

Race Preview

2018 SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX 14 – 16 September 2018

With the core European season complete, F1's teams and drivers this weekend head for South East Asia and into the night for Round 15 of the 2018 FIA Formula One World Championship, the Singapore Grand Prix.

Formula 1's original night race, which joined the calendar in 2008, presents F1's drivers and teams with a unique set of challenges, with the scheduled 61 laps under the lights of the Marina Bay Street Circuit being among the toughest faced all season.

For drivers, the major tests come in the shape of heat, humidity and the duration of the race. Here, cockpit temperatures often rise above 50°C making the race physically and mentally demanding. Add in a long, tight circuit featuring 23 corners and the high likelihood of safety car interventions, both of which often lead to the race edging towards or reaching the allotted two-hour for the race, and Singapore represents a true test of endurance.

For teams, the challenge centres on ensuring sufficient cooling. With few straights and with the boulevards of Marina Bay edged by tall buildings, keeping temperatures in check is a difficult task and teams will bring a variety of solutions to boost air flow to crucial components. The 23 corners also make the race tough on brakes and gearboxes. With upwards of 80 gear changes per lap and brakes deployed more times than at any other circuit on the calendar, the Singapore Grand Prix stretches machinery to the limit.

Going into this weekend, Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton, on 256 points, heads Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel by 30 points in the battle for the Drivers' Championship title, with Kimi Räikkönen a further 62 points back in third. Meanwhile, in the race for the Constructors' title, Mercedes, on 415 points, have a 25-point lead over Ferrari, while Red Bull Racing lie third.

On paper, Singapore should favour Ferrari and Red Bull but while Mercedes have, in recent times, gone into this race unfancied, the Silver Arrows have won three of the last four races here, proving that on the streets of Marina Bay, predictions count for little and in one of the season's toughest races anything can happen.



MARINA BAY STRET CIRCUIT Length of lap: 5.063km Lap record: – Start line/finish line offset: 0.137km Total number of race laps: 61 Total race distance: 308.706km Pitlane speed limits: 60km/h in practice, qualifying, and the race

CIRCUIT NOTES

- The track has been resurfaced around Turn 1, between Turns 5 and 7, between Turns 15 and 17 and around Turn 23.
- The track has been slightly re-aligned around Turns 16 and 17.
 This means the track length is marginally reduced, from 5.065km to 5.063km..

DRS ZONES

There will be two DRS zones in Singapore. The first detection point will be at the exit of Turn Four and the first activation point will be 53m after Turn Five. The second detection point will be 180m before the apex of Turn 22, and the activation point will be 48m after apex of Turn 23.



FAST FACTS

- This is the 11th running of the Singapore Grand Prix as a round of the FIA F1 World Championship. The race has been held every year since 2008, always at the Marina Bay Street Circuit.
- Sebastian Vettel is the most successful driver at the Singapore Grand Prix with four wins to his name. The German scored a hat-trick of victories between 2011-2013 while racing for Red Bull Racing and also won for Ferrari in 2015. Lewis Hamilton's win here last year, allied to victories in 2009 with McLaren and 2014 with Mercedes, puts him second on the list, while Fernando Alonso has two wins, with Renault in 2008 and with Ferrari in 2010. The only other winner at this race is Nico Rosberg, who won with Mercedes in 2015. Thus, every winner of the Singapore GP has a world title to his name.
- Red Bull Racing and Mercedes share the honours as most successful team in here with three victories apiece. Red Bull's were all scored by Vettel between 2011 and 2013, while for Mercedes Hamilton won in 2014 and last year and Rosberg in 2015. Renault (2008) and McLaren (2009) have one win each at Marina Bay.

- Only three drivers have taken part in all 10 F1 races held in Singapore to date: Hamilton, Vettel and Alonso. Of the current drivers Kimi Raikkonen is next on the list with eight starts. The Finn raced the first two grands prix in Singapore but left F1 for two seasons, in 2010 and 2011.
- Despite this race being dominated by a small number of teams, none has managed a one-two finish in Singapore.
- Red Bull Racing lead the way, by quite some margin, in terms of podium finishes in Singapore. The Milton Keynes squad have scored 11 podiums in Singapore, more than double the total of closest rivals Ferrari and Mercedes who have five each. As well as Vettel's three wins, Red Bull Racing have five second places, (Vettel in 2010 and 2014 and Daniel Ricciardo from 2015-'17) and three third places (Mark Webber in 2010 and 2011 and Ricciardo in 2014).
- The driver on pole position has gone on to win in 70% of the F1 races held at the Marina Bay Street Circuit to date. The only drivers to win from a grid position other than pole are Alonso from 15th in 2008,

Vettel from third on the grid in 2012 and Hamilton, who won last year's race from a starting place of fifth.

