

# AUTO ACTION'S 2023 PRE LAS VEGAS FORMULA ONE TEAM-BY-TEAM EVENT GUIDE

ONE OF THE MOST HYPED AND UNCONVENTIONAL FORMULA 1 GRANDS PRIX HAS ARRIVED WITH THE SPORT TAKING TO THE STREETS OF VEGAS.

UNLIKE THE previous time Formula 1 raced in the desert was 40 years ago when cars crawled around a car park, the 6.2km track is situated in the heart of Sin City.

The track has been designed with speed in mind as cars will fly past the lights of the famous Strip that is expected to rival Monza in terms of speed.

It is promised to be a race like never before taking place under lights on a Saturday night with a TV on top of the brand-new pit building, an LED ball, an opening ceremony featuring Kylie Minogue just some of the attractions, while on track action goes beyond midnight local time.

The track itself opens with a stadium section in front of the purpose built pit building before a heavy braking left-handed hairpin.

Once the field flows through the following double right-hander they will charge down towards the Sphere where the opening DRS zone lies.

In front of the LED ball is a 90-degree right hander which is followed by a tight and technical chicane section.

From there, two sweepers and a tight left-hander brings drivers onto the iconic Strip where cars will go flat out for the best part of 2km.

In the distance lies a three-part chicane to complete the lap.

Everything points towards a spectacle as crazy as Monaco, so can the racing deliver?

As usual Max Verstappen is in winning form, having commenced yet another winning streak since falling short in the Singapore Grand Prix.

He has won the last five races since but did encounter some resistance from McLaren's Lando Norris.

Norris hopes to continue his momentum to snatch fourth in the standings from Fernando Alonso and Aston Martin, who are rejuvenated from a famous, fighting podium in Interlagos.

Just three points separate the pair in a battle that's hotting up.

One driver who needs to make a big move is Lewis Hamilton. His pursuit of stealing second from Sergio Pérez took a major hit when the Mercedes went missing on Sunday in Brazil.

With racing to take place as the clock approaches midnight, track conditions will be frosty dipping to 10-13 degrees celsius.

This will present a challenge to drivers and engineers alike, while to negate this Pirelli has brought its softest compounds.

The coldest race ever remains the 1978 Canadian Grand Prix which dropped to as low as five degrees.



Subscribe to Auto Action magazine and get every copy delivered the same day the magazine goes on sale

## STRAIGHT TO YOUR DOOR!

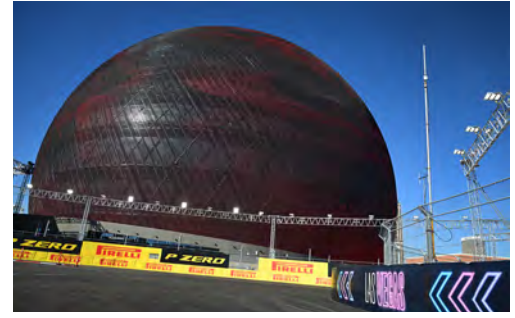
Anywhere in Australian including SOUTH AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA and TASMANIA

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



# ROUND TWENTYTWO LAS VEGAS GRAND PRIX - NOVEMBER 16-18

ITS VEGAS baby! Formula 1 is back in Las Vegas and will be racing at a much fancier location than a car park. Located in the heart of Sin City, cars will be screaming at Monza-like speeds past famous locations such as and the Strip. The first ever Saturday night Grand Prix is also on the cards in an event that will deliver excitement on and off the track.



