



Race Preview

2018 ITALIAN GRAND PRIX

31 August – 02 September 2018

Round 14 of the 2018 FIA Formula One sees teams and drivers completing a classic circuit back-to-back, making the trip from Spa-Francorchamps to Monza, home of the Italian Grand Prix.

Monza is an outlier on the F1 calendar as speed dominates in a way it does not at other circuits. While at Baku and the Autódromo Hermanos Rodríguez cars may reach similar top speeds, the relentless nature of Monza's straights, and the relative scarcity of braking zones, ensures the circuit earns its reputation as Formula One's 'temple of speed'.

Pirelli are bringing to Monza the same selection of Medium, Soft and Supersoft compounds as used in Spa – but the demands on tyres here are very different to last weekend. Whereas Belgium featured high lateral forces through the long, fast Spa-Francorchamps corners, at Monza, it's longitudinal forces that dominate. It doesn't feature many braking zones but those it has tend to be heavy and, combined with the demands on traction out of the three chicanes and the Parabolica corner, the rubber suffers a surprising amount of stress for a circuit with so few corners.

Traction at Monza is crucial. While the headline figures tend to centre around end-of-straight speed, it's speed onto the straights that is more significant for lap time. Cars that can ride the kerbs, carry speed through the corners and get good purchase on exit prosper to a greater extent than those that are travelling fastest when reaching the braking points.

Heading to Italy, the championships are intriguingly poised. Despite Ferrari seemingly having the upper hand on raw pace, Mercedes managed to extend their lead in the Constructors' Championship at Spa, with the gap now 15 points. In the Drivers' Championship, however, Sebastian Vettel's victory in Belgium saw him close the gap on championship leader Lewis Hamilton to 17 points. With eight races remaining, the stage is set for what could be the closest team versus team battle seen this decade.



AUTODROMO NAZIONALE MONZA

Length of lap:

5.793km

Lap record:

1:21.046 (Rubens Barrichello, Ferrari, 2004)

Start line/finish line offset:

0.309km

Total number of race laps:

53

Total race distance:

306.720km

Pitlane speed limits:

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

CIRCUIT NOTES

- ▶ Double kerbs have been installed on the exit of Turns 6, 7 and 10.

DRS ZONES

- ▶ There will be two DRS zones in Italy. The detection point for the first zone will be 95m before Turn 7, with the activation point 170m after Turn 7. The second detection point will be 20m before Turn 11, with the activation point 115m after the finish line.

ROUND 14	ITALIAN GRAND PRIX	START TIME	15:10 Local - 13:10 GMT
RACE DATE:	02 SEP 2018	CIRCUIT LENGTH:	5.793KM
CIRCUIT NAME:	AUTODROMO NAZIONALE MONZA	RACE DISTANCE:	306.720KM
NUMBER OF LAPS:	53	LAP RECORD:	1:21.046 - R. Barrichello [2004]

KEY		Speed Km/h	Sector Time	Timing Sector	
Braking	120.9	Gear	T3	Lap Time	
●	Sector 1	●	Sector 2	●	Sector 3
—	Circuit	—	Start	—	Finish
●	DRS Detection	●	DRS Activation	—	Run-off Areas
—	FIA Medical & Safety Cars	—	Marshals	—	Light Panels

Notes: Lap & Sector times are based upon 2016 Qualifying data
Gears are approximate based upon 2016 data
Speeds are approximate based upon 2017 Simulation data



