

# Circuit Zandvoort

## Home of the Dutch Grand Prix

Reinstated on the F1 calendar in 2021 due to the unstoppable local popularity of Max Verstappen, beachside Zandvoort provides an excellent location for the Dutch Grand Prix.

Be prepared to be hit with a sea of orange, both literally and visually, with a party-like atmosphere weekend long. The Zandvoort circuit sits around 45 minutes west of Amsterdam, and its location allows you the bonus of being able to take a leisurely stroll along the picturesque beach post-sessions.

2025 will be the penultimate race at the circuit, a recent announcement confirming that 2026 will be the final Dutch GP.

- Circuit Length – 4.26km
- Number of Laps - 72
- Race Distance – 306.58km
- Max Speed – 309km/h
- Average Temperature in August: 22c
- Currency – EUR
- Closest Airport – Amsterdam Airport Schiphol
- Language – Dutch

### **CIRCUIT ZANDVOORT: HISTORY AND CONSTRUCTION**

Circuit Zandvoort was first opened in 1948, part of the wave of post-war motorsport enthusiasm that swept across Europe. The track was built on a man-made island in the sand dunes of Zandvoort, the Netherlands, north of the North Sea coast, approximately 35 km west of Amsterdam.

The original circuit was constructed using communication roads built by the occupying German army during World War II, which were repurposed and linked together to form the race track.

The Dutch Automobile Racing Club initiated the plans for the circuit, bringing in 1927 Le Mans winner Sammy Davis to consult on the layout of the original 4.2 km semi-permanent track. The pit structures, main grandstand and asphalt surface were completed in time for the inaugural race to take place in August 1948.

Formula One arrived at Zandvoort in 1952, with the inaugural Dutch Grand Prix won by Alberto Ascari leading a Ferrari 1-2-3. The Dutch Grand Prix hosted Formula One races from 1952 until 1985, when it dropped off the calendar for 35 years due to safety concerns and financial difficulties.

After undergoing extensive modifications and upgrades costing approximately €4 million, the circuit returned to the Formula One calendar in 2021 after a 36-year absence.

### **RACING AT CIRCUIT ZANDVOORT: F1 CARS AND DRIVING EXPERIENCE**

The Zandvoort track swoops and flows through the sand dunes, creating a rollercoaster-like feel to the lap. The circuit is a 4.259 km track featuring 14 turns with a unique blend of high-speed flowing corners and technical chicanes.

Current F1 drivers have described Zandvoort as 'really quick', 'pretty insane', 'crazy' and 'old-school'. The circuit is known for its demanding characteristics, with the famous Tarzan corner and the fast Eau Rouge-style sections requiring precision and commitment from drivers.

Banking was increased considerably at two bends, with Arie Luyendijkbocht featuring 18 degrees of banking—almost double the banking angle at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The narrow track layout and high-speed, flowing nature of the circuit make qualifying crucial for race performance, as overtaking opportunities are limited due to the lack of long straights and width constraints.

### **LEGENDARY DRIVERS AT CIRCUIT ZANDVOORT**

Jim Clark made his Formula One debut at Zandvoort during the 1960 Dutch Grand Prix but retired with transmission failure. Clark would go on to dominate at the circuit, becoming a Zandvoort legend.

Other legendary drivers who raced successfully at the Dutch Grand Prix include Alberto Ascari, Juan Manuel Fangio, Stirling Moss, Jackie Stewart, Niki Lauda, and James Hunt. In 1973, Jackie Stewart surpassed Jim Clark's previous record of Formula One wins during the Dutch Grand Prix at Zandvoort.

## **CIRCUIT ZANDVOORT: MOST WINS RECORD**

Jim Clark holds the record for the most wins at the Dutch Grand Prix, having won at Zandvoort on four occasions – in 1963, 1964, 1965 and 1967. Jim Clark's first Dutch GP victory in 1963 saw him win by more than a full lap, dominating the race with his Lotus.

Since the Dutch Grand Prix returned in 2021, Max Verstappen has won every single Grand Prix that Zandvoort has hosted, becoming the only Dutch driver to win his home race in Formula One history.

