

Silverstone Circuit

Home of the British Grand Prix

The oldest and first Grand Prix in Formula One history, Silverstone has hosted the British Grand Prix unbroken since 1987, alternating with the Brands Hatch and Aintree circuits as the British Grand Prix between 1955-86.

Located on a World War II airfield in Northamptonshire, the Silverstone circuit has undergone many changes over its history but has maintained its high-speed nature as one of the driver's favourites. The grandstands are consistently packed at Silverstone, both local and international fans providing an electric atmosphere throughout the race weekend.

British F1 fans are knowledgeable and passionate, and expect plenty of support for local heroes George Russell, Lando Norris and an increase in the colour red to support Lewis Hamilton at Ferrari.

- Circuit Length – 5.89km
- Number of Laps - 52
- Race Distance – 306.19km
- Max Speed – 334km/h
- Average Temperature in July – 22c
- Currency – GBP
- Closest Airport – London Luton
- Language – English

SILVERSTONE CIRCUIT: HISTORY AND CONSTRUCTION

Silverstone Circuit was built on the site of a World War II airfield, RAF Silverstone, which began as a training base for Wellington bomber crews in 1943. The circuit saw its first unofficial motorsport use in September 1947 when local enthusiasts organized an impromptu race on the abandoned runways, an event that became known as the "Mutton Grand Prix" after one racer struck a sheep.

The first official Grand Prix at Silverstone took place in October 1948, attracting a reported 100,000 spectators. In 1950, Silverstone was chosen as the venue for the first-ever Formula One World Championship race, with the circuit hosting the inaugural race won by Giuseppe Farina.

Silverstone is one of only four Grands Prix from the first year of the World Championship to remain part of today's F1 calendar, alongside Monaco, Spa, and Monza.

The circuit has undergone various modifications since the 1940s, with major redesigns occurring in 1975, 1987, 1991, and between 2010-2011 when an infield Arena section was added.

Starting from the 2011 Formula 1 British Grand Prix, the start/finish straight and pit building were moved from between Woodcote and Copse to between Club and Abbey. In 2020, the pit straight was renamed the Hamilton Straight to honour Lewis Hamilton's achievement of winning his seventh world title.

RACING AT SILVERSTONE: F1 CARS AND DRIVING EXPERIENCE

Silverstone is renowned as one of the fastest and most technically demanding circuits on the Formula One calendar. The circuit features 18 corners with unique names that encapsulate local and racing history, and has an overall length of 3.661 miles (5.891 km).

The track demands exceptional precision and high-speed cornering ability from drivers. Drivers experience challenging weather conditions that often characterize the British Grand Prix, with changing conditions throughout the race weekend.

The combination of quick direction changes, heavy braking zones, and high-speed sections like the Wellington Straight makes Silverstone a circuit that punishes small mistakes and rewards smooth, committed driving.

LEGENDARY DRIVERS AT SILVERSTONE CIRCUIT

Jim Clark enjoyed huge success at his home race, winning five times including four consecutive victories from 1962 to 1965, earning him the nickname 'Mister Smooth' for his precise driving style. Nigel Mansell was famously popular with the Silverstone crowd, winning at the track on three occasions in 1987, 1991 and 1992.

Alain Prost, known as "The Professor" for his intelligent and tactical driving style, won the British Grand Prix five times at Silverstone. Other legendary drivers including Ayrton Senna, Juan Manuel Fangio, Stirling Moss, and Jackie Stewart have all etched their names into Silverstone's rich racing history.

SILVERSTONE: MOST WINS RECORD

Lewis Hamilton holds the record for the most Silverstone victories with nine wins, three more than Jim Clark and Alain Prost who share second place with five victories each. Hamilton has the most consecutive wins at the circuit with four victories in a row between 2014 and 2017.

MOST FAMOUS BRITISH GRAND PRIX RACES AT SILVERSTONE

Lewis Hamilton delivered a memorable wet-weather performance in 2008, dominating in torrential rain with a 68-second advantage over second place while lapping the entire field except podium finishers.

Nigel Mansell's 1987 victory is remembered as one of F1's most iconic overtakes, where he battled teammate Nelson Piquet and overtook him through Stowe Corner with three laps remaining. After crossing the line, Mansell's Williams ran out of fuel, leading to fans mobbing the car on the track in celebration.

Jim Clark put in one of his greatest-ever performances at his final visit to Silverstone in 1967, dominating the race with the iconic Lotus 49 featuring the newly introduced Cosworth DFV engine.

In 2021, Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen collided on the first lap, with Verstappen eliminated from the race after a 51G impact, while Hamilton went on to claim an eighth home race win.

WHY DRIVERS LOVE SILVERSTONE CIRCUIT

Silverstone holds a special place in Formula One drivers' hearts due to its rich history and racing heritage. Lewis Hamilton has said: "it is the home of motorsport. The history and the turn-out we have is incredible...There is no other race that has the atmosphere this race has, because of the fans".

The circuit's fast, flowing nature combined with high-speed corners rewards smooth driving and bravery. The passionate British crowd provides an electrifying atmosphere, while the blend of technical corners and long straights makes it a circuit where drivers can showcase their full skill set.

