



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE

# Race Preview

**2014 AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX**  
20 – 22 JUNE 2014

For the eighth round of the 2014 FIA Formula One World Championship, the sport's teams return to a country last visited by F1 11 years ago – Austria. The last incarnation of the Austrian Grand Prix was held from 1997 to 2003 at the circuit known as the A1 Ring and it is to that venue that F1 heads once again, though the rechristened Red Bull Ring has seen major trackside updates since.

The track, however, remains much as it was in 2003. One of the shortest on the calendar at 4.326km, the Red Bull Ring features just nine corners. It is a circuit of fast straights and slow- and medium-speed corners with, historically, just the first three taken in low gear. As such, lap times were low – with sub-1m10s laps the norm. Average speeds were high, with the 2003 event seeing Michael Schumacher win with an average speed of 213km/h.

Historic data will matter little this weekend, however, as F1's teams bring their cutting-edge 1.6-litre, hybrid, turbocharged 2014 cars to the circuit. The best teams can hope for is that their simulations prove accurate. What can't be modelled, however, is how the circuit will stack up in terms of surface characteristics and how it will evolve as sessions unfold. All this will have to be factored into team preparations on Friday and Saturday morning.

Last time out, in Canada, Red Bull Racing's Daniel Ricciardo scored a memorable maiden win. Capitalising on a troubled race for previously dominant Mercedes, the result was a major step forward for the Austrian-licensed team and it will be looking to continue that good form at its home track.

In the Drivers' Championship, second place in Montreal allowed Mercedes' Nico Rosberg to extend his title lead over team-mate Lewis Hamilton to 22 points. The Briton will be keen to redress the balance in Spielberg, but on a circuit unfamiliar to the bulk of the current field, this latest iteration of the Austrian GP could turn out to be one of the most unpredictable of the season so far.



## CIRCUIT DATA

### RED BULL RING

**Length of lap:**  
4.326km

**Lap record:**  
1:08.337 (Michael Schumacher, Ferrari, 2003)

**Start line/finish line offset:**  
0.126km

**Total number of race laps:**  
71

**Total race distance:**  
307.020km

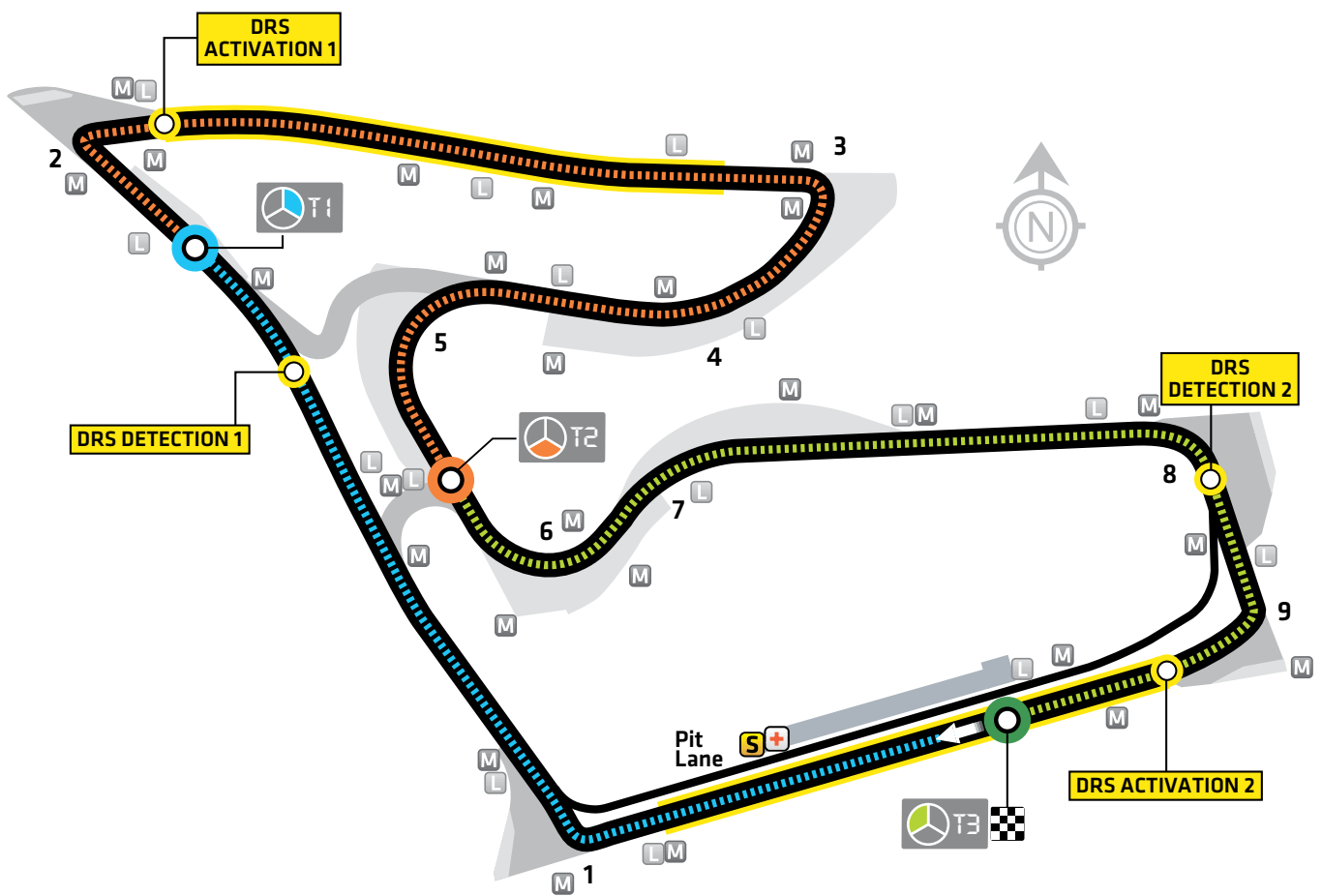
**Pitlane speed limits:**  
80km/h in practice, qualifying and the race.

