



# Race Preview

## 2018 AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX

29 June – 01 July 2018



Following last weekend's French Grand Prix, Formula 1 this weekend heads for the middle event of the sport's first triple-header of grands prix, with Round Nine of the 2018 FIA Formula 1 World Championship taking place at the Red Bull Ring, home of the Austrian Grand Prix.

The rural circuit features one of the season's most picturesque backdrops with the short 4.318km track draped across the foothills of the spectacular Styrian mountains. And since its return in 2014 it has provided fans with some spectacular action thanks in most part to the high-speed nature of the layout and to the shortness of the lap, which helps to promote close racing.

Made up of just 10 corners, with the kink between Turn 1 and the old Turn 2 now recognised as a corner, the Red Bull Ring is essentially made up four straights ending in tight corners and that means that good traction and straight-line speed are key attributes in the quest for success here.

To aid with traction on the smooth track surface, tyre supplier Pirelli has this weekend brought its soft, supersoft and ultrasofts compounds. And drivers have overwhelmingly prioritised the ultrasoft, with only the Haas pairing of Kevin Magnussen and Romain Grosjean selecting less than eight set of the purple-banded tyre.

In the Drivers' Championship standings, a faultless drive to victory from pole position in France last weekend saw Lewis Hamilton regain top spot, and he now has 145 points, 14 points clear of Sebastian Vettel, who recovered from a first-lap collision with Valtteri Bottas to finish fifth. Daniel Ricciardo lies third with 96 points, four ahead of Bottas.

Results at the Circuit Paul Ricard mean Mercedes currently lead the race for the Constructors' title, with 237 points, 23 points ahead of Ferrari, while Red Bull Racing are in third place with 164 points.

### RED BULL RING

**Length of lap:**

4.318km

**Lap record:** 1:07.411

(Lewis Hamilton, Mercedes, 2017)

**Start line/finish line offset:**

0.126km

**Total number of race laps:**

71

**Total race distance:**

306.452km

**Pitlane speed limits:**

80km/h in practice, qualifying, and the race

### CIRCUIT NOTES

- ▶ The verge on the left approaching Turn 3 has been widened at the request of MotoGP.
- ▶ The opening in the corner of the run-off area at Turn 4 has been closed and a new one created further around the run-off.

### DRS ZONE

- ▶ There will be three DRS zones. The first has a detection point 160m before Turn 1 with an activation point 102m after Turn 1. The second zone will have a detection point 40m before Turn 3 and an activation point 100m after Turn 3. The detection point of the final zone is 151m before Turn 10, while its activation point is 106m after Turn 10.

<b>ROUND 09</b>	AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX	<b>START TIME</b>	15:10 Local - 13:10 GMT
<b>RACE DATE:</b>	01 JUL 2018	<b>CIRCUIT LENGTH:</b>	4.318km
<b>CIRCUIT NAME:</b>	RED BULL RING	<b>RACE DISTANCE:</b>	306.452km
<b>NUMBER OF LAPS:</b>	71	<b>LAP RECORD:</b>	1:07.411 - L Hamilton [2017]