Max Verstappen is targeting his fourth win at Zandvoort, which would draw him level with Jim Clark's all-time record.

## **MOST FAMOUS DUTCH GRAND PRIX RACES AND MEMORABLE MOMENTS**

Jim Clark's 1963 victory was a dominant display, where he won by more than a full lap and lapped every driver who finished the race. Clark's 1964 win was similarly commanding, with only John Surtees finishing on the lead lap, over 53 seconds behind.

The circuit is remembered for Gilles Villeneuve's legendary three-wheeled lap, one of Formula One's most iconic moments. Tragically, the 1970 Dutch Grand Prix saw Piers Courage lose his life following a crash at the Tunnel Oost corner, and in 1973, Roger Williamson died in a burning crash at the same location.

In the modern era, Max Verstappen won the inaugural Dutch Grand Prix in 2021 following the circuit's return to Formula One after 36 years, thrilling the home crowd in front of a sea of orange.

## **WHY DRIVERS LOVE CIRCUIT ZANDVOORT**

Drivers describe Zandvoort as an old-school circuit with a quite unique layout and a lot of fast corners. The circuit is celebrated for testing driver skill through its combination of technical demands and flowing high-speed sections.

The track's proximity to the North Sea means weather is often unpredictable, bringing high-speed winds and rain that can dramatically affect race strategy and outcomes.

The beachside location combined with the historic racing heritage makes Zandvoort special for Formula One drivers, with many appreciating the old-school character of the circuit compared to more modern venues.

## **DUTCH GRAND PRIX FAN EXPERIENCE AT CIRCUIT ZANDVOORT**

The circuit has a capacity of just over 100,000 spectators, though it was reported that over a million fans applied for tickets when the Dutch Grand Prix returned in 2021. The atmosphere at Zandvoort is electric, particularly with Max Verstappen racing at his home circuit, with spectators creating a distinctive orange-hued crowd.

The race is one of few where fans, staff and media travel predominantly by public transport, with trains shuttling fans between Amsterdam Centraal and Zandvoort aan Zee every few minutes on the Max Express. Cycling is also a popular option with bicycle parking for 45,000 bikes.

In 2023, 98% of visitors used sustainable transport to and from the circuit, with over 40,000 fans expected to cycle to the event.