- Renault's Nico Hulkenberg is set to make his 150th grand prix start this weekend. The German began his F1 career with Williams in 2010 before moving to Force India in 2012. He spent one season with Sauber in 2013 before returning to Force India for three seasons. He joined Renault last year. Hulkenberg has also achieved another landmark in Singapore – in 2012 it was the scene of the first of two career fastest laps to date. The other was scored at the 2016 Chinese GP.
- Despite being just a little over two weeks away from his 21st birthday, this weekend's race will be the 75th of Max Verstappen's F1 career to date. The Red Bull driver made his race debut at the 2015 Australian GP.
- Carlos Sainz and Kevin Magnussen are also set to make their 75th grand prix start here. Renault's Sainz debuted at the 2015 Australian GP, alongside Verstappen at Toro Rosso, while Haas driver Magnussen made his debut with McLaren at the 2014 Melbourne race.

RACE STEWARDS BIOGRAPHIES

DR GERD ENNSER

MEMBER OF THE DMSB'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR AUTOMOBILE SPORT, FORMULA ONE AND DTM STEWARD

Dr Gerd Ennser has successfully combined his formal education in law with his passion for motor racing. While still active as a racing driver he began helping out with the management of his local motor sport club and since 2006 has been a permanent steward at every round of Germany's DTM championship. Since 2010 he has also been a Formula One steward. Dr Ennser, who has worked as a judge, a prosecutor and in the legal department of an automotiveindustry company, has also acted as a member of the steering committee of German motor sport body, the DMSB, since spring 2010, where he is responsible for automobile sport. In addition, Dr Ennser is a board member of the South Bavaria Section of ADAC, Germany's biggest auto club.



STEVE CHOPPING

FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATION OF AUSTRALIAN MOTOR SPORT (CAMS), CHAIRMAN CAMS JUDICIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN NATIONAL STEWARDS PANEL, AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP STEWARDS COACH (CAMS)

Steven Chopping competed as a driver in various karting, Formula Ford, Australian Formula 2, Sports and Production Car competitions from the early 1970s until 1990. He was a steward at the Australian Rally Championship from 1997-2004 and Chairman of the Stewards at the Australian Production Car Rally Championship from 2001-2004. He has been a permanent steward at the V8 Supercar Championship in Australia since 2004, national steward at the Australian Grand Prix from 2005 and continues to serve as Chairman of the National Stewards Panel, Supercars Stewards Panel, Judicial Advisory Committee, and as a Member of the Australian Rally Championship Stewards Panel. In 2018 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his services to motor sport.

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 futher 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.



2018 FIA Formula One World Championship

DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

		AUSTRALIA	BAHRAIN	CHINA	AZERBAIJAN	SPAIN	MONACO	CANADA	FRANCE	AUSTRIA	GB	GERMANY	HUNGARY	BELGIUM	ІТАLY	SINGAPORE	RUSSIA	JAPAN	USA	MEXICO	BRAZIL	ABU DHABI	POINTS
1	L. HAMILTON	18 2	15 3	12 4	25 1	25 1	15 3	10 5	25 1	NC	18 2	25 1	25 1	18 2	25 1								256
2	S. VETTEL	25 1	25 1	4 8	12 4	12 4	18 2	25 1	10 5	15 3	25 1	NC	18 2	25 1	12 4								226
3	K. RÄIKKÖNEN	15 3	NC	15 3	18 2	NC	12 4	8 6	15 3	18 2	15 3	15 3	15 3		18 2								164
4	V. BOTTAS	4 8	18 2	18 2	14	18 2	10 5	18 2	6 7	NC	12 4	18 2	10 5	12 4	15 3								159
5	M. VERSTAPPEN	8 6	NC	10 5	NC	15 3	2 9	15 3	18 2	25 1	15	12 4	NC	15 3	10 5								130
6	D. RICCIARDO	12 4	NC	25 1	NC	10 5	25 1	12 4	12 4	NC	10 5	NC	12 4	NC	NC								118
7	N. HÜLKENBERG	6 7	8	8 6	NC	NC	4 8	6 7	2	NC	8 6	10 5			13								52
8	K. MAGNUSSEN	NC	10 5	1 10	13	8 6	13	13	8 6	10 5	2 9	11	6 7	4	16								49
9	S. PÉREZ	11	16	12	15 3	2 9	12	14	NC	6 7	1 10	6 7	14	10 5	6 7								46
10	E. OCON	12	1 10		NC	NC	8 6	2 9		8 6	6 7	4 8		8	8 6								45
11	F. ALONSO	10 5	6 7	6 7	6 7	4 8	NC	NC	16	4 8	4 8	16	4 8	NC	NC								44
12	C. SAINZ	1 10	11	2 9	10 5	6 7	1 10	4 8	4 8	12	NC	12	2 9	11	4 8								34
13	P. GASLY	NC	12 4	18	12	NC	6 7	11	NC	11	13	14	8 6	2	14								28
14	R. GROSJEAN	NC			NC	NC	15	12		12 4	NC	8	1	6	DQ								27
15	C. LECLERC	13			8	1 10		1	1	2				NC									13
16	S. VANDOORNE	2	4		2	NC	14	16				13											8
17	L. STROLL	14	14	14	4 8	11	17	NC	17	14	12	NC	17	13	2 9								6
18	M. ERICSSON	NC	2	16		13	11	15		1		2		1									6
19	B. HARTLEY	15			1 10	12	19	NC	14		NC	1 10		14									2
20	S. SIROTKIN	NC	15	15	NC	14	16	17	15	13	14	NC	16	12	1 10								1