The unpredictable British weather also adds an element of challenge that drivers respect and enjoy.

BRITISH GRAND PRIX FAN EXPERIENCE AT SILVERSTONE

Silverstone has attracted record-breaking attendance figures, with 480,000 fans in 2023, and a new record race day attendance of 164,000 in 2024, with a weekend total of 500,000 in 2025. Silverstone recently extended its contract to hold the British Grand Prix until 2034.

The circuit offers multiple grandstand viewing areas with excellent sightlines of the track action. Silverstone is in central England, approximately 90 minutes north of central London and 60 minutes south of Birmingham, with good road access along the A43 dual carriageway.

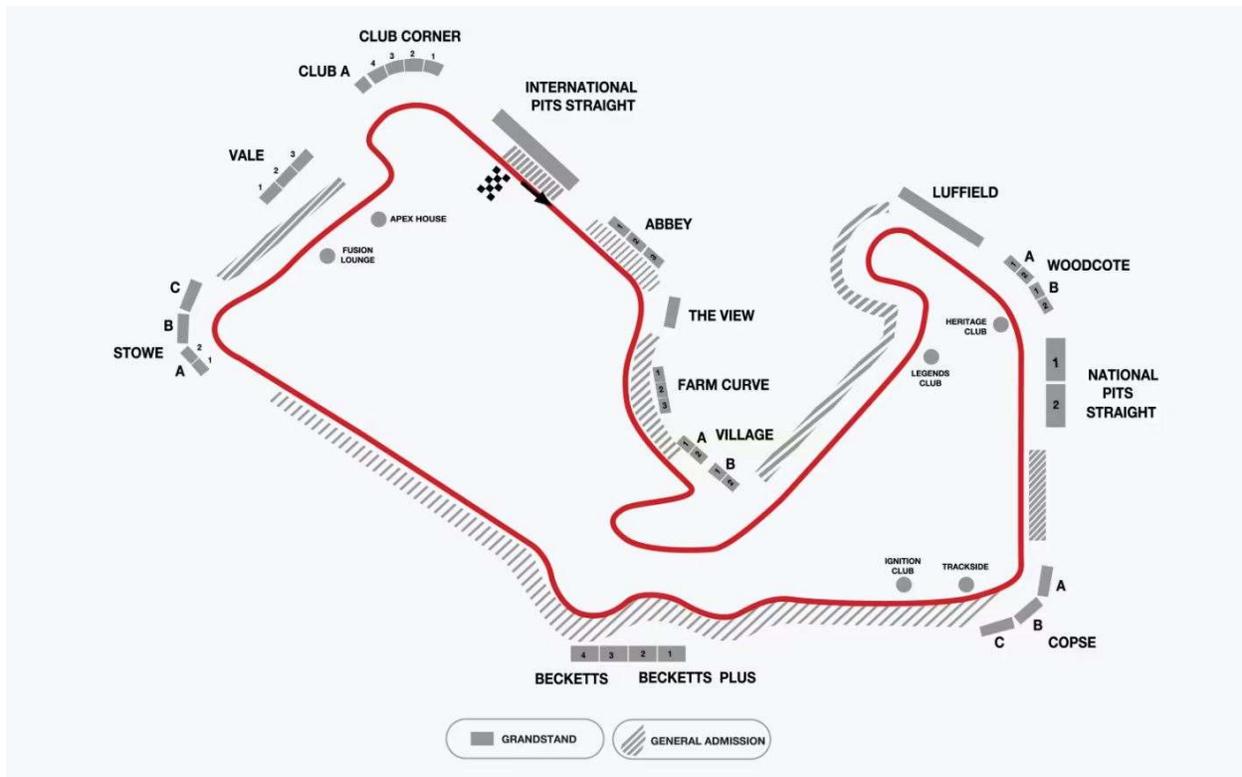
By public transport, the nearest stations are Northampton, Banbury or Milton Keynes, which offer fast connections throughout the country.

SURROUNDING AREAS AND ATTRACTIONS

The Silverstone Circuit is strategically located near major UK attractions. The area features the Silverstone Interactive Museum and the Silverstone Classic, the world's largest historic race meeting. The circuit entry is in Buckinghamshire, near the villages of Silverstone and Whittlebury in Northamptonshire, with Brackley just seven miles away, where Mercedes F1 team is based.

Nearby towns offer accommodation options, while the circuit's proximity to the Midlands and London makes it accessible for fans traveling from across the United Kingdom and Europe. The historic racing heritage combined with modern facilities creates a unique Grand Prix experience that celebrates Formula One's rich British motorsport tradition.

GRANDSTANDS SEATING



INTERNATIONAL PIT

The most popular stand on the track and for good reason – the International Pit Grandstand is in the newest complex of the revamped Silverstone circuit. Providing views you would expect from a start/finish straight, the International Pit Grandstand's atmosphere all weekend long is a particular highlight.

Covered from the elements with multiple large screens, you will be able to soak in all the pre-race build up as well as views of the podium from your seats. An added bonus of the Silverstone track is the post-race track invasion – this grandstand giving you the closest point to the track to catch the podium from the grid.