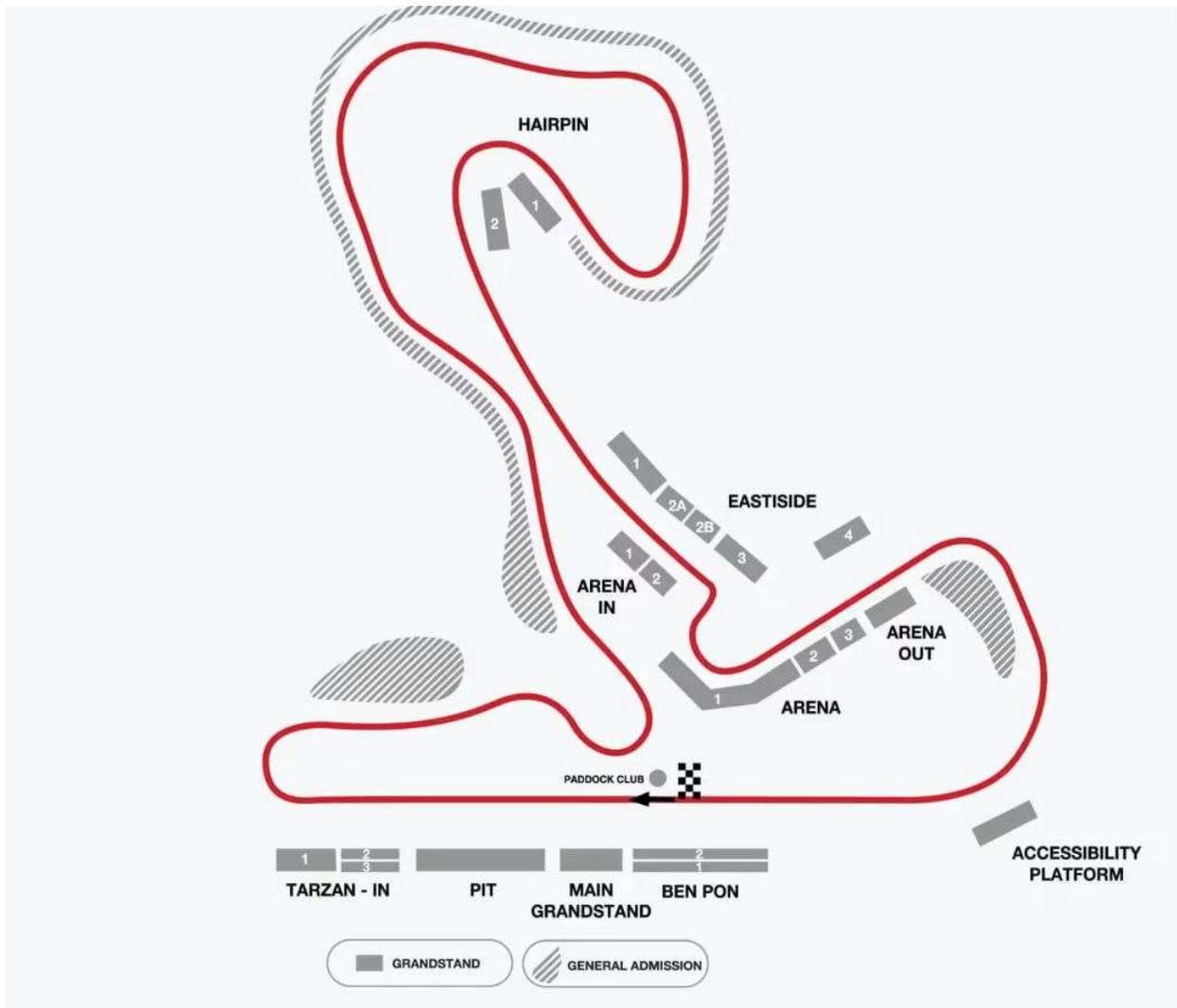
## **SURROUNDING AREAS AND AMSTERDAM ATTRACTIONS**

Zandvoort is located 35 km west of Amsterdam on the North Sea coast, just a 30-minute train ride from Amsterdam's city centre. The circuit is situated in Parc Jean-Drapeau in a scenic coastal resort town setting among the sand dunes.

Beyond the circuit, there's easy access to Amsterdam's attractions, making it convenient for motorsport fans to enjoy the Grand Prix weekend while exploring the city's famous canals, museums, and nightlife.

The beachside location offers an alternative racing experience to typical urban circuits, combining motorsport action with coastal charm and proximity to one of Europe's most vibrant cities.

## GRANDSTANDS SEATING



## PIT

As given away by the name, the Pit Grandstand offers you a pole position view of the pit lane. Watch as teams feverishly work on their cars to ready them for a run around this short but challenging circuit.

The Pit Grandstand has one of the best views of the track, with the F1 fanzone and ample food, drink and merchandise options easily accessible from this grandstand.

Covered from the elements, the Pit Grandstand allows you to watch the pre-race build up and see the cars at their highest speed on the main straight, as well as being one of two DRS zones on the track. The Pit Grandstand will also give you a view of the post-race podium celebrations.

## **MAIN**

The Main Grandstand is the biggest stand on the track, and as seen on television feeds also has an unrivalled atmosphere. This grandstand will give you a view of the main straight and sits further toward turn one than the Pit Grandstand.

Here you will see the majority of overtakes being completed as the cars get a run out of the final banked corner into a DRS zone.

Also on the main grandstand you will have a view of the pit exit, watching as drivers exit the tight pitlane into the first corner of the track. You will feel incredibly close to the action here, and whether a Max Verstappen or not – you will find it impossible to not join in the orange party vibes.

