



Race Preview

2015 ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX 27-29 November 2015

After nine months, 18 rounds, 18 countries and a total of 18,822 laps completed so far, the final final round of the 2015 Formula One Championship takes teams and drivers to Abu Dhabi and the state-of-the-art Yas Marina Circuit.

The 5.554km circuit is unusual in that it features a pit lane exiting through a tunnel, a hotel straddling the track and a final sector that winds around a glamorous marina. The track is also part of an enormous man-made island complex that features a variety of other motor sport arenas as well as theme parks and concert venues.

The grand prix circuit itself consists of three distinct sectors. The first features two quick sections before giving way to a second sector consisting of two high-speed straights that contain the layout's two DRS zones, each of which ends in heavy braking zones where overtaking is possible. The third sector consists of a complex of low-speed corners that place a premium on aerodynamic grip and balance. With three such different sectors finding the right set-up to meet its many demands can be tricky.

Complicating matters is the circuit's status as a twilight race. The grand prix starts in diminishing daylight, at 5pm local time, and finishes in darkness. This can cause track temperatures to drop as much as 15°C over the course of the race, potentially causing balance changes that must be taken into account when reaching for the most effective set-up.

Grip, which is often at a premium early in the weekend on the dusty, smooth surface, is affected by the temperature variation and Pirelli will this weekend bring its two softest compounds to the race – soft and supersoft. It's the fifth time the combination has been used this season, with the same compounds previously being used in Monaco, Canada, Austria, and Russia.



CIRCUIT DATA

YAS MARINA CIRCUIT

Length of lap: 5.554km

Lap record: 1:40.279 (Sebastian Vettel, Red Bull Racing 2009)

Start line/finish line offset: 0.115km

Total number of race laps: 55

Total race distance: 305.355km

Pitlane speed limits: 80km/h in practice, qualifying, and the race

CIRCUIT NOTES

- ▶ Other than routine maintenance no changes have been made to the circuit.

DRS ZONE

- ▶ There will be two DRS zones for the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. The first detection point will be 40m before Turn Seven, with the activation point 390m after Turn Seven. The second detection point will be 50m after Turn Nine with the activation point at the apex of Turn 10.

ROUND 19	ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX	START TIME	17:00 Local - 13:00 GMT
RACE DATE:	29 NOV 2015	CIRCUIT LENGTH:	5.554KM
CIRCUIT NAME:	YAS MARINA CIRCUIT	RACE DISTANCE:	305.355KM
NUMBER OF LAPS:	55	LAP RECORD:	1:40.279 - S Vettel [2009]

KEY

Speed Kmh
Braking 120 3 Gear

Sector Time
T3
39.8
Lap Time
1:39.9

Sector 1 Sector 2 Sector 3
 Circuit Start Finish
 DRS Detection DRS Activation Run-off Areas
 FIA Medical & Safety Cars Marshal Posts Light Panels



FAST FACTS

- ▶ This will be the seventh Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. The race joined the calendar in 2009, with the inaugural winner being Sebastian Vettel.
- ▶ The Yas Marina circuit has previously hosted three season finales (2009, 2010 and 2014) two of which have been title deciders. Vettel's 2010 victory saw him become Formula One's youngest title winner – at the age of 23 – while Lewis Hamilton's victory here last year, in a controversial double points race, handed the Briton his second world title.
- ▶ Vettel is the most successful driver at the race with the German adding victories in 2010 and 2013 to his inaugural race win. Hamilton too is a repeat winner, with the Briton standing on the top step of the podium in 2011 as well as last year. The only other driver to win here is Kimi Räikkönen, who led the field home for Lotus in 2012.
- ▶ The most successful team at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix is Red Bull Racing, who have three wins – all scored by Vettel. McLaren, Lotus and Mercedes all have one win each. While Red Bull still head the order of success when podium finishes are taken into account, with six appearances, McLaren move ahead of their other rivals with four podium finishes, while Ferrari, Mercedes and Williams have two apiece.
- ▶ This weekend is set to mark the 150th grand prix start for the Force India team. The squad began life as Jordan in 1991 before becoming Midland in 2006, Spyker in 2007 and then Force India in 2008. Since its debut at the '08 Australian Grand Prix, Force India has scored one pole position, at the 2009 Belgian Grand Prix with Giancarlo Fisichella, and three podium finishes. Fisichella was third in Belgium in '09, while Sergio Perez finished in third place at the 2014 Bahrain Grand Prix and in the same position at this year's Russian Grand Prix. In total the Silverstone-based outfit has scored 611 championship points across its 149 starts. Interlagos.
- ▶ Felipe Massa is the only driver on this year's grid to finish in the points in every one of his Abu Dhabi Grand Prix outings. The Brazilian missed the inaugural event but since then has finished 10th, fifth, seventh, eighth (all for Ferrari) and last year he finished second for Williams..
- ▶ Red Bull Racing's Daniel Ricciardo scored the first fastest lap of his career here last year. The Australian driver has since racked up three more – at this year's Monaco, Hungarian and Singapore Grands Prix.
- ▶ Vettel and Hamilton head the list of pole position winners, with two each. Vettel was on pole in 2010 for his title win – the only time the race has been won from pole – and he also started from the front the following year, though he failed to finish the race. Hamilton started on pole in 2009 but retired with brake failure. He was on pole again in 2012 but this time exited the race with a fuel pressure problem. Both Hamilton's wins were scored from second on the grid. Vettel also took his '09 and '13 wins from the lower slot of the front row. Räikkönen's win was scored from fourth on the grid, the only time it has been won from further back than the front row. Mexico.
- ▶ Only two other drivers have been on pole here – Australia's Mark Webber in 2013 for Red Bull Racing and Germany's Nico Rosberg who started from the top spot of the grid last year for Mercedes.

