

Lusail International Circuit

Home of the Qatar Grand Prix

Opening in 2004 for the MotoGP, the Lusail International Circuit in Qatar has been a popular venue for the two-wheeled event – a night race since 2007.

Due to the cancellation of the Australian race in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lusail circuit was added to the F1 calendar and won by Lewis Hamilton under lights, with Fernando Alonso taking his first podium with Alpine.

Fresh off hosting the 2022 FIFA World Cup, Qatar have signed a 10-year contract to host an F1 race, and is set to join Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia as another popular middle eastern F1 destination.

- Circuit Length – 5.38km
- Number of Laps - 57
- Race Distance – 306.66
- Max Speed – 362.4km/h
- Average Temperature in October – 36c (25c at time of race, night)
- Currency – Qatari Rial (QAR)
- Closest Airport – Doha Airport (DOH)
- Language – Arabic

LUSAIL INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT: HISTORY AND CONSTRUCTION

The Lusail International Circuit was originally constructed in 2004 to host the inaugural Qatar motorcycle Grand Prix, with construction completed in just over one year by approximately 1,000 workers at a cost of \$58 million.

Located approximately 30 kilometers north of Doha, the circuit was built on desert terrain with artificial grass surrounding the track to prevent sand from blowing onto the racing surface.

In 2007, permanent outdoor lighting was added, enabling the circuit to host the first night-time MotoGP race in 2008, making Lusail a pioneering venue for night-time motorsport. The circuit hosted occasional car racing through GP2 Asia (2009) and Formula Masters before Formula One's historic debut at the venue.

The inaugural Formula One Qatar Grand Prix took place on November 21, 2021, as a late-season replacement for the cancelled Australian Grand Prix due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

Between the 2021 inaugural race and the 2023 return following the 2022 FIFA World Cup, the circuit underwent extensive renovations including a new pit and paddock complex, with spectator capacity expanded from 8,000 to 52,000. The circuit signed a 10-year deal extending through 2032, cementing Qatar's long-term presence on the Formula One calendar.

RACING AT LUSAIL INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT: F1 CARS AND DRIVING EXPERIENCE

The Lusail International Circuit is a 5.419 km clockwise track featuring 16 corners with a distinctly fast and flowing layout dominated by medium- and high-speed corners designed primarily for motorcycle racing.

The main straight extends over 1 kilometer, providing excellent overtaking opportunities into Turn 1, with the circuit characterized by minimal heavy braking zones and sustained momentum through the lap.

Drivers experience relatively flat terrain with the circuit running just 2 kilometers inland from the Persian Gulf. The smooth track surface and flowing nature reward smooth, committed driving.

Night-time racing creates unique challenges with drivers identifying braking points and apexes under floodlights, requiring adaptation and concentration.

The circuit features over 500 kilometers of wiring creating one of the world's most sophisticated permanent lighting systems, enabling spectacular night racing viewing conditions.

LEGENDARY DRIVERS AT LUSAIL INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT

Lewis Hamilton secured victory in the inaugural 2021 Qatar Grand Prix, with Fernando Alonso completing the podium. The circuit also hosted Formula Masters legend Nigel Mansell, who won in the Grand Prix Masters series in 2006. Nico Hülkenberg set circuit records during GP2 Asia competition in 2009.

QATAR GRAND PRIX: MOST WINS RECORD

Max Verstappen holds the record for most Qatar Grand Prix victories, winning both the 2023 and 2024 races. Verstappen clinched his third drivers' championship during the 2023 Sprint race, becoming the first driver in nearly 40 years to secure a title on Saturday rather than Sunday.

Lewis Hamilton's 2021 inaugural victory established his early dominance at the venue before Verstappen's subsequent dominance.

MOST FAMOUS QATAR GRAND PRIX RACES AND MEMORABLE MOMENTS

The inaugural 2021 Qatar Grand Prix was a frenetic affair featuring an intense battle between eventual winner Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen, with the two championship contenders engaged in gripping wheel-to-wheel racing.

Hamilton's victory was achieved despite Verstappen's competitive challenge, showcasing exceptional racing.

The 2023 Qatar Grand Prix became historic when Max Verstappen clinched his third drivers' championship during the Saturday Sprint race, marking the first time in nearly 40 years that a driver secured the title outside Sunday's main race.

The 2024 race saw McLaren set a Guinness World Record with the fastest pit stop of 1.80 seconds when Lando Norris's car was serviced during the Qatar Grand Prix.

WHY DRIVERS LOVE LUSAIL INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT

Drivers appreciate the fast, flowing circuit layout that rewards smooth, committed driving. The fast and flowing nature of the circuit, combined with the lack of traditional tight hairpins found on modern circuits, creates an engaging technical challenge. The unique night-time setting with spectacular floodlighting creates an electric atmosphere.

The long main straight provides genuine overtaking opportunities, and the fast corners require precision and bravery. The smooth track surface and flowing design make it a circuit that drivers genuinely enjoy racing at compared to street circuits.

QATAR GRAND PRIX FAN EXPERIENCE AT LUSAIL

The circuit expanded spectator capacity to 52,000 with upgraded main grandstands overlooking the pit straight, providing panoramic views of the start-finish area and team garages. The T2

Grandstand offers outstanding vantage points through the circuit's opening corners, while Lusail Hill provides new spectator seating set in green space accessible to General Admission ticket holders.

Attendance figures have grown significantly, with weekend attendance reaching approximately 155,000 spectators in 2024, demonstrating the venue's popularity.

The 2023 race sold out, with attendance growing by 40,000 from the inaugural race and another 35,000 in 2024.

The circuit is easily accessible from Doha, approximately 30 kilometers south, with the journey taking approximately one hour from Hamad International Airport.

