to a knowledge-based economy, the EX30 stands as a symbol of progress—proving that sustainable choices need not compromise safety, luxury, or performance.

The all-electric Volvo EX30, launched in Qatar in 2024, has set a new benchmark as a leader in automotive safety and sustainability. Recently awarded a maximum five-star Euro NCAP safety rating, the EX30 reinforces Volvo's legacy of innovation while advancing Qatar's commitment to a smarter, greener future.

Designed for the dynamic streets of Doha and beyond, the EX30 pairs

Volvo's renowned safety expertise with a dedication to environmental stewardship, aligning seamlessly with the Qatar National Vision 2030's pillars of sustainable development and technological progress.

**Safety First: Built for Real-World Urban Challenges**

Though Volvo's smallest SUV, the EX30 upholds the brand's uncompromising

safety standards. Engineered with over 50 years of real-world accident research, it features advanced protective and active safety systems designed to excel in Qatar's bustling urban landscapes.

The EX30's structural integrity meets Volvo's pioneering in-house safety requirements, which often surpass standardized testing. Modern restraint technology and a robust electric platform ensure protection

for occupants and pedestrians alike. Key innovations include:

- Intersection Auto Brake: Detects crossing vehicles during turns and automatically intervenes to prevent collisions.
- Door Opening Alert: Uses visual and audio cues to warn occupants of approaching cyclists or traffic, reducing urban "dooring" risks.

**A New Era of Responsible Mobility**

The Volvo EX30 is more than an electric vehicle; it's a commitment to Qatar's sustainable and safe future. Available now at Domasco Showroom located at Salwa Road, the EX30 invites drivers to embrace a world where cutting-edge safety, zero-emissions innovation, and Scandinavian elegance converge.



# 2025 MAZDA CX-60 MHEV

## NEW SKYACTIV PLATFORM DELIVERS EXCEPTIONAL DRIVING PLEASURE

The all-new Mazda CX-60, Featuring a 3.3-litre inline 6-cylinder MHEV, has been introduced by National Car Company (NCC), the sole agent for Mazda vehicles in Qatar, as part of the celebration of 50 years of partnership in excellence with Mazda Corporation – Japan.

Now available at the state-of-the-art Mazda showroom in Al Nasr, the model has generated significant excitement among SUV buyers in Qatar, resulting in exceptional sales momentum.

The new CX-60 debuts a unique front-engine, rear-wheel-drive (FR) layout and introduces the longitudinal version of Mazda's Skyactiv Multi-Solution Scalable Architecture platform.

Besides the newly introduced 3.3 litre inline 6-cylinder MHEV, 3 variants of Mazda CX-60 are available for sales in Qatar, equipped with a high performance 2.5-litre Skyactiv-G engine and 8 speed automatic transmission, all equipped with a whole range of new driver-centric technologies. All the models offer low emissions and excellent fuel efficiency with high levels of torque.

### Crafted in Japan

The all-new Mazda CX-60 represents everything that Mazda has built into its DNA over the last one hundred years: From the great design, both inside and out, to Japanese craftsmanship and new technologies, all focused on creating a fantastic experience for the driver and co-passengers.

### Less is More

There is a pure grace to be found in the simplicity and sparse beauty of a traditional Japanese garden which exemplifies the design principle of "less is more." This principle was deftly applied to the new Mazda CX-60, imbuing the car with a subtle yet strong appearance. The car is in harmony with the surrounding nature, a value that is important in Japanese life, rather than attempting to dominate it as some of the contemporary SUVs often do.

### Human Centricity

While getting behind the steering

wheel, comfortable seating position is extremely important to enjoy the pleasure of driving. The optimum positioning of the driver has always been a key component in any Mazda vehicle's development. However, recent research by Mazda revealed that fewer than half of drivers position themselves correctly for comfort, safety, and control. The all-new Mazda CX-60 places strong emphasis on addressing this issue, ensuring a more intuitive and supportive driving experience.