## TRACK STATS

### QUALIFYING LAP RECORD

• N/A

### RACE LAP RECORD

• N/A

FIRST EVENT:  
**2023**

## TRACK FACTS



TRACK LENGTH:  
**6.201KM**



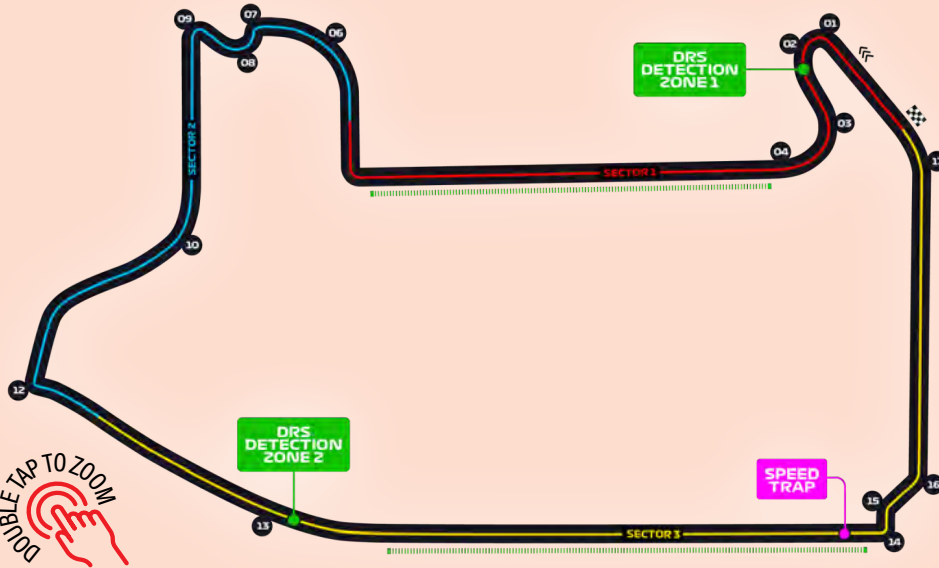
DIRECTION:  
**ANTI-CLOCKWISE**



AVERAGE SPEED:  
**264KM/H**



TOP SPEED:  
**363KM/H**



## TRACK SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES AEDT)

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

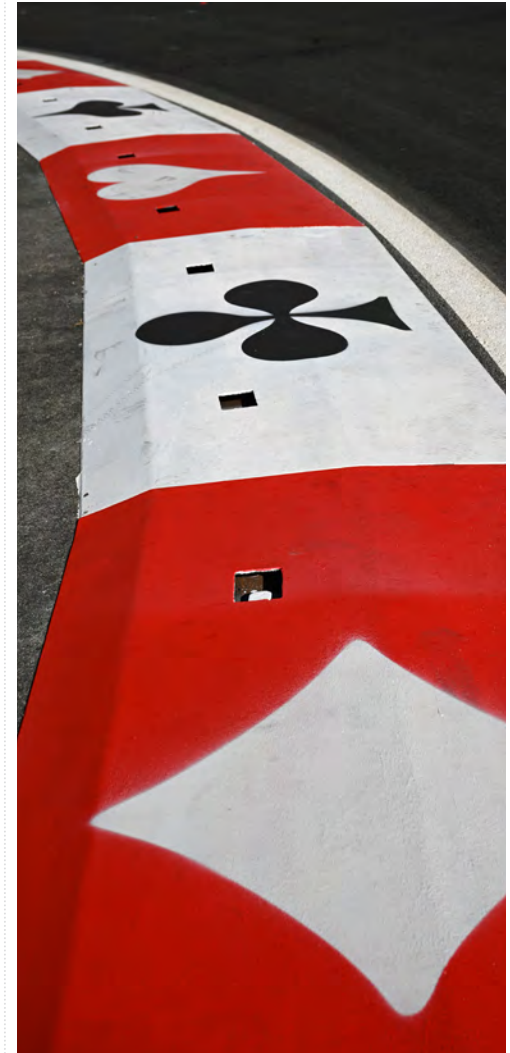
TIME	SESSION
15.30-16.30	Practice 1
19.00-20.00	Practice 2

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

TIME	SESSION
15.30-16.30	Practice 3
19.00-20.00	Qualifying

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

TIME	SESSION
17.00	Grand Prix



## LIST OF RACE RESULTS (OLD CAESARS PALACE GP)

1981

- 1: Alan Jones
- 2: Alain Prost
- 3: Bruno Giacomelli

1982

- 1: Michele Alboreto
- 2: John Watson
- 3: Eddie Cheever



### MOST WINS

N/A

## 1 LIST OF POLE POSITIONS (OLD CAESARS PALACE GP)

1981

- 1: Carlos Reutemann
- 2: Alan Jones
- 3: Gilles Villeneuve

1982

- 1: Alain Prost
- 2: Rene Arnoux
- 3: Michele Alboreto



### MOST POLES

N/A

**1ST**  
524  
POINTS

**RED BULL**

**MAX VERSTAPPEN**

AGE: 26  
DEBUT: Aus 2015  
STARTS: 183  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x31)  
PODIUMS: 96  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x52)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 1.3  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL CHRISTIAN HORNER**