**KEY**

Speed Kmh  
Braking **120 3** Gear

Timing Sector  
T3  
19.4  
Lap Time  
1:04.2

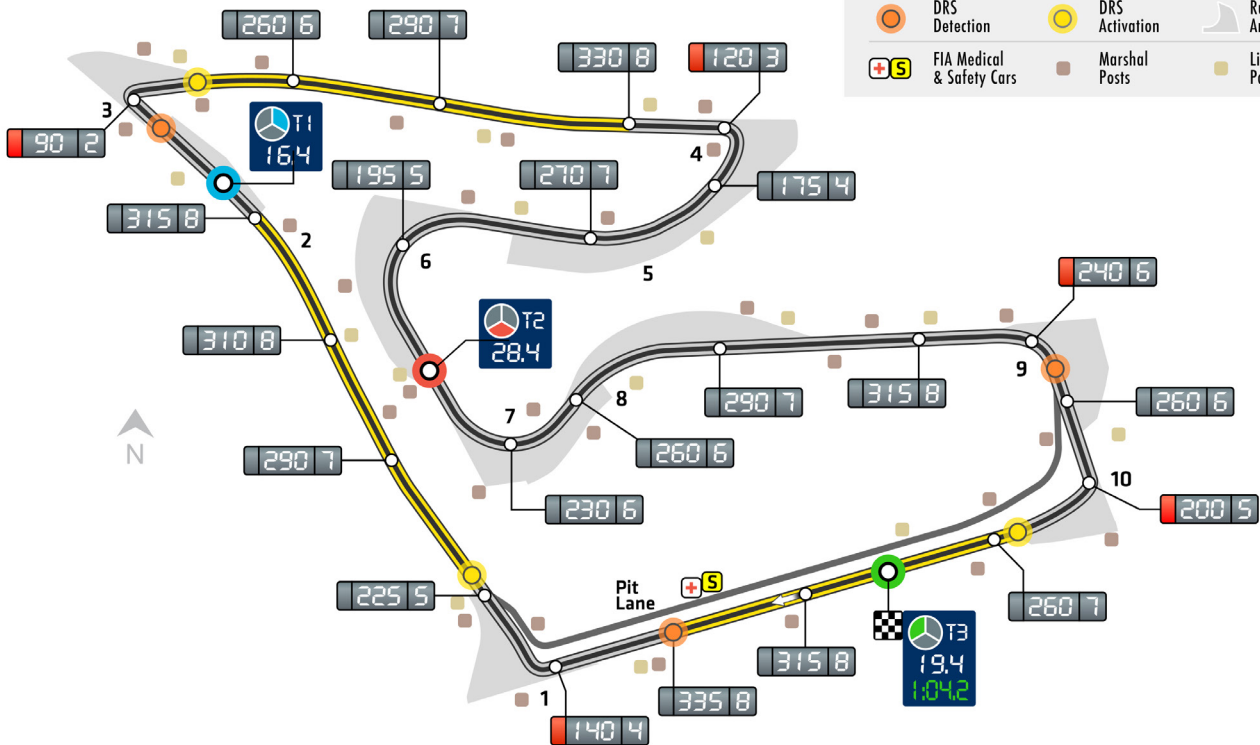
Sector 1 (Blue circle) Sector 2 (Red circle) Sector 3 (Green circle)

Circuit (Black line) Start (Black arrow) Finish (Checkered flag)

DRS Detection (Orange circle) DRS Activation (Yellow circle) Run-off Areas (Grey area)

FIA Medical & Safety Cars (+S) Marshal Posts (Brown square) Light Panels (Yellow square)