### A Richer Life

Mazda believes that a car can truly enrich your life and has designed the interior of the new Mazda CX-60 for this very purpose. It is not just a stylish and comfortable place to enjoy every journey, but a mindful zone with a design that takes inspiration from nature and Japan's rich culture infused with modern techniques and principles so that it is superbly functional as well as beautiful.



### New Rhodium White Colour Exemplifies Simple Elegance

Mazda designers went to great lengths to create a new special paint called Rhodium White, which was crafted specifically to highlight the beauty of the CX-60's design. As light flows over the bodywork, the surrounding environment is reflected in its surfaces creating a sensation of the car being in harmony with the world.

The vehicle does not simply look white, the light reflects onto it to give it a metallic look shows the contrasting light and shadow.

### All-new scalable platform with longitudinal engine

Engineered to give exhilarating responses that are also friendly to the environment, CX-60's front-engine rear-wheel-drive (FR) layout is the debut of the longitudinal version of their Skyactiv Multi-Solution Scalable Architecture platform. This all-new platform accommodates both four- and six-cylinder longitudinal engines of any capacity, as well as diverse electrification technologies such as M Hybrid system. Guided by Mazda's unique Skyactiv-Vehicle Architecture concept, the design of the CX-60 ensures that the vehicle works in harmony with the human body's natural ability to maintain balance while in motion. This allows the driver to fully harness the power of the newly developed engine. As a result, you can enjoy a relaxed, well-balanced posture while confidently experiencing the thrill of controlling G-forces across various driving conditions.

### i-ACTIV AWD

CX-60's longitudinal powertrain layout allows i-Activ AWD to give you the best of both worlds: the neutral cornering characteristics of a rear-wheel-drive system combined with the reassuring stability of all-wheel drive. This full-time AWD system primarily delivers power to the rear wheels for the superior handling associated with the sports car's classic FR configuration, yet continuously monitors driving conditions to dynamically direct power to any of the four wheels as necessary. The result is a new level of high-speed, straight-line stability on

highways, inspiring handling on winding roads, and reliably stable traction on snow or slippery surfaces.

### Kinematic Posture Control (KPC)

At the front, the CX-60 features a double-wishbone suspension system, optimally engineered to take advantage of the additional space provided by the longitudinal powertrain layout. At the rear, a multi-link suspension enhances stability and handling. Complementing this setup is Mazda's newly developed Kinematic Posture Control (KPC), which maximizes the inherent strengths of the suspension system to deliver smoother body movement during everyday driving and effectively suppress body roll during high-speed cornering.

### Mazda Proactive Safety

True driving pleasure requires more than just vehicle response and performance. It also demands the peace of mind that comes with feeling safe, secure and in control. In line with their human-centered design philosophy, Mazda Proactive Safety is engineered around you, the driver, to support you in anticipating and assessing your driving environment moment by moment, helping you to recognize and avoid danger beforehand rather than react after a hazardous situation has developed. i-Activsense with its full spectrum of remote sensing devices provides continuous 360° monitoring around the vehicle and alerts you to potential threats. And when necessary, its advanced autonomous control/brake systems assist in staying out of harm's way.

### Panoramic Sunroof

The large panoramic sunroof provides an expansive top view and brings light to the



entire cabin, delivering an open, airy feel to passengers in the front and rear alike.

### Qi wireless charger\*

The center console tray includes a Qi wireless charger to enable charging of compatible smartphones and other devices placed on it when the engine is running.



### Handsfree Tailgate Function

With the advanced key in your pocket or bag, a quick kick beneath the sensor located under the rear bumper lets you open and close the rear power liftgate, a convenient feature when your hands are full or when you don't want to touch the car because it is wet or muddy.

### Advanced Acoustic Environment

A supremely quiet cabin is the essential backdrop to top quality in-car audio. CX-60's rigid body structure helps achieve that, suppressing intrusion of unwanted noise and vibration through extensive sound insulation and NVH measures. With this as its foundation, the unique Mazda Harmonic Acoustics audio initiative creates a breathtaking audio experience for everybody in the vehicle. And Master Sound Revive Noise Reduction (MSR NR), making its debut in a car audio system, does exactly what the name says by drastically reducing the low-level noise that can muddy sound to bring you a high-quality audio experience closer to the artist's intention. In total, CX-60 delivers an exceptional audio experience for all occupants, ensuring unmatched listening pleasure no matter where they are seated.