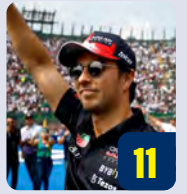
The winning machine Max Verstappen is charging towards the end of 2023 with victories in 15 of the last 16 races. Overcame a challenge from Norris in Sao Paulo but still seemed in control to win both the GP and Sprint. A new track awaits but only an uncharacteristic mistake appears it could stop the flying Dutchman, who recently became the first to score 500 points in a season.

**2ND**  
258  
POINTS

**RED BULL**

**SERGIO PEREZ**

AGE: 33  
DEBUT: Aus 2011  
STARTS: 255  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x3)  
PODIUMS: 34  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x6)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 4.61  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL CHRISTIAN HORNER**

Sao Paulo was an important step forward for Sergio Perez in his quest to cement second in the standings although it was still not a complete weekend. Another disappointing quali saw him start ninth, but charged in the race to come within 0.053s from the podium. Will be chasing to get his first trophy in seven races.

**3RD**  
226  
POINTS

**MERCEDES**

**LEWIS HAMILTON**

AGE: 38  
DEBUT: Aus 2007  
STARTS: 330  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x104)  
PODIUMS: 197  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x103)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 4.56  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL TOTO WOLFF**

The charge to snatch 2nd from Perez took a major hit at Sao Paulo, where he slumped from fifth to a distant eighth in a "race to forget". The Brit finished more than a minute behind in the GP, while he also lost ground in the Sprint. It was so tough Hamilton said he is "looking forward to no longer driving the W14". New track, new hope.

**4TH**  
198  
POINTS

**ASTON MARTIN**

**FERNANDO ALONSO**

AGE: 41  
DEBUT: Aus 2001  
STARTS: 375  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)  
PODIUMS: 106  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x32)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.33  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL MIKE KRACK**

It was an understatement to say Fernando Alonso and Aston Martin needed that podium and they got it in style. Alonso put in a lion-like drive to keep Perez at bay and claim a trophy by the barest of margins. Given the team a much-needed lift and Fernando is relishing Las Vegas having ended the run of "painful" races.

**5TH**  
195  
POINTS

**MCLAREN**

**LANDO NORRIS**

AGE: 23  
DEBUT: Aus 2019  
STARTS: 102  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
PODIUMS: 13  
BEST RESULT: 2nd (x6)  
AVG 2023 RESULT: 7.87  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL ZAC BROWN**

Yet another special drive in Sao Paulo has pushed Lando Norris ahead of his close mate Carlos and into the top five of the standings. Norris was so fast in Brazil he even gave Verstappen a run for his money. Has stood on the podium in five of the last six races and there is no reason to think the in-form Brit will avoid the rostrum on the Strip.

**6TH**  
192  
POINTS

**FERRARI**

**CARLOS SAINZ JR**

AGE: 28  
DEBUT: Aus 2015  
STARTS: 181  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x5)  
PODIUMS: 17  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x2)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.75  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL FRED VASSEUR**

Carlos Sainz already has some silverware from Las Vegas. Sainz teamed up with Justin Thomas to win the Netflix Golf Cup event on Wednesday, but dropped the trophy. He hopes to be less clumsily behind the wheel having just scored points in both the Sprint and Grand Prix at Sao Paulo.

**7TH**  
170  
POINTS

**FERRARI**

**CHARLES LECLERC**

AGE: 25  
DEBUT: Aus 2018  
STARTS: 122  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x21)  
PODIUMS: 28  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x5)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.58  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL FRED VASSEUR**

Charles Leclerc's pages of hard luck stories continued in Sao Paulo. After a podium in Mexico, Leclerc would have had high hopes of at least a podium starting on the front row. But he never even made it to the grid as a Ferrari engine issue sent him into the barriers on the formation lap which left him crying 'why am I so unlucky?'