## **TARZAN-IN**

Short for “Tarzanbocht” (Tarzan Bend), the grandstand that sits at Turns 1 and 2 does not actually refer to how the cars swing through the corners and is a reference to the machine that made the asphalt. One of the beauties of this set of corners is that it has remained relatively unchanged throughout the life of the circuit.

History lessons aside – the Tarzan Grandstand is one of the most exciting spots on the short Zandvoort circuit. Here you will see the cars enter and exit turn 1 at the end of the main straight and DRS zone.

This grandstand will provide you the best chance to see these impressive machines wheel-to-wheel at the best overtaking spot on the circuit.

## **HAIRPIN**

Hairpin Grandstands 1 and 2 will give you a prime view of a tricky section of the track at Turn 10 as the cars look to perfect the entry and exit to the second DRS zone of the track. Surrounded by the iconic sandy banks of the Zandvoort circuit, the Hairpin Grandstands will similarly give you excellent photo opportunities of the cars at low speed.

## **EASTSIDE 1-3**

Sitting directly opposite the Arena-In Grandstands, Eastside gives you a similar view of the short straight in the second half of the lap with the added front-on view of the chicane at the exit. At the end of a DRS zone, overtakes are a chance especially with the current era of F1 cars and their

ability to follow each other closer. As the cars come to a short braking zone, the Eastside Grandstands also give you great photo opportunities of the cars from a close vantage point.

The crowd's energy bounces off the other between the Eastside and Arena-In Grandstands, with music being played throughout the weekend to keep the party going.

#### **EASTSIDE 4**

Just around from Grandstands 1-3 sits Eastside 4. This grandstand will give you a prime view as the cars flick through the tight chicane into the final banked corner of Zandvoort. Here you will see F1 cars up close at low speed, allowing for many great photo opportunities.

The Eastside and Arena Grandstands are all in close vicinity of each other, giving a real festival atmosphere all weekend long.

#### **ARENA-IN**

Sitting on the inside of the track, Arena-In Grandstand will give you a view of a fast section of track in the third and final sector. The atmosphere in Arena-In is spectacular, directly facing fellow fans in the Eastside Grandstand and having the music stage just to your right, where DJs and announcers will keep the party vibe going throughout the weekend.

On track, the first lap and safety car restarts are highlights in the Arena-In Grandstands, as you witness the cars in close proximity. At the end of the DRS straight, Arena-In views give you a chance to witness brave overtakes into the tight chicane at the end of the straight.

Conveniently located food and drink stalls sit just behind the grandstand, so you will not have too far to go between sessions for food.

#### **ARENA**

The Arena Grandstand sits in the most concentrated section of grandstands at Zandvoort and as such will give you the full experience of the Dutch crowd atmosphere. You will see the cars at their aerodynamic best, as the drivers navigate this tight and twisty final section of track.

Much like the Arena-In and Eastside Grandstands, the Arena Grandstand's atmosphere and view befits its name and you will undoubtedly enjoy tunes and the Dutch party throughout the weekend.

The Arena Grandstand is also conveniently located to the F1 fanzone and all amenities.

#### **ARENA-OUT**

Sitting between the tight Turns 12 and 13, Arena-Out is a popular grandstand sitting just next to the Arena Grandstands. Here you will see the cars as they flick through these two corners and try

and get the best run onto the final banked corner of the track both for lap time and potential overtaking opportunities.

This is the closest grandstand to the F1 fanzone where you can try your hand at changing tyres on a Formula 1 car or test your speed on the many F1 simulators. The abundance of food and drink options close by will mean you are never without options in this space either.

### **BEN PON**

The last grandstand before the end of the lap, Ben Pon Grandstand will give you an incredible view of the final banked corner before the main straight. Here you will see the cars at their aerodynamic best, flying out of the last turn and onto the main straight.

Thanks to the undulating nature of the Zandvoort circuit, Ben Pon Grandstand will also give you a view of the cars turn 3 and is close to the F1 fan zone and free Ferris wheel, which is highly recommended to experience.