SURROUNDING AREAS AND QATAR ATTRACTIONS

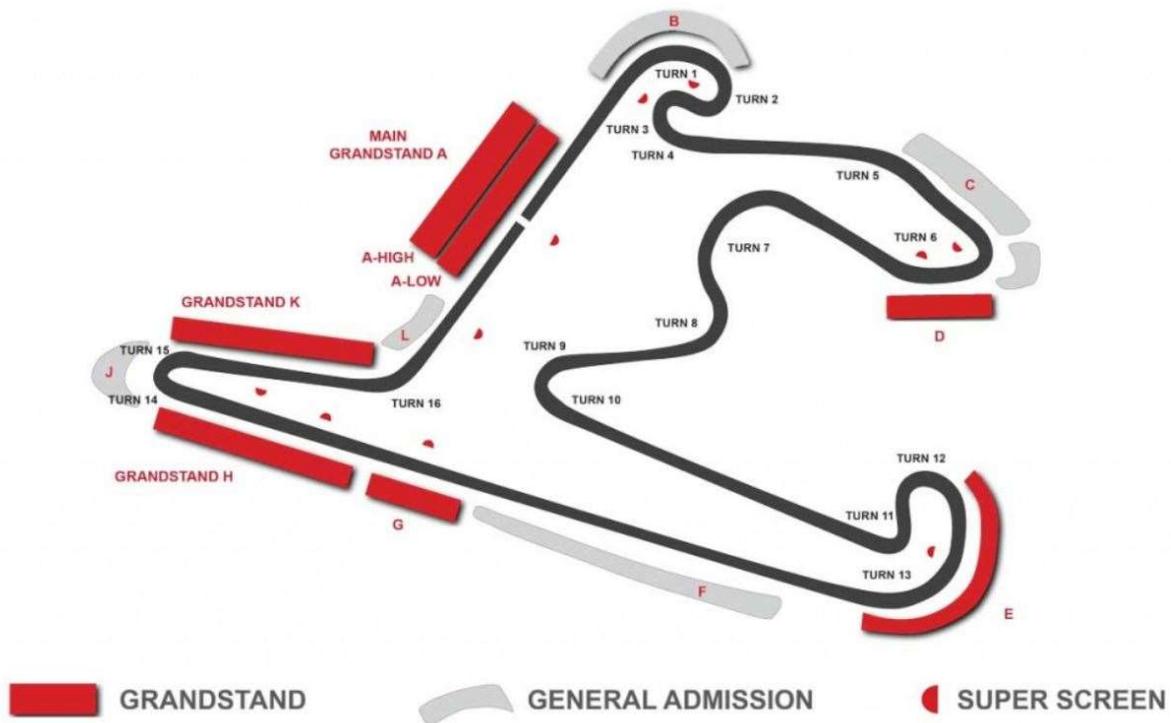
Lusail International Circuit is located in the newly developed city of Lusail, north of Qatar's capital Doha. The circuit sits within a planned metropolis featuring modern architecture, shopping, and entertainment facilities.

Qatar offers unique attractions including the Museum of Islamic Art, the historic Doha Corniche waterfront, traditional souks, and luxury shopping districts.

The desert location provides opportunities for outdoor activities including sandboarding, camel riding, and 4x4 excursions into the Arabian desert.

With average temperatures around 28 degrees Celsius in November, Qatar provides an appealing escape to warmer climates for racing fans during the late-season Grand Prix weekend.

GRANDSTAND SEATINGS



MAIN

The Main Grandstand at Lusail International Circuit is located directly on the Main Straight immediately facing the pit garages right at the heart of both the circuit and the F1 action.

From a prime location immediately opposite of the F1 pit building, the Main Grandstand gives a fantastic panoramic view of main straight, the pit lane and the F1 team garages.

Ticket holders will have a view over the the starting line, grid ceremony, pit-stops during the race, the finishing line and depending on the exact location, visibility of the winner's podium ceremony and trophy presentation after the race.

MAIN - ZONE A/B

The seating area is located on the far-right hand side of the Main Grandstand, facing the track. Ticket holders will have a view of the pit entry, pit stops and podium ceremony.

MAIN - ZONES C/D

This zone is located right in the immediate center of the Main Grandstand. Ticket holders will have a view of the pit stops as well as the pre-race grid and podium ceremonies.

MAIN - ZONES E/F

This zone is located on the far left-hand side of the Main Grandstand when facing the track. Ticket holders will have a view of the pre-race grid and starting ceremonies.

NORTH

The North Grandstand at the Lusail International Circuit is located on the Main Straight immediately to the left-hand side of the Main Grandstand.

Ticket holders will have envious views of the very first movement of the F1 cars leaving the starting grid as the lights go green and as they head away from the grid heading towards the all-important Turn 1.

T2

The T2 Grandstand at the Lusail International Circuit, as its name refers, is located on the inside of Turn 2.

As a brand-new seating area for 2023, this grandstand will offer outstanding views across one of the best sections of the track.

Ticket holders will have a direct view of Turn 2 and a view of the action coming from Turn 1 or Turn 3, depending on the exact seating location within the grandstand.

T3

The T3 Grandstand at the Lusail International Circuit, as its name refers, is located overlooking Turn 3.

As a brand-new seating area for 2023, this grandstand will be an exciting venue for the fans with outstanding views on one of the best sections of the track.

Ticket holders will have a direct view of the action on Turn 3 and a superb view of all the action coming from Turn 2.

T16

The T16 Grandstand at the Lusail International Circuit as its name refers, is located overlooking Turn 16.

As a brand-new seating area for 2023, this will be an exciting venue for the fans with superb views of the F1 cars as they battle at high-speed in the final sector of the track.

Ticket holders will have a direct view of all the action at Turn 16, where fans will have visibility of the cars breaking from high-speed into this last turn before entering the main straight.