ABBEY

Due to the track tweaks in 2011, Abbey corner is now turn 1 at Silverstone and is a corner that has undergone significant changes. What was once a low-speed chicane, Abbey is now a fast right hand corner. From your seats you will have great views of the start/finish straight as well as the flat-out entry into Abbey corner.

Lap 1 itself is a highlight from the Abbey Grandstand as the cars jostle for position from the grid into the short run into turn one.

There is a large amount of run off on corner exit, meaning that drivers often try braver moves into this corner. Abbey is a covered grandstand and there is also a large screen present just opposite. The tricky pit exit – feeding directly onto the racing line of turn two – is also visible from your seats at Abbey.

THE VIEW, FARM CURVE, VILLAGE A-B

A set of four grandstands in the opening corners of the lap, you will have an excellent view – particularly on the opening lap – of the cars in close quarters vying for position. This section of track is aptly known as The Loop – with multiple corners in close succession preceding the Wellington Straight.

You will have plenty of photo opportunities throughout the weekend, as the cars do pass by at low speed. These corners also provide overtaking chances, with lap one a particular highlight. There is also a large screen visible from these seats.

LUFFIELD A-B, WOODCOTE A-B

The Luffield and Woodcote are a set of four grandstands on the apex and exit of the slow Luffield corner and will give you views of multiple corners in this section of track. As the cars exit the first DRS zone on the Wellington straight you will often see the cars in close quarters head toward Luffield from your seats.

These stands are covered and are sat close to the track, ensuring you will have some great photo opportunities of the cars at slow speed in this long corner and exit onto what was formerly the pit straight for Formula One races. As with most other stands, there is a big screen visible from the seats.

NATIONAL PITS STRAIGHT

On what used to be the main straight at Silverstone, the National Pits Straight grandstand provide views of F1 cars at full speed before they navigate the flat-out right handed Copse corner. While not a DRS zone due to it being a short straight, it is a popular overtaking spot as the cars will get close to each other on the exit of Luffield onto the straight.

While lap one and safety car restarts are when you will see the cars in closest combat here, never rule out some late race drama such as Lewis Hamilton's overtake on Charles Leclerc for the lead in the 2021 British Grand Prix.

COPSE A-B-C

Perched on the outside of one of the most exciting corners on the track, the Copse grandstands are sat back due to the large run off at Copse corner. Don't let this deter you however, as it is a popular overtaking spot for the brave with a good run out of the National Pits Straight.

Your seats at Copse provide excellent views of the cars flying toward you at full speed before flicking right through Copse and into the Maggotts and Becketts corners.

In years past, these seats at Copse give birds-eye views of incidents and overtakes such as Hamilton and Verstappen's infamous clash in 2021, and Hamilton's late race pass on Leclerc for the lead in the same race.

CLUB SILVERSTONE, BECKETTS

A little back from the track due to the large amount of grass and run off in the Maggotts and Becketts corners, Club Silverstone and Becketts grandstands will give you a lengthy view of the cars through these fast corners.

Mostly flat out and thanks to the airfield nature – you will be able to see the cars through these corners for around 10-15 seconds every time they pass, as opposed to a quick glimpse on a straight or smaller corner.

Thanks to the airfield-flat nature of the circuit, the views from Club Silverstone and Becketts are unobstructed from natural elevation – meaning you will be moments away from an excellent photo opportunity when you hear the cars approach. While not a traditional overtaking spot, if seeing the cars at their aerodynamic best is what you are after, these seats are unrivalled.

VALE

Just down the track from the Stowe Grandstands is the single Vale Grandstand. Here you will have excellent views of the cars exiting Stowe corner and heading downhill into the last three corners of the lap. During the race there will often be cars side-by-side going through the exit of Stowe as there is a large run-off area, and has also been the scene of plenty of incidents over the years.

With a screen opposite you will not miss a minute of the action, and will also have views of the fast pit-entry. There is a general admission hill between the Vale and Stowe Grandstands, meaning the atmosphere in this section is electric all weekend long.

CLUB A/CLUB CORNER

Situated on the apex of the final corner, Club Corner Grandstands provides a great variety of track views. To the left of your seats is the main straight, and on the right is the final section of corners

before the start/finish line. Here you will have plenty of photo opportunities as the cars will pass you at a lower speed than an out and out straight.

From the Club Grandstands you will also be able to catch pitlane action and will have some of the closest access to enter the track for the post-race celebrations. Stowe is a covered grandstand – handy for the fickle Silverstone weather – as well as a giant screen visible from your seats.

STOWE A-B-C

Sat at the end of the fast Hangar Straight, the Stowe Grandstands offer some very good views of a fast section of track. After the cars navigate the Maggots-Becketts-Chapel corners, they fly onto the back straight which is also a DRS zone.

With a front-on view of the cars, these seats at the fast right hander Stowe corner will also provide plenty of photo opportunities as the cars come past and drive downhill into the final section of corners of the lap. As it is at the end of a long straight and DRS zone, overtakes are common at Stowe. While the seats are uncovered, there is a giant screen visible from the stands.