All New Mazda CX-60 variants are on display and for sale at the state-of-the-art Mazda showroom located at Al Nasr, Doha.

# THE FUTURE OF DRIVING

## How self-driving technology is evolving and what it means for drivers

The automobile has long symbolized personal freedom, progress, and innovation. Yet, as we steer deeper into the 21st century, a monumental shift is underway—one that could redefine what it means to "drive."

At the core of this transformation is the convergence of artificial intelligence (AI), advanced computing, and sensor technology, all working together to give rise to the autonomous vehicle. Self-driving cars, once considered a distant dream or the subject of science fiction, are fast becoming a reality, poised to revolutionize not just transportation, but the very fabric of urban life.

Autonomous vehicles, or AVs, rely on a sophisticated interplay of hardware and software systems. Their "eyes" are composed of radar, lidar, and high-resolution cameras that scan the vehicle's surroundings in real time. Their "brain" is powered by AI algorithms and machine learning, which analyze this sensor data, predict the behaviour of pedestrians and other vehicles, and make split-second decisions that emulate, and potentially surpass, human judgment.

To better understand how far we've come and where we're headed, it's important to consider the widely accepted classification of driving automation by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). These six levels range from Level 0, where the human driver is in full control of all functions, to Level 5, representing full automation with zero human input required.

Today, the most advanced commercial vehicles on the road offer Level 2 and Level 3 functionalities, where drivers may temporarily relinquish control, but must remain alert and ready to intervene. Vehicles that operate at Level 4 or Level 5 are still largely in the testing phase, limited to controlled environments and specific operational domains such as urban shuttle routes or highway travel under ideal weather conditions.

Recent years have witnessed remarkable advancements in autonomous vehicle technology. AI has become increasingly adept at recognizing and responding to complex driving scenarios, including interpreting traffic signals, detecting jaywalking pedestrians, maneuvering through construction zones, and anticipating the erratic behavior of human drivers. This leap in

intelligence is largely due to neural networks trained on vast datasets collected from millions of miles driven by test vehicles and simulations. These networks enable AVs to "learn" from past experiences and continuously refine their decision-making processes.

Another critical development is the integration of vehicle-to-everything (V2X) communication systems. These systems allow AVs to exchange data not just with one another, but also with traffic lights, road signs, and even smart city infrastructure. This connectivity enhances situational awareness, enabling smoother traffic flow, real-time rerouting to avoid congestion, and proactive measures to prevent accidents before they occur.

Major technology companies and automotive manufacturers are aggressively investing in this domain. Waymo, a subsidiary of Google's parent company Alphabet, has been a pioneer in deploying autonomous ride-hailing services in cities like Phoenix, Arizona. Tesla continues to develop its Full Self-Driving (FSD) system, although it still requires driver supervision. Apple is reportedly working on a secretive car project of its own, while traditional automakers such as Ford, General Motors, and Toyota are pouring billions into autonomous research and partnerships with AI startups.

The potential benefits of widespread AV adoption are enormous. Safety stands at the forefront. With over 1.3 million road traffic fatalities globally each year, and human error accounting for over 90 percent of these incidents, autonomous cars could save countless lives. Unlike human drivers, machines do not get distracted, drowsy, or impaired by alcohol. Their reflexes are quicker, their judgment unclouded by emotion, and their attention unwavering.

Beyond safety, autonomous vehicles promise to enhance mobility for those currently underserved by traditional transportation options. The elderly, individuals with disabilities, and people unable to obtain a driver's license due to medical conditions could all gain newfound independence. Urban mobility could be dramatically reshaped, with fleets of shared autonomous cars reducing the need for private car ownership. Cities might see less traffic congestion, fewer emissions, and a

reduced need for parking infrastructure, freeing up space for green areas, housing, or public amenities.