## CIRCUIT NOTES

- There was no corresponding event in 2013. This is Formula One's first visit to the circuit since 2003 and there have been many upgrades made in the intervening years.

## DRS ZONES

- There will be two DRS zones in Austria. The detection point of the first zone is 360m before Turn Two, with the activation point 85m after Turn Two. The second detection point is 10m after Turn Eight with the activation point 110m after Turn Nine.



<p>Speed Km/h: 150</p> <p>Gear: 3</p> <p>Braking: -1.0</p> <p>Lateral G-force: -1.0</p>	<p>Timing Sector: T3</p> <p>Sector Time: 23.3</p> <p>Lap Time: 1:30.1</p>	<p>● Sector 1</p> <p>● Sector 2</p> <p>● Sector 3</p>	<p>■ Circuit</p> <p>⚡ Safety Car</p> <p>Ⓛ Light Panels</p>	<p>⬅ Start</p> <p>⚕ Medical Car</p> <p>■ Run-off Areas</p>	<p>🏁 Finish</p> <p>Ⓜ Marshals</p> <p>■ Gravel Traps</p>
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# Austrian GP Fast Facts

- ▶ Even though the last Austrian Grand Prix was 11 years ago, there are four drivers on the grid who have F1 racing experience at this circuit in its A1 Ring guise. Jenson Button has made four appearances here – from 2000-2003. His best result here came at the most recent race in 2003 when he qualified seventh and finished fourth for BAR/Honda.
- ▶ Kimi Räikkönen has three Austrian GPs on his CV. In 2001 he started in ninth place for Sauber and finished fourth to claim the second of four points finishes in his debut season. In 2002, having moved to McLaren, his race was stopped after seven laps with engine failure, but the following year, again with McLaren, he qualified and finished in second place.
- ▶ Fernando Alonso has raced here twice, with Minardi in 2001 and with Renault in 2003. On both occasions he failed to finish. His first attempt was ended by gearbox trouble after 38 laps and an engine problem saw him exit the '03 race after 44 laps.
- ▶ Felipe Massa, meanwhile, raced at the A1 Ring for Sauber in his debut season, 2002. He qualified seventh but retired from the grand prix with a suspension problem after seven laps.
- ▶ Two other current drivers have racing experience here: McLaren's Kevin Magnussen raced at the circuit last year in Formula Renault 3.5 Series with DAMS. The Dane finished both weekend races in third place. Toro Rosso's Daniil Kvyat raced at the Red Bull Ring in 2012 in Formula Renault 2.0 Alps. The Russian won both races of the fifth-round weekend.
- ▶ Kvyat's Toro Rosso team-mate Jean-Eric Vergne has driven the Red Bull Ring but only in a show car run for sister team Red Bull Racing in 2013. Red Bull Racing drivers Daniel Ricciardo and Sebastian Vettel have also visited the track, Ricciardo for a filming day, while Vettel drove the track last month, piloting a 2012 Red Bull Racing RB8 for a promotional film about the grand prix's return to Austria.
- ▶ McLaren is the most successful team at the Austrian GP with six wins. The victories came in 1984 with Niki Lauda, in 1985-'86 with Alain Prost, in 1998 and 2000 with Mika Häkkinen and in 2001 courtesy of David Coulthard. The next most successful are Ferrari with five wins (1964, '70, '99, 2002 and 2003) and Lotus with four (1972, '73, '78 and '82).
- ▶ Alain Prost has the most victories of any driver at the Austrian Grand Prix. The Frenchman won in 1983 with Renault and then took back-to-back wins for McLaren in 1985-'86.
- ▶ The current circuit configuration largely mirrors that of the A1 Ring, where the race was won from pole position three times in seven events. Jacques Villeneuve won from the front of the grid in 1997, as did Häkkinen in 2000 and Michael Schumacher in 2003. The A1 Ring race was only won from further back than third on the grid once, in 2001, when David Coulthard started in seventh position.





# Austrian GP

## Formula One Timetable & FIA Media Schedule

### THURSDAY

Press conference 15.00

### FRIDAY

Practice session 1 10.00-11.30

Practice session 2 14.00-15.30

Press conference 16.00

### SATURDAY

Practice session 3 11.00-12.00

Qualifying 14.00-15.00

Followed by unilateral and press conference

### SUNDAY

Drivers' Parade 12.30

Race 14.00-16.00

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 post-qualifying press conference. The TV pen interview area will be located inside the paddock next to the FIA hospitality unit.

#### RACE

Any driver retiring before the end of the race will be made available at his team's garage/hospitality.

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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