**8TH**  
156  
POINTS

**MERCEDES**

**GEORGE RUSSELL**

AGE: 25  
DEBUT: Aus 2019  
STARTS: 102  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)  
PODIUMS: 10  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 7.15  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL TOTO WOLFF**

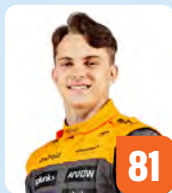
Sao Paulo started positively for George Russell with a fourth in the Sprint, and lined up eighth in the GP. But soon he started dropping down the order as the race went on and ultimately retired due to overheating issues to complete what was "our slowest weekend of the year". Preparing for the "unknown" of LA.

**9TH**  
87  
POINTS

**MCLAREN**

**OSCAR PIASTRI**

AGE: 21  
DEBUT: Bah 2023  
STARTS: 20  
BEST QUAL: 2nd (x1)  
PODIUMS: 2  
BEST RESULT: 2nd (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 9.67  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL ZAC BROWN**

Through no fault of his own, Oscar Piastri suffered a lonely journey through Sao Paulo. Starting 10th after another Q3 appearance, Piastri was making his way into turn 1 when an out of control Magnussen clashed into him. Repairs forced him to start a lap down and finish 14th. Has scored points in three of the four street races in rookie season.

**10TH**  
63  
POINTS

**ASTON MARTIN**

**LANCE STROLL**

AGE: 25  
DEBUT: Aus 2017  
STARTS: 141  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
PODIUMS: 3  
BEST RESULT: 3rd (x3)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 9.56  
BEST LA GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL MIKE KRACK**

A return to form could not have arrived at a more important time for Lance Stroll. After just one points appearance in seven races, Stroll stunned all by qualifying third in Sao Paulo. The Canadian eventually finished fifth, just his third top five result of the year in the fast car. Hopes to create some momentum in last 2 GPs.

**11TH**  
62  
POINTS

ALPINE

PIERRE GASLY

AGE: 27  
DEBUT: Mal 2017  
STARTS: 128  
BEST QUAL: 2nd (x1)  
PODIUMS: 4  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.36  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL BRUNO FAMIN

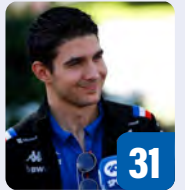
Pierre Gasly was delighted after producing "one of our four best races of the season" in Sao Paulo. Gasly soared from 15th to seventh to claim six points in a fighting drive. A big boost having had an average sprint. Despite the fightback, lost 10th to Stroll by one point.

**12TH**  
46  
POINTS

ALPINE

ESTEBAN OCON

AGE: 27  
DEBUT: Bel 2016  
STARTS: 131  
BEST QUAL: 3rd (x2)  
PODIUMS: 3  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.22  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL BRUNO FAMIN

In the last 11 races Esteban Ocon has either achieved the high of hitting points or the low of a DNF. Fortunately Sao Paulo was a points finish having risen from 14th to 10th, almost mirroring his Mexico drive. But the Frenchman's reaction post race was labeling the result as "not good enough" being behind his teammate just the second time in five races.

**13TH**  
27  
POINTS

WILLIAMS

ALEX ALBON

AGE: 27  
DEBUT: Aus 2019  
STARTS: 79  
BEST QUAL: 4th (x5)  
PODIUMS: 3  
BEST RESULT: 3rd (x2)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.88  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL JAMES VOWLES

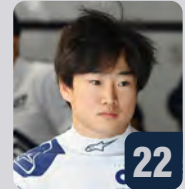
Starting 13th, Alex Albon would have hopes of being an outside chance of points at Sao Paulo until it all went wrong at turn one. In what Albon described as a "racing incident" the #23 Williams was spinning out of control after making a "great start".