FAST FACTS

- ▶ This is the 69th Formula One World Championship Italian Grand Prix. It is one of only two ever-present races on the calendar, the other being the British Grand Prix. Monza has hosted 67 of the previous 68 Italian Grands Prix. Two basic versions of the Monza track have been used for the grand prix: variations of the road course in use today have dominated but the full course – a combination of the road course and the banked oval – was used in 1955-56 and 1960-61. The only other circuit to hold the race is Imola, which hosted in 1980.
- ▶ Nelson Piquet won the 1980 Italian Grand Prix at Imola and thus is the only driver to have won the race at two venues, having won at Monza in 1983, 1986 and 1987. Piquet's four victories tie him with Lewis Hamilton as the second most successful driver at the Italian Grand Prix. Hamilton has taken victory in 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2017. The Briton has an opportunity this weekend to equal Michael Schumacher's record of five Italian Grand Prix wins. Whereas Piquet split his victories between Brabham and Williams, and Hamilton between McLaren and Mercedes, all of Schumacher's wins were for Ferrari, coming in 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003 and 2006.
- ▶ Fernando Alonso and Sebastian Vettel are the other Italian Grand Prix winners on the grid this weekend. Alonso won for McLaren in 2007 and Ferrari in 2010. Vettel has victories for Toro Rosso in 2008, and Red Bull in 2011 and 2013.
- ▶ Ferrari are the most successful team at Monza, with 18 F1 World Championship victories. McLaren are second with 10.
- ▶ At a circuit dominated by horsepower, Ferrari are also the most successful engine supplier, having taken 19 Monza victories. It is the only venue at which a Ferrari engine has powered a team other than Ferrari to victory. From 237 wins, Vettel's 2008 victory for Toro Rosso is unique in this regard.
- ▶ All four current engine suppliers have both works and non-works team victories at Monza. Of the others, Mercedes have 11 Monza victories, six for the works team (1954, 1955, 2014-2017), four for McLaren (1997, 2005, 2007, 2012) and one for Brawn (2009). Renault have eight: two for the works team (1981, 1982), then with Williams (1991, 1993, 1994), Benetton (1995) and Red Bull (2011, 2013). Honda have six victories, with a works team victory in 1967, followed by wins for Williams (1986, 1987) and McLaren (1989, 1990, 1992).
- ▶ The 2017 Italian Grand Prix featured Lance Stroll's only front row start to date. Stroll qualified fourth but lined-up second after penalties for the two Red Bulls who qualified ahead of him. Aged 18 years, 10 months and 7 days, Stroll became F1's youngest front row starter, beating the record of Max Verstappen who started the 2016 Belgian Grand Prix from P2, aged 18 years, 10 months and 30 days. Vettel remains the youngest driver to start a grand prix from pole position. He was 21 years and 73 days old when he won at Monza from pole in 2008.
- ▶ Pole position isn't considered critical at Monza – but the recent record suggests otherwise, with 14 victories taken from pole since the turn of the century, compared with only 10 victories from pole between 1950-1999. In the 21st Century, Rubens Barrichello has won at Monza from fourth (2002) and fifth (2009), while Schumacher (2006) and Nico Rosberg (2016) have won from P2. Every other victory has come from pole. Gethin's victory in 1971 came from P11. He is the only winner to ever start outside the top 10.

RACE STEWARDS BIOGRAPHIES

TIM MAYER

FIA STEWARD, ORGANIZER OF THE FIA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE USA

As the son of former McLaren founder Teddy Mayer, Tim Mayer grew up around motor sport. He organised IndyCar races internationally from 1992-98, aided the construction of several circuits, and produced international TV for multiple series. In 1998 he became CART's Senior VP for Racing Operations then in 2003, Mayer became COO of IMSA, operating multiple series at all levels, including the American Le Mans Series. In 2009 he left IMSA, working independently for several US series and focusing on coordinating US motorsports with the FIA. He was elected an Independent Director of ACCUS and US FIA Delegate, responsible for World Championship events in the US. He Stewards the FIA's F1, WEC and World RX championships as well as teaching and working on multiple commissions.



DR GERD ENNSER

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

Dr Gerd Ennsler 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 Ennsler, who has worked as a judge, a prosecutor and in the legal department of an automotive-industry 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 Ennsler is a board member of the South Bavaria Section of ADAC, Germany's biggest auto club.



DANNY SULLIVAN

FORMER F1 DRIVER, INDIANAPOLIS 500 WINNER AND CART CHAMPION

US racer Danny Sullivan made his F1 debut with Tyrrell at the 1983 Brazilian Grand Prix. He raced just one season in F1, scoring a best result of fifth in Monaco. In 1984, Sullivan returned to the US where he resumed a successful Indy Car career. He is perhaps best known for his 'spin and win' victory at the 1985 Indianapolis 500, where he passed leader Mario Andretti, survived a 360 degree spin, and then caught and re-passed Andretti to claim the Borg-Warner Trophy. He won the Indy Car World Series title in 1988. After 17 victories from 170 Indy Car starts he drew a line under his open-wheel career in 1995. He finished third in the Le Mans 24 Hours in a Dauer Porsche 962 in 1994. He made four starts at Le Mans, the most recent being 2004.



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 track interviews, press conference

SUNDAY

Drivers' Parade 1330

Race 1510

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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