



Race Preview

2019 ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX

29 NOVEMBER – 01 DECEMBER 2019

Following a month of racing in the Americas, teams and drivers head to the Gulf this week for Round 21 of the 2019 FIA Formula One World Championship: the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

The season finale is a twilight race, with the action at the Yas Marina Circuit beginning in early-evening sunshine and concluding under floodlights. This presents an unusual quandary for drivers and engineers, for as night closes in they must deal with a rapidly cooling track surface and conditions that fundamentally alter the balance of their cars as the race progresses.

Even without this, Yas Marina represents a difficult circuit to master, with competing requirements at the start and conclusion of the lap. With increased downforce available in the last few years, the first sector, like the second, is predominantly full throttle. This is very much contrasted by the final sector, which follows the marina frontage. It features a sequence of tight corners taken in low gears, intentionally reminiscent of a street circuit. The variety of set-up options makes for interesting battles, where cars capable of similar lap times attack the circuit in very different ways.

Having taken its hardest three tyre compounds to Brazil, Pirelli brings the softest three to Abu Dhabi. Last year, also with the softest tyres in the Pirelli range, everyone except Valtteri Bottas ran a one-stop strategy, with most of the front-runners – Max Verstappen being a notable exception – progressing from Q2 without recourse to the softest rubber on offer.

While the championships are already decided, a turbulent Brazilian Grand Prix has shaken up the order in the running for the lesser positions. Max Verstappen is 11 points clear of Charles Leclerc in the fight for third place in the Drivers' Championship. Behind them, the tightest battle is for sixth, where Brazil's podium debutants Pierre Gasly and Carlos Sainz are tied on 95 points, with Gasly ahead on countback. In the Constructors' Championship, first to fourth positions are already decided. The closest battle is for fifth, where Renault with 91 points currently lead Toro Rosso by eight.



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

- ▶ A short section of the track in the vicinity of the start line has been resurfaced.
- ▶ The additional orange kerb element on the exit of Turn 20 has been removed and replaced with one of a similar type. In addition, the first 7m of this additional kerb element has been removed.