**14TH**  
13  
POINTS

ALPHATAURI

YUKI TSUNODA

AGE: 23  
DEBUT: Bah 2021  
STARTS: 61  
BEST QUAL: 7th (x2)  
PODIUMS: 0  
BEST RESULT: 4th (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 12.5  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL FRANZ TOST

An improved performance came at a vital time for Yuki Tsunoda. After a battling Mexico, Tsunoda bounced back by a brilliant Sprint shootout and sixth on Saturday before climbing from 16th to ninth. Just his second points in eight races and needs to keep ahead of Ricciardo.

**15TH**  
10  
POINTS

ALFA ROMEO SAUBER

VALTTERI BOTTAS

AGE: 33  
DEBUT: Aus 2013  
STARTS: 219  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x20)  
PODIUMS: 67  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x10)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 12.69  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL ALESSANDRO ALUNNI BRAVI

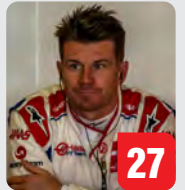
For the second straight weekend Valtteri Bottas was walking away disappointed. In a round where pace was lacking at Alfa Romeo, Bottas started the Sprint 14th but finished down in 19th. His Grand Prix did not last long with a hydraulics drama forcing the Finn to retire on lap 39.

**16TH**  
9  
POINTS

HAAS

NICO HULKENBERG

AGE: 35  
DEBUT: Bah 2010  
STARTS: 201  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
PODIUMS: 0  
BEST RESULT: 4th (x3)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 14.11  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL GUENTHER STEINER

Nico Hulkenberg showed improved one lap pace in Brazil, but his long wait for points continued. Been 11 weekends since he last scored at the Sprint in Austria. Wasn't far from Q3 in both qualis at Sao Paulo but a "lack of downforce" and caught in the T1 chaos meant the German could not move forward.

**17TH**  
6  
POINTS

ALPHATAURI

DANIEL RICCIARDO

AGE: 34  
DEBUT: GB 2011  
STARTS: 236  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x3)  
PODIUMS: 32  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x8)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 12.75  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL FRANZ TOST

Daniel Ricciardo felt things outside of his control cost him more points in Sao Paulo. After a Moffat style incident where a tyre clipped his rear wing, restarted the race a lap down and claimed 13th but set the 3rd fastest time. Fittingly will compete in the race he foreshadowed will take place back in 2017.

**18TH**  
6  
POINTS

ALFA ROMEO SAUBER

ZHOU GUANYU

AGE: 23  
DEBUT: Bah 2022  
STARTS: 41  
BEST QUAL: 9th (x2)  
PODIUMS: 0  
BEST RESULT: 8th (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 13.45  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL ALESSANDRO ALUNNI BRAVI

Zhou Guanyu has put it on his team to "turn things around" after a double DNF for Alfa Romeo in Brazil. For the Chinese driver Sunday's early end was down to an engine failure. Was the third retirement of the year.

**19TH**  
3  
POINTS

HAAS

KEVIN MAGNUSSEN

AGE: 30  
DEBUT: Aus 2014  
STARTS: 158  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
PODIUMS: 1  
BEST RESULT: 2nd (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 15.07  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL GUENTHER STEINER

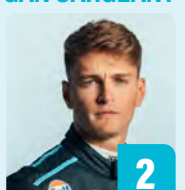
For the second race in a row Kevin Magnussen's race ended in the barriers. This time he only got as far as turn one after clashing with Alex Albon in the middle of a "chain reaction". Qualified 11th for the Sprint but still dropped down to 16th after "having a gamble". Will the Dane try his luck in Sin City?

**21ST**  
1  
POINT

WILLIAMS

LOGAN SARGEANT

AGE: 22  
DEBUT: Bah 2023  
STARTS: 20  
BEST QUAL: 10th (x1)  
PODIUMS: 0  
BEST RESULT: 10th (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 15.29  
BEST LA GP: N/A



TEAM PRINCIPAL JAMES VOWLES

After falling one place short of a second points finish in his rookie year, Logan Sargeant claimed Williams was "just not quick enough". It was Sargeant's second best result of the year alongside Silverstone. Meanwhile the Sprint "was not enjoyable" as the American was last. Ready for third and final home race of year.