RACE STEWARDS BIOGRAPHIES

GARRY CONNELLY

DEPUTY PRESIDENT, FIA INSTITUTE; DIRECTOR, GLOBAL INSTITUTE FOR MOTOR SPORT SAFETY; DIRECTOR, AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MOTOR SPORT SAFETY; F1, WTCC STEWARD; FIA WORLD MOTOR SPORT COUNCIL MEMBER

Garry Connelly has been involved in motor sport since the late 1960s. A longtime rally competitor, Connelly was instrumental in bringing the World Rally Championship to Australia in 1988 and served as Chairman of the Organising Committee, Board member and Clerk of Course of Rally Australia until December 2002. He has been an FIA Steward and FIA Observer since 1989, covering the FIA's World Rally Championship, World Touring Car Championship and Formula One Championship. He is a director of the Australian Institute of Motor Sport Safety and of the Global Institute of Motor Sport Safety. He is a member of the FIA World Motor Sport Council.



STEVE STRINGWELL

PERMANENT CHAIRMAN STEWARD FOR PORSCHE SUPERCUP, RENAULT 3.5 SERIES , BRITISH TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP F1 DRIVER

Englishman Steve Stringwell brings a wealth of experience to the F1 stewarding panel. He began marshalling in 1967 before spending 15 years rallying. Since 1986 he has held a series of posts within the UK's Motor Sports Association, first as a steward, then chairman of the MSA's national court and latterly as chairman of the MSA's Judicial Advisory Panel. Stringwell serves as permanent chairman steward for the Porsche Supercup, the Formula Renault 3.5 series and the British Touring Car Championship. He has been chairman of support race stewards at the British Grand Prix since 2005 and has officiated at F1 grands prix since 2012. At home in Yorkshire he is a Justice of the Peace and magistrate in the city of Leeds.



DEREK WARWICK

FORMER FORMULA ONE DRIVER AND WORLD SPORTSCAR CHAMPION

Derek Warwick raced in 146 grands prix from 1981 to 1993, appearing for Toleman, Renault, Brabham, Arrows and Lotus. He scored 71 points and achieved four podium finishes, with two fastest laps. He was World Sportscar Champion in 1992, driving for Peugeot. He also won Le Mans in the same year. He raced Jaguar sportscars in 1986 and 1991 and competed in the British Touring Car Championship between 1995 and 1998, as well as a further appearance at the Le Mans in 1996, driving for the Courage Competition team. Warwick is a frequent FIA driver steward and is President of the British Racing Drivers' Club.