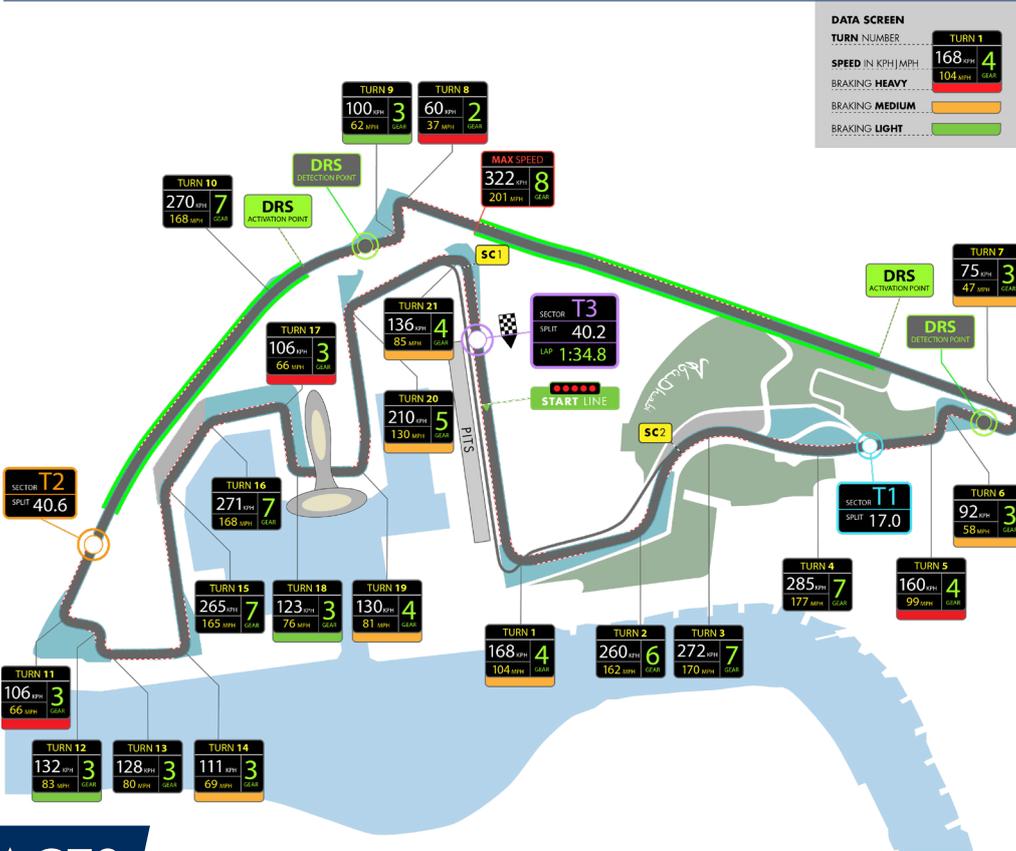
DRS ZONE

- ▶ There will be two DRS zones in Abu Dhabi. The first zone's detection point will be 40m before Turn 7, with an activation point 270m after Turn 7. The second detection point is 50m after Turn 9 and the second activation takes place 165m after Turn 9.

ROUND 21 ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX		FIA Formula 1 World Championship™	
CIRCUIT NAME: YAS MARINA CIRCUIT 	RACE DATE: 01 DEC 2019	START TIME: 17.10 LOCAL 13.10 GMT	LAP RECORD: 1:40.279 S. VETTEL 2009
	No. OF LAPS: 55	CIRCUIT LENGTH: 5.554KM	RACE DISTANCE: 305.355KM

SECTOR 1
SECTOR 2
SECTOR 3

DRS DETECTION POINT
DRS 1
DRS 2
DRS DETECTION POINT



TURN NUMBER	TURN 1
SPEED IN KPH/MPH	168 km/h / 104 mph
BRAKING HEAVY	4 gears
BRAKING MEDIUM	
BRAKING LIGHT	

FAST FACTS

- ▶ This is the 11th Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. The race debuted on the calendar in 2009 and has been ever-present since, with every race held at the Yas Marina Circuit. It has usually been the season finale, the exceptions being 2011-2013 when the season ended in Brazil.
- ▶ Lewis Hamilton is the most successful driver in Abu Dhabi. The Briton has won this race on four occasions: for McLaren in 2011 and for Mercedes in 2014, 2016 and 2018. Sebastian Vettel can match him this weekend. Vettel has won the race three times, in 2009, 2010 and 2013, all for Red Bull Racing.
- ▶ The other winners in the current field are Kimi Räikkönen, who won for Lotus in 2012, and Valtteri Bottas, victorious for Mercedes in 2017. The only other winner of the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix is Nico Rosberg, who took victory in 2015.
- ▶ Hamilton and Vettel are also the only ever-present drivers in the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix field, although, of the current roster, Robert Kubica, Romain Grosjean and Räikkönen also contested the inaugural race in 2009.
- ▶ The Drivers' Championship has been decided at Yas Marina on three occasions. Vettel and Hamilton took the title with victories in 2010 and 2014 respectively. Rosberg took the title with second position in 2016.
- ▶ A front row start has proved crucial at Yas Marina, with five victories from pole position – including the last four races – and four wins from P2 on the grid. The only driver to secure victory from behind the front row was Kimi Räikkönen, who won from P4 in 2012.
- ▶ With one exception, every driver to finish on the podium at Yas Marina has started from the front three rows. That exception is Vettel, who finished third in 2012, having started from the pitlane. He qualified in P3 but ran out of fuel on his in-lap. Unable to provide a fuel sample he was disqualified. Vettel's 21-place gain is a record for the 21st Century and the most sizeable net gain since Christian Danner rose from 26th to fourth at the 1989 US Grand Prix.
- ▶ The four full-season rookies are all experienced at Yas Marina. George Russell took a feature win last year in Formula 2 and also drove in the 2017 GP3 Championship. Antonio Giovinazzi contested GP2 in 2016, Alex Albon raced in GP3 in 2016 and F2 in 2017 and 2018, and Lando Norris contested the 2017 and 2018 F2 races. Albon is the only one of the four who has not driven an F1 car at Yas Marina. Last year, Giovinazzi, Norris and Russell all took part in the end-of-season test for their current teams. Norris also tested here for McLaren in 2017. Additionally, Giovinazzi and Russell also drove in 2017's FP1 session: the Italian for Haas and the Briton for Force India.
- ▶ The only driver to make a Formula One race debut in Abu Dhabi is Will Stevens. The Briton drove for Caterham in 2014, at what was that team's final grand prix.
- ▶ The inaugural Abu Dhabi Grand Prix ended the 2009 season on November 1st 2009. The 2019 race takes place a full month later. It is the first time since 1963 that the F1 season has run into December. That year, the 10-race season began at Monaco at the end of May and ended in South Africa at East London's Prince George circuit on December 28th.