Note: Speeds, Gears, Lap & Sector times are based upon 2017 Qualifying data



## FAST FACTS

- ▶ This will be the 31st Austrian Grand Prix. The inaugural race was held at Zeltweg airfield in 1964 but then immediately fell off the calendar. The grand prix returned in 1970 at the almost 6km-long Österreichring, which hosted the race until 1987. The race then fell off the schedule once more before making a comeback at a shortened version of the Österreichring, named the A1 Ring, from 1997 until 2003. The Red Bull Ring, welcomed Formula One back to Austria in 2014.
- ▶ Four-time F1 world champion Alain Prost is the most successful driver at the Austrian Grand Prix, with three wins to his name – in 1983 with Renault and then in, 1985 and 1986 with McLaren. Ronnie Peterson, Alan Jones, Mika Häkkinen, Michael Schumacher and Nico Rosberg are next on the list with two victories apiece.
- ▶ Of the current drivers on the grid, only Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas have previously won this race, with Briton Hamilton winning for Mercedes in 2016 and Finland's Bottas scoring the second win of his career here last year, also for the Silver Arrows
- ▶ McLaren are the most successful team at this race, with six wins. The British team won at the Österreichring in 1984 with Niki Lauda and in 1985-'86 with Alain Prost. The team then took three wins during the period the track was known as the A1 Ring, with Mika Häkkinen victorious in 1998 and 2000, and David Coulthard winning in 2001. Ferrari are next on the list with five wins, while Lotus and Mercedes have four wins each.
- ▶ Niki Lauda, René Arnoux and Nelson Piquet share the record for most Austrian Grand Prix pole positions, with three each. Hamilton is the only current driver with multiple pole positions at this race. The Briton started from the front in 2015 and 2016.
- ▶ The race on the A1 Ring/Red Bull Ring layout has been won from pole position on five occasions, and all by different drivers. Jacques Villeneuve started from P1 in 1997, with the Canadian being followed by Häkkinen in 2000, Michael Schumacher in 2003, Hamilton in 2016 and Valtteri Bottas last year.
- ▶ Bottas' 2017 pole position was the second of four career front-of-grid starts to date for the Finn. All of Bottas' poles were scored in 2017, at the Bahrain, Austrian, Brazilian and Abu Dhabi Grands Prix.
- ▶ In the four races held so far at the Red Bull Ring the Safety Car has been deployed on two occasions, for six laps in 2015 when Fernando Alonso and Kimi Räikkönen collided on the first lap and for five laps in 2016 when Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel crashed out on lap 27.
- ▶ Two teams scored their one and only Formula 1 victory in Austria. In 1976 US team Penske won at the Österreichring with Northern Ireland's John Watson at the wheel, while the following year Australian future champion Alan Jones took the only win of Shadow's 104-starts in F1. Watson's win for Penske remains the most recent win for a US-based team in Formula 1.
- ▶ Coulthard holds the record for victory from furthest back on the grid on this layout. The Scot's 2001 win for McLaren was delivered from a starting position of seventh. Overall, the honour goes to Jones, whose 1977 win was scored from 14th place on the grid.

# RACE STEWARDS BIOGRAPHIES

## GARRY CONNELLY

**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 long-time 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.



## SILVIA BELLOT

**MEMBER OF THE ROYAL SPANISH AUTOMOBILE FEDERATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FIA WOMEN IN MOTORSPORT  
COMMISSION MEMBER, F1, F2 AND GP3 STEWARD**

Silvia Bellot began marshalling in 2001, when she was 16. In the years that followed she acted as a steward in a number of national and international series, including the European F3 Open, GT Open, BMW Europe, the Spanish Endurance Championship, DTM, World Series by Renault, the former FIA World Touring Car Championship and the FIA World Rally Championship. In 2009, she took part in the FIA trainee stewards' program for F1 and what was then GP2 (now F2). She made her first appearance as a Formula 1 steward at the 2011 Turkish GP and in 2012 was awarded the FIA's Outstanding Official prize. Away from the stewards' room she is a member of the FIA's Women in Motorsport Commission and also works closely with RACC, the Circuit de Catalunya and the Spanish federation in event organisation.



## DEREK WARWICK

**FORMER FORMULA 1 DRIVER AND WORLD SPORTSCAR  
CHAMPION, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE FIA DRIVERS'  
COMMISSION**

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. Currently Vice-President of the FIA Drivers' Commission, Warwick is a frequent FIA driver steward and is also a past President of the British Racing Drivers' Club.







# FORMULA ONE TIMETABLE & FIA MEDIA SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY

**Press conference** 1500

## FRIDAY

**Practice session 1** 1100 - 1230

**Press conference** 1300

**Practice session 2** 1500 - 1630

## SATURDAY

**Practice session 3** 1200 - 1300

**Qualifying** 1500 - 1600

Followed by unilateral and press conference

## SUNDAY

**Drivers' Parade** 1330

**Race** 1510

Followed by podium interviews and press conference

## ADDITIONAL MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

### QUALIFYING

All drivers eliminated in Q1 or Q2 will be available for media interviews after the end of each session, as will drivers who participated in Q3, but who are not required for the post-qualifying press conference. The TV Pen is located at the end of the paddock, next to the FIA hospitality area.

### 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.

---

## FIA COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

[press@fia.com](mailto:press@fia.com)

T +33 1 43 12 58 15