2015 FIA Formula One World Championship

DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

	AUSTRALIA	MALAYSIA	CHINA	BAHRAIN	SPAIN	MONACO	CANADA	AUSTRIA	GB	HUNGARY	BELGIUM	ITALY	SINGAPORE	JAPAN	RUSSIA	USA	MEXICO	BRAZIL	ABU DHABI	POINTS
1. Lewis Hamilton	25	18	25	25	18	15	25	18	25	8	25	25	0	25	25	25	18	18	--	363
2. Nico Rosberg	18	15	18	15	25	25	18	25	18	4	18	0	12	18	0	18	25	25	--	297
3. Sebastian Vettel	15	25	15	10	15	18	10	12	15	25	0	18	25	15	18	15	0	15	--	266
4. Valtteri Bottas	--	10	8	12	12	0	15	10	10	0	2	12	10	10	0	0	15	10	--	136
5. Kimi Räikkönen	0	12	12	18	10	8	12	0	4	0	6	10	15	12	4	0	0	12	--	135
6. Felipe Massa	12	8	10	1	8	0	8	15	12	0	8	15	0	0	12	0	8	0	--	117
7. Daniil Kvyat	--	2	0	2	1	12	2	0	8	18	12	1	8	0	10	0	12	6	--	94
8. Daniel Ricciardo	8	1	2	8	6	10	0	1	0	15	0	4	18	0	0	1	10	0	--	84
9. Sergio Pérez	1	0	0	4	0	6	0	2	2	0	10	8	6	0	15	10	4	0	--	68
10. Nico Hülkenberg	6	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	6	0	0	6	0	8	0	0	6	8	--	52
11. Romain Grosjean	0	0	6	6	4	0	1	0	0	6	15	0	0	6	0	0	1	4	--	49
12. Max Verstappen	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	12	4	0	4	2	1	12	2	2	--	49
13. Felipe Nasr	10	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	2	0	0	--	27
14. Pastor Maldonado	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	4	0	1	--	27
15. Carlos Sainz	2	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	6	0	0	--	18
16. Jenson Button	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	0	--	16
17. Fernando Alonso	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	11
18. Marcus Ericsson	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	9
19. Roberto Merhi	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	0	--	--	--	--	0
20. Will Stevens	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0
21. Alexander Rossi	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	--	0	0	0	--	0

2015 FIA Formula One World Championship

CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

	AUSTRALIA	MALAYSIA	CHINA	BAHRAIN	SPAIN	MONACO	CANADA	AUSTRIA	GB	HUNGARY	BELGIUM	ITALY	SINGAPORE	JAPAN	RUSSIA	USA	MEXICO	BRAZIL	ABU DHABI	POINTS
1. Mercedes AMG Petronas	43	33	43	40	43	40	43	43	43	12	43	25	12	43	25	43	43	43	--	660
2. Scuderia Ferrari	15	37	27	28	25	26	22	12	19	25	6	28	40	27	22	15	0	27	--	401
3. Williams Martini Racing	12	18	18	13	20	0	23	25	22	0	10	27	10	10	12	0	23	10	--	253
4. Infiniti Red Bull Racing	8	3	2	10	7	22	2	1	8	33	12	5	26	0	10	1	22	6	--	178
5. Sahara Force India F1 Team	7	0	0	4	0	6	4	10	8	0	10	14	6	8	15	10	10	8	--	120
6. Lotus F1 Team	0	0	6	6	4	0	7	6	0	6	15	0	0	10	6	4	1	5	--	76
7. Scuderia Toro Rosso	2	10	0	0	2	1	0	4	0	12	4	0	6	3	1	18	2	2	--	67
8. Sauber F1 Team	14	0	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	8	2	0	0	--	36
9. McLaren Honda	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	12	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	0	--	27
10. Manor Marussia F1 Team	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0

FORMULA ONE TIMETABLE & FIA MEDIA SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Press conference 15.00

FRIDAY

Practice session 1 13.00-14.30

Practice session 2 17.00-18.30

Press conference 19.00

SATURDAY

Practice session 3 14.00-15.00

Qualifying 17.00-18.00

Followed by unilateral and press conference

SUNDAY

Drivers' Parade 15.30

Race 17.00

Followed by podium interviews and press conference

ADDITIONAL MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

QUALIFYING

All drivers eliminated in Q1 or Q2 are available for media interviews immediately after the end of each session, as are drivers who participated in Q3, but who are not required for the postqualifying press conference. The TV interview pen is located in the paddock in front of the media centre.

RACE

Any driver retiring before the end of the race will be made available at the TV pen interview area. In addition, during the race every team will make available at least one senior spokesperson for interview by officially accredited TV crews. A list of those nominated will be made available in the media centre.

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