



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE

Race Preview

2014 BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX

04 – 06 APRIL 2014

Just a few short days after the Malaysian Grand Prix, where Mercedes stormed to its first one-two finish since the 1955 Italian Grand Prix, Formula One arrives in Bahrain for round three of the 2014 FIA Formula One World Championship.

And as the Bahrain International Circuit celebrates the tenth anniversary of its arrival onto the F1 calendar it presents teams and drivers with a new challenge – a race under floodlights.

This year sees the circuit join Singapore and Abu Dhabi in staging race staged fully or partially at night and the 6pm start will change how the race is approached.

For instance, the cooler temperatures of the evening will lead to changes in balance and grip levels. Teams do, however, have some data on these conditions with the two pre-season tests held at this circuit running into the cooler early evening hours on a number of occasions. The bonus, too, is that the lower temperatures will place less stress on the cooling capabilities of the new power units, a particular issue for some in the run-up to the start of this season.

Elsewhere, the Bahrain track features a mix of slow-speed corners at the end of straights which means that the BIC is one of the most severe on brakes all season. However, while this also means that tyres take some punishment, especially in terms of longitudinal energy going into the tyres, Pirelli is bringing its medium and soft compound tyres this weekend.

This race always presents an intriguing set of challenges but this year a whole new set of variables has been thrown into the mix via the sport's new regulations and the first F1 night-race in Bahrain's history. Mercedes have dominated so far this season, but under the BIC floodlights anything could happen.



CIRCUIT DATA

BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT

Length of lap:
5.412km

Lap record:
1:31.447 (Pedro De la Rosa, McLaren, 2005)

Start line/finish line offset:
0.246km

Total number of race laps:
57

Total race distance:
308.238km

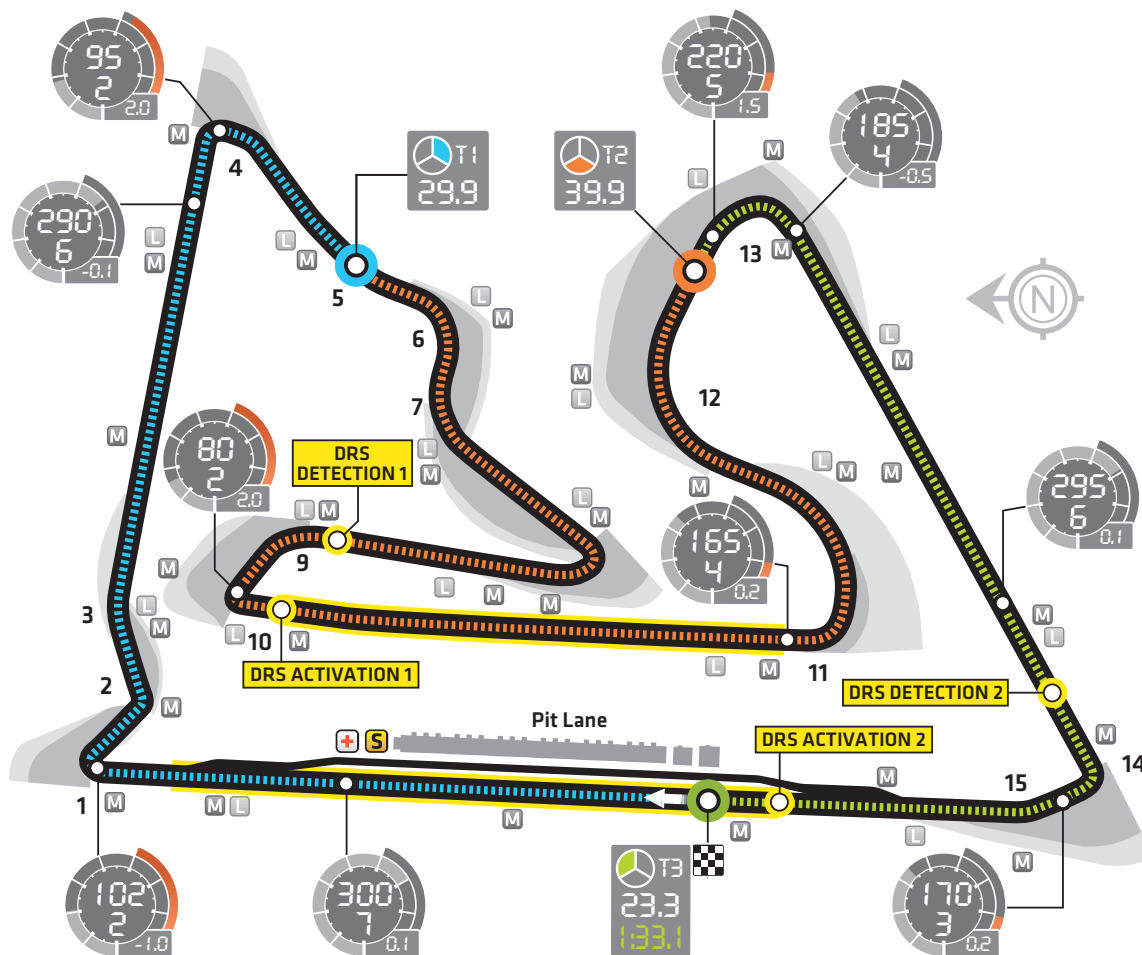
Pitlane speed limits:
80km/h in practice, qualifying and the race.