RACE STEWARDS BIOGRAPHIES

NISH SHETTY

FIA STEWARD AND MEMBER OF THE FIA INTERNATIONAL COURT OF APPEAL

Nish Shetty sits on the FIA International Court of Appeal as a judge and is a permanent member of the National Court of Appeal (Singapore). He is also Chairman of the Disciplinary Commission of the Singapore Motor Sports Association and a national steward of the Singapore Grand Prix. Shetty has assisted the Singapore Motor Sports Association for many years as a legal advisor and committee member. In addition to being involved in the Singapore Grand Prix, Shetty has acted as a steward in the Singapore Karting Championship. Away from motor sport, he is a Partner and Head of International Arbitration and Dispute Resolution, South East Asia at global law firm Clifford Chance.



DENNIS DEAN

FIA WORLD MOTOR SPORT COUNCIL MEMBER; MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL SPORTING CODE REVIEW COMMISSION; F2, FORMULA E STEWARD

Dennis Dean has been involved in motor sport since becoming a scrutineer with the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) in the late 1970s. He has served at national level as a scrutineer, steward, and race director, including 10 years as either assistant chief steward or chief steward (race director) of the SCCA's National Championship Runoffs. He has scrutineered at 10 US Formula One races, in Las Vegas, Indianapolis and Austin. He was also vice president of Club Racing and Rally/Solo for SCCA. He currently serves as a member of both the FIA's International Sporting Code Review Commission.



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.



NATIONAL STEWARD

MAHIR BADRI

MEMBER OF ATCUAE MOTORSPORT COMMITTEE

Mahir Badri is an experienced sporting organiser and event official. A former general manager of FIA ASN, the Automobile & Touring Club of the UAE (ACTUAE), he served as a steward, and chairman of stewards in the UAE Touring Car Championship, the Radical Middle East Cup and the Emirates Desert Championship. He has been Rally Director for the Dubai International Rally, and event director for the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge.