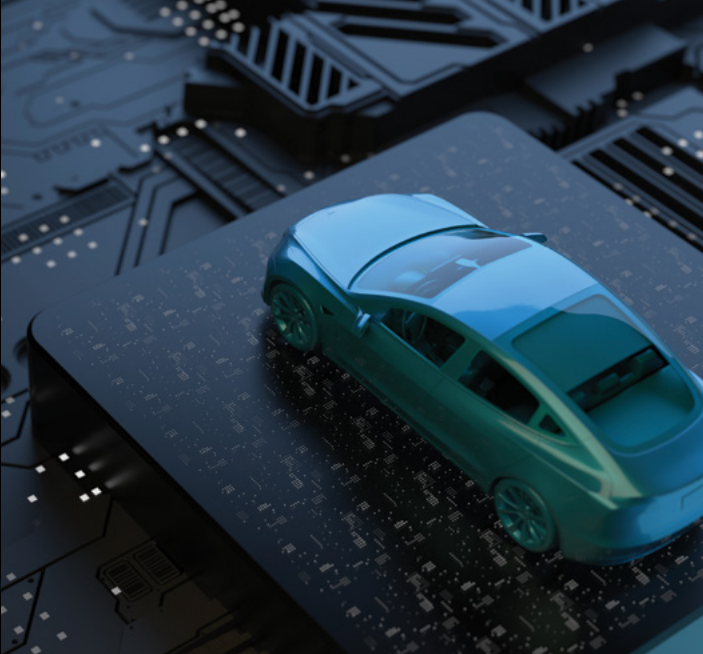
Moreover, autonomous vehicles can be programmed to drive with optimal efficiency—accelerating smoothly, braking gently, and maintaining ideal speeds. These practices not only reduce fuel consumption but also extend the lifespan of vehicle components. When powered by electric drivetrains and integrated into clean energy grids, autonomous transportation could play a significant role in combating climate change.

However, the journey toward full autonomy is not without its challenges. One of the most pressing issues is regulatory uncertainty. As the technology evolves faster than legislation, questions arise over who is liable in the event of an accident involving an AV. Is it the manufacturer, the software developer, the fleet operator, or the passenger? Clear legal frameworks must be established to address these dilemmas before AVs can be widely deployed.

Ethical considerations also come into play. In rare but critical situations where an accident is unavoidable, how should the AI choose between two unfavorable outcomes? These so-called "trolley problems" may seem theoretical, but they underscore the moral complexities of entrusting life-and-death decisions to machines.

Cybersecurity is another significant concern. Autonomous vehicles, being connected to the internet and to each other, are susceptible to hacking. A cyberattack targeting AVs could have catastrophic consequences, from traffic disruptions to targeted harm. Therefore, robust encryption, secure communication protocols, and continuous monitoring systems are essential to safeguard this new form of mobility.

Cost and infrastructure are additional barriers. Developing and maintaining the sensor arrays, computing hardware, and communications systems required for autonomy is expensive. Cities and countries must also invest in intelligent



infrastructure to support AV deployment, including updated road signage, dedicated lanes, and smart traffic management systems. Until economies of scale bring down the costs, autonomous technology will likely be limited to premium models or shared mobility services.

Despite these hurdles, the impact of self-driving technology on everyday drivers is already being felt. Modern vehicles are increasingly equipped with advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS), which provide features such as adaptive cruise control, automatic emergency braking, lane-keeping assistance, and parking automation. These tools are not fully autonomous but represent important stepping stones toward safer, more intuitive driving experiences. As these systems become standard across all vehicle segments, drivers will need to adapt, learning how to cooperate with semi-autonomous systems and understand their capabilities and limitations.

In the broader picture, self-driving technology could usher in a cultural shift. Car ownership may decline, replaced by subscription-based mobility services offering autonomous vehicles on demand. Urban planning might be transformed to accommodate fewer personal vehicles and more pedestrian-friendly spaces. New industries and job categories will emerge, while others, such as long-haul trucking and taxi driving, may undergo significant upheaval.