CIRCUIT NOTES

- Circuit lighting has been installed all around the circuit and run-off areas.

DRS ZONES

- The DRS sectors at the Bahrain International Circuit will be as last year. The detection point of the first zone is 10m before Turn Nine and the activation point is 50m after Turn 10. The second zone's detection point is 108m before Turn 14, with activation occurring 270m after Turn 15.



Braking

Lateral G-force



Timing Sector
Sector Time
Lap Time

- Sector 1
- Sector 2
- Sector 3

- Circuit
- Safety Car
- Light Panels

- Start
- Medical Car
- Run-off Areas

- Finish
- Marshals
- Gravel Traps

Bahrain GP Fast Facts

- ▶ This year marks the 10th anniversary of the inaugural race here in Bahrain. The first grand prix took place on 04/04/04 and was won by Michael Schumacher. This year's race will be the 10th running of the grand prix as well, the 2011 event having been cancelled.
- ▶ This year's race will also be the first Bahrain Grand Prix to be staged under lights. The Bahrain International Circuit has installed 495 lighting poles around the circuit, ranging in height from 10-45 metres. Over 500km of cabling was installed to power the system and it features 5,000 luminaries. The entire lighting project at the circuit took just six months to complete.
- ▶ This will be F1's third race under lights. Singapore has hosted a full night race since 2008 and Abu Dhabi's race begins in twilight and ends in darkness.
- ▶ The first corner at the BIC was earlier this year named in honour of Michael Schumacher. As well winning the first

race here, the seven-times champion advised the grand prix organisers during construction phase of the circuit. After retiring from F1 at the end of 2006, Schumacher made his return to the sport at the 2010 Bahrain GP.

- ▶ Fernando Alonso has the most victories here, with three. He won for Renault in 2005 and 2006 and then for Ferrari in 2010. Sebastian Vettel and Felipe Massa have two wins each at the track. Massa won back-to-back events in 2007-'08 for Ferrari, while Red Bull Racing driver Vettel has won the last two races here.
- ▶ The only other man to have won the Bahrain GP is Jenson Button. The Briton won for Brawn in his championship year of 2009.
- ▶ Vettel and Schumacher are the only multiple pole position winners here. Schumacher was on pole at the first race and again in 2006, while Vettel started from the front in 2010 and 2011. The other pole position men are: Massa ('07), Robert Kubica ('08),

Jarno Trulli ('09) and Nico Rosberg (2013). Kubica's pole was the only one of his F1 career to date.

- ▶ The race has never been won from further back than fourth on the grid. Alonso won in 2006 from the back of the second row, as did Button in '09.
- ▶ Victories for Schumacher, Massa (2) and Alonso mean that Ferrari is the most successful constructor here with four wins. Renault (2005 and 2006) and Red Bull Racing (2012, 2013) are the next closest challengers.
- ▶ The 2010 race was the opening race of that season. Three teams, Lotus (now Caterham), HRT and Virgin (now Marussia) made their debut. Only one of the teams' six cars finished the race, Lotus' Heikki Kovalainen finishing in 15th place.
- ▶ The 2010 race also gave an F1 debut to five drivers – Nico Hülkenberg (Williams), Karun Chandhok (HRT), Lucas Di Grassi (Virgin), Bruno Senna (Hispania) and Vitaly Petrov (Renault). Of the five, only Hülkenberg will feature this year.

Bahrain GP

Formula One Timetable & FIA Media Schedule

THURSDAY

Press conference 15.00

FRIDAY

Practice session 1 14.00-15.30

Practice session 2 18.00-19.30

Press conference 20:00

SATURDAY

Practice session 3 15.00-16.00

Qualifying 18.00-19.00

Followed by unilateral and press conference

SUNDAY

Drivers' Parade 16.30

Race 18.00-20.00

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 interview pen is located in front of the door leading to the press conference room.

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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