2019 FIA Formula One World Championship

DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

	AUSTRALIA	BAHRAIN	CHINA	AZERBAIJAN	SPAIN	MONACO	CANADA	FRANCE	AUSTRIA	GB	GERMANY	HUNGARY	BELGIUM	ITALY	SINGAPORE	RUSSIA	JAPAN	MEXICO	USA	BRAZIL	ABU DHABI	POINTS	
1	L. HAMILTON	18 2	25 1	25 1	18 2	26 F 1	25 1	25 1	10 5	26 F 1	2 9	25 1	18 2	16 F 3	12 4	26 F 1	16 F 3	25 1	18 2	6 7		387	
2	V. BOTTAS	26 F 1	18 2	18 2	25 1	18 2	15 3	13 F 4	18 2	15 3	18 2	NC	4 8	15 3	18 2	10 5	18 2	25 1	15 3	25 1	NC		314
3	M. VERSTAPPEN	15 3	12 4	12 4	12 4	15 3	12 4	10 5	12 F 1	25 5	10 F 1	26 F 2	19 NC	4 8	15 3	12 4	NC	8 6	15 3	25 1		260	
4	C. LECLERC	10 5	16 F 3	10 5	11 F 5	10 5	NC	15 3	15 3	18 2	15 3	NC	12 4	25 1	25 1	18 2	15 3	8 6	13 F 4	13 F 4	18	249	
5	S. VETTEL	12 4	10 5	15 3	15 3	12 4	18 2	18 2	11 F 5	12 4	NC	18 16	15 2	13 3	25 13	NC	18 2	18 2	NC	17		230	
6	P. GASLY	NC	4 8	9 F 6	NC	8 6	11 F 5	4 8	1 10	6 7	12 4	NC	8 6	2 9	4 11	NC	6 14	2 7	18 9	16	18 2	95	
7	C. SAINZ	NC	19	14	6 7	4 8	8 6	8 11	4 6	8 8	10 5	10 5	NC	NC	12	8 6	10 5	4 13	15 8	15 3		95	
8	A. ALBON	14	2 9	1 10	NC	4 11	NC	NC	15 15	15 12	8 6	1 10	10 5	8 6	8 6	10 5	12 4	10 5	10 5	10 5	14	84	
9	D. RICCIARDO	NC	18	6 7	NC	12	2 9	8 6	NC	6 7	NC	NC	12 14	12 14	4 14	NC	4 DQ	8 8	8 6	8 6		54	
10	S. PÉREZ	13	1 10	4 8	8 6	15 12	12 12	12 11	11 17	17 NC	NC	11	6 6	7 7	NC	6 7	4 8	6 7	1 10	2 9		46	
11	L. NORRIS	12	8 6	4 18	4 8	NC	11	NC	2 9	8 6	11	NC	2 9	1 11	6 10	4 8	11	NC	6 7	4 8		45	
12	K. RÄIKÖNEN	4 8	6 7	2 9	1 10	NC	17	6 15	2 7	4 9	NC	6 7	NC	6 16	NC	13	12	NC	11	12 4		43	
13	N. HÜLKENBERG	6 7	17	NC	14	13	13	6 7	4 8	1 13	NC	12	4 8	10 5	2 9	1 10	1 DQ	2 10	2 9	15		37	
14	D. KVYAT	1 10	12	NC	NC	2 9	6 7	1 10	NC	2 17	15 3	6 15	6 7	NC	15	12	1 10	11	12	10	1	35	
15	L. STROLL	2 9	14	12	2 9	NC	16	2 9	13	14	13	4 17	1 10	12	13	11	2 9	12	13	19		21	
16	K. MAGNUSSEN	8 6	13	13	13	6 7	14	17	17	19	NC	4 8	13	12	NC	17	2 9	15	15	18	11	20	
17	A. GIOVINAZZI	15	11	15	12	16	19	13	16	10	NC	13	18	18	9	10	15	14	14	14	10 5	14	
18	R. GROSJEAN	NC	NC	11	NC	1 10	1 10	14	NC	16	NC	6 7	NC	13	16	11	NC	13	17	15	13	8	
19	R. KUBICA	17	16	17	16	18	18	18	18	20	15	1 10	19	17	17	16	NC	17	18	NC	16	1	
20	G. RUSSELL	16	15	16	15	17	15	16	19	18	14	11	16	15	14	NC	NC	16	16	17	12	0	