As we move forward, the goal should not only be to automate but to elevate—to create a transportation ecosystem that is safer, more inclusive, and more sustainable for generations to come.





# Driving the future: GAC AION Y accelerates Qatar’s green mobility ambitions

The global automotive landscape is undergoing a seismic shift. Electric vehicles (EVs), once a niche market, are now at the forefront of a sustainable revolution. According to the Global EV Outlook 2024, electric car sales surged by 25% in early 2024 compared to the previous year—a testament to growing consumer confidence and infrastructure development.

In Qatar, this trend aligns seamlessly with the Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV 2030), which prioritizes environmental stewardship and economic diversification. Enter the GAC AION Y, a groundbreaking electric crossover that embodies this vision while addressing the practical challenges of EV adoption, positioning itself as a game-changer in green mobility.

**The EV Imperative: Beyond Zero Emissions**

EVs have long been celebrated for their zero tailpipe emissions, reduced maintenance costs, and quieter operation. Yet, barriers like range anxiety, charging accessibility, and affordability persist. Traditional hybrids and plug-in hybrids offer transitional solutions, but fully electric models like the AION Y represent the pinnacle of sustainable innovation. With Qatar's public and private sectors rapidly expanding charging networks, the groundwork for an EV-dominated future is being laid—and the AION Y is engineered to thrive in this ecosystem.

**The AION Y: Bridging Gaps, Setting Benchmarks**

Launched in Qatar, the AION Y is more than just an EV—it's a holistic answer to the evolving needs of modern drivers. Here's how it stands out:

- 1. Defying Range Anxiety with Cutting-Edge Battery Tech**

The AION Y's Magazine Battery technology, developed by GAC Group, is a marvel of engineering. Boasting a 63.2 kWh capacity, it delivers an impressive 490 km range (NEDC standard)—enough to traverse Doha to Abu Dhabi on a single charge. This system is optimized for high-temperature performance, a critical feature in the Gulf's climate, and comes with an industry-leading 8-year/200,000 km warranty.
- 2. Power Meets Efficiency**

Equipped with a 150 kW permanent magnet motor, the AION Y accelerates from 0-100 km/h in just 7.9 seconds, blending agility with efficiency. Its GEP



- 2.0 Pure Electric Platform** minimizes energy consumption while enhancing stability, ensuring a smooth ride across cityscapes and highways. Four adaptive driving modes—SPORT, ECO, NORMAL, and I-Pedal—allow drivers to tailor performance to their needs.
- 3. Safety and Innovation, Redefined**

Safety is paramount, and the AION Y delivers with a 360-degree panoramic imaging system, lane assist, and collision warnings. Inside, a dual-screen setup (10.25-inch instrument cluster and 14.6-inch touchscreen) offers intuitive control, while wireless charging and smartphone integration keep drivers connected. The spacious interior, with a 2,750mm wheelbase and foldable seats, transforms from a family car to a cargo hauler effortlessly.

- 4. Luxury Without Compromise**

The AION Y's cabin rival's premium sedans, featuring soft-touch materials, ambient lighting, and a premium sound system. Its bold exterior design, available in six colours, challenges the notion that sustainability sacrifices style.
- GAC's Strategic Vision: Pioneering Sustainable Innovation**

GAC AION's entry into Qatar underscores its commitment to advancing green mobility in line with QNV 2030. As a subsidiary of GAC Group, a global leader in automotive innovation, GAC AION combines cutting-edge technology with eco-conscious design. The AION Y exemplifies this mission, offering a vehicle that prioritizes efficiency

without compromising performance. Coupled with Qatar's expanding charging infrastructure, the model dismantles the myth that sustainability is a luxury, making advanced EV technology accessible to a broader audience.

**The Road Ahead**

The AION Y's arrival marks a pivotal moment in the region's automotive evolution. As nations worldwide race to decarbonize transport, models like the AION Y set new standards, proving that electric vehicles can be versatile, aspirational, and aligned with planetary stewardship.

For drivers seeking a seamless blend of innovation and sustainability, the future is here.

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