2018 FIA Formula One World Championship

CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

		AUSTRALIA	BAHRAIN	CHINA	AZERBAIJAN	SPAIN	MONACO	CANADA	FRANCE	AUSTRIA	GB	GERMANY	HUNGARY	BELGIUM	ITALY	SINGAPORE	RUSSIA	JAPAN	USA	MEXICO	BRAZIL	ABU DHABI	POINTS
1	MERCEDES AMG PETRONAS MOTORSPORT	22 2	33 2 3	30 2	25 1	43 1	25 3	28 2	31 1	NC	30 2	43 1	35 1	30 2	40								415
		8		4	13	2	5	2 5	7	NC	2 4	2	5	2 4	3								
2	SCUDERIA FERRARI	40 1 3	25 1 NC	19 3 8	30 2 4	12 4 NC	30 2 4	33 1 6	25 3 5	33 2 3	40 1 3	15 3 NC	33 2 3	25 1 NC	30 2								390
		20	NC	8 35	4	25	4 27	。 27	30	3 25	3 10	12	3 12	15	4 10								
3	ASTON MARTIN RED BULL RACING	4	NC NC	1 5	NC NC	15 10	1 9	27 3 4	2 4	1 NC	5 NC	4 NC	4 NC	3 NC	5 NC								248
4	RENAULT SPORT FORMULA ONE TEAM	7	8	10	10	6	5	10	6		8	10	2		4								
		7 10	6 11	6 9	5 NC	7 NC	8 10	7 8	8 9	NC NC	6 NC	5 12	9 12	11 NC	8 13								86
			10	1		8			8	22	2	8	7	10									
5	HAAS F1 TEAM	NC NC	5 13	10 17	13 NC	6 NC	13 15	12 13	6 11	4 5	9 NC	6 11	7 10	7 8	16 DQ								76
	McLAREN F1 TEAM	12	10	6	8	4				4	4		4										52
6		5 9	7 8	7 13	7 9	8 NC	14 NC	16 NC	12 16	8 15	8 11	13 16	8 NC	15 NC	12 NC								52
	RACING POINT FORCE INDIA F1TEAM													18	14								22
7														5 6	6 7								32
	RED BULL		12		1		6					1	8	2									20
8	TORO ROSSO HONDA	15 NC	4 17	18 20	10 12	12 NC	7 19	11 NC	14 NC	11 NC	13 NC	10 14	6 11	9 14	14 NC								30
	ALFA ROMEO SAUBER F1 TEAM		2		8	1		1	1	3		2		1									
9		13 NC	9 12	16 19	6 11	10 13	11 18	10 15	10 13	9 10	NC NC	9 15	15 NC	10 NC	11 15								19
10	WILLIAMS MARTINI RACING		1.4	1.4	4	.,		17	16	10	10		1.4	10	3								7
10		14 NC	14 15	14 15	8 NC	11 14	16 17	17 NC	15 17	13 14	12 14	NC NC	16 17	12 13	9 10								
EX	SAHARA FORCE INDIA F1 TEAM	11 12	10 16	11 12	3 NC	9 NC	6 12	9 14	NC NC	6 7	7 10	7 8	13 14										0

FORMULA ONE TIMETABLE & FIA MEDIA SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Press conference	1800
FRIDAY	
Practice session 1	1630-1800
Press conference	1830
Practice session 2	2030-2200

SATURDAY

Practice session 3	1800-1900
Qualifying	2100-2200
Followed by track interviews, press	s conference

SUNDAY

Drivers' Parade	1830
Race	2010
Followed by parc fermé 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 in front of the entrance to 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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