F = POINT FOR FASTEST LAP

2019 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	MEXICO	USA	BRAZIL	ABU DHABI	POINTS	
1 MERCEDES AMG PETRONAS MOTORSPORT	44 F 1 2	43 1 2	43 1 2	43 1 2	44 F 1 2	40 1 3	38 F 4	43 1 2	25 3 5	44 F 1 2	2 9 NC	29 1 8	33 2 3	34 F 2 3	22 4 5	44 F 1 2	41 1 3	40 1 3	43 1 2	6 7 NC		701	
2 SCUDERIA FERRARI	22 4 5	26 F 3 5	25 3 5	26 F 3 5	22 4 5	18 2 NC	33 2 3	26 F 3 5	30 2 4	15 3 16	18 2 NC	27 3 4	38 F 4	25 1 13	43 1 2	15 3 NC	26 2 6	31 F 4 NC	13 F 4 NC	17 18		479	
3 ASTON MARTIN RED BULL RACING	15 3 11	16 4 8	21 4 F 6	12 4 NC	23 3 6	23 F 4 5	14 5 8	13 4 10	32 F 1 7	22 4 5	26 F 1 14	27 F 2 6	10 5 NC	12 6 8	23 3 6	22 4 5	12 4 NC	18 5 6	25 3 5	25 1 14		391	
4 McLAREN F1 TEAM	12 NC	8 6 19	10 14 18	4 7 8	8 8 NC	8 6 11	10 11 NC	12 6 9	8 6 8	8 6 11	10 5 NC	12 5 9	12 11 NC	1 10 NC	6 7 12	12 6 8	10 5 11	10 13 NC	10 7 8	19 3 8		140	
5 RENAULT F1 TEAM	6 7 NC	6 17 18	6 7 NC	10 14 NC	12 13	9 13	6 7	4 8 11	12 13	7 10	NC NC	12 14	8 14	4 5	9 14	10 NC	DQ DQ	8 10	6 9	6 15		91	
6 RED BULL TORO ROSSO HONDA	1 10 14	2 9 12	1 10 NC	10 11 NC	2 9 11	10 7 8	1 10 NC	14 14 15	15 15 17	2 9 12	23 3 6	1 10 15	8 7 9	6 11 NC	4 8 15	12 14	7 10	9 11	12 16	19 2 10		83	
7 SPORTPESA RACING POINT F1TEAM	2 9 13	1 10 14	4 8 12	10 6 9	15 NC	12 16	2 9 12	12 13	11 14	13 17	12 4 NC	11 17	9 6 10	6 7 12	6 13 NC	6 7 11	6 8 9	6 7 12	1 10 13	2 9 19		67	
8 ALFA ROMEO RACING	4 8 15	6 7 11	2 9 15	1 10 12	14 16	17 19	13 15	7 16	9 10	4 8 NC	12 13	7 18	16 18	9 15	10 NC	13 15	12 14	14 NC	11 14	4 5	22		57
9 HAAS F1 TEAM	8 6 NC	13 NC	11 13	13 NC	7 10	10 14	14 17	17 NC	16 19	NC NC	10 7 8	13 NC	12 13	16 NC	11 17	2 9 NC	13 15	15 17	15 18	11 13		28	
10 ROKIT WILLIAMS RACING	16 17	15 16	16 17	15 16	17 18	15 18	16 18	18 19	18 20	14 15	1 10 11	16 19	15 17	14 17	16 NC	NC NC	16 17	16 18	17 NC	12 16		1	

FORMULA ONE TIMETABLE & FIA MEDIA SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Press conference 1700

FRIDAY

Practice session 1 1300-1430

Press conference 1500

Practice session 2 1700-1830

SATURDAY

Practice session 3 1400-1500

Qualifying 1700-1800

Followed by track interviews, press conference and parc fermé interviews

SUNDAY

Drivers' Parade 1530

Race 1710

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 immediately after the end of each session, as will drivers who participated in Q3, but who are not required for the post-qualifying press conference.

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.

Following the end of the race, drivers who do not have sessions for print media organised by their team will be available for interview in the Mixed Zone immediately after they have completed their TV interview obligations. A list of these drivers will be distributed to all media at the event during the race.

FIA COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

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