FOR THE THOROUGHBRED SPORTS CAR CLUB

SIX DAYS AT SILVERSTONE

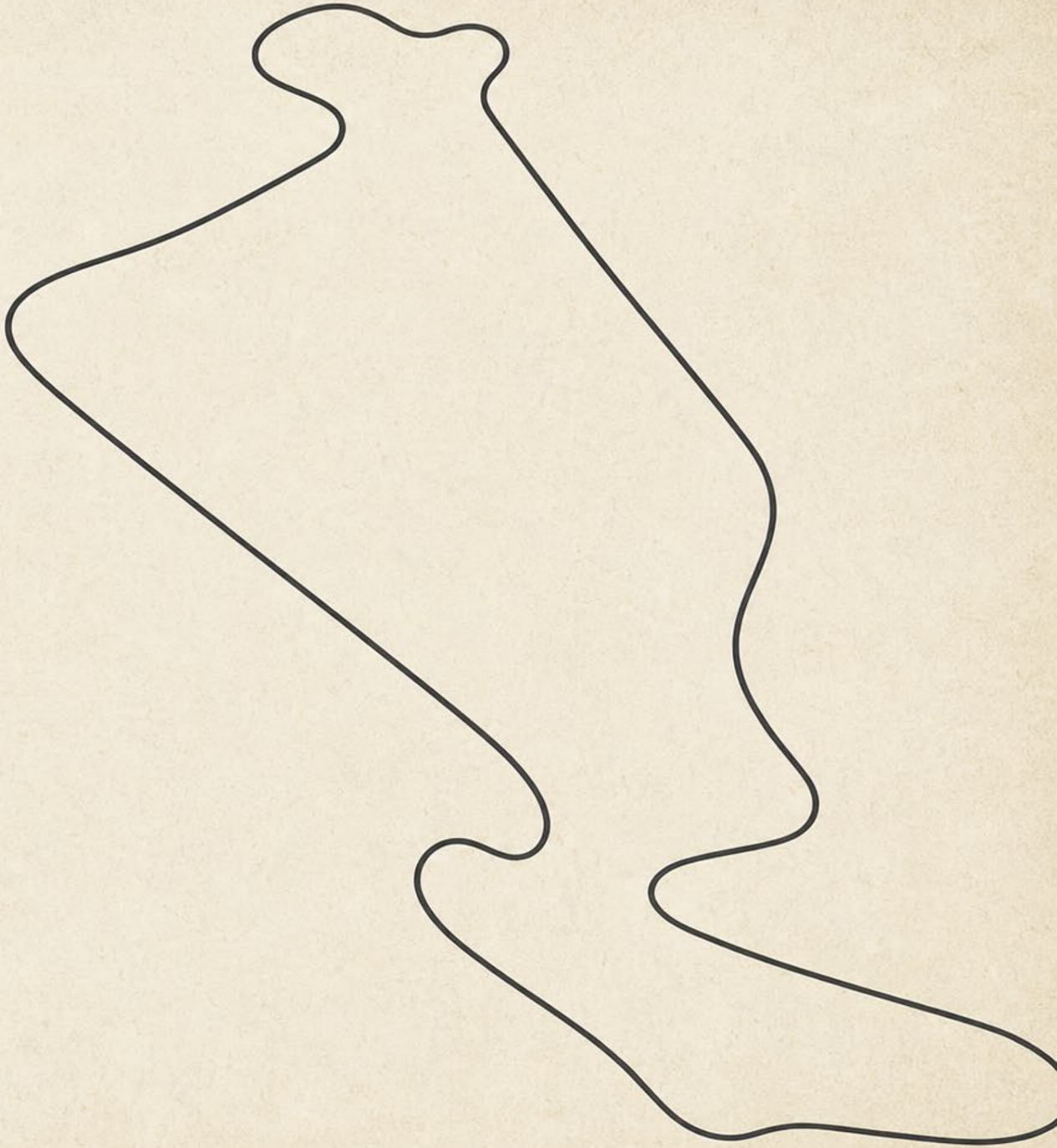
INSIDE MY BRITISH GRAND PRIX

A FIRST-PERSON MOTORSPORT DIARY

SILVERSTONE

1 — 6 JULY 2026

NORTHAMPONSHIRE



THE STORY

THE JOURNEY FROM ARRIVAL TO LASTING ENTHUSIASM

01

ARRIVING AT SILVERSTONE

First impressions of the setting and the British Grand Prix atmosphere

02

THE CIRCUIT

Silverstone's layout, heritage, and place in motorsport

03

BEHIND THE SCENES

Paddock access, teams, cars, and the working race environment

04

THE COMPETITION

Qualifying, race day, and the emotional intensity of the event

05

THE MEMORY

The podium celebrations and what it meant as a sports car enthusiast

01 · ARRIVING AT SILVERSTONE

THE EXPERIENCE BEGAN BEFORE THE FIRST CAR TOOK THE TRACK

- Applied 1 November 2025
- Provided full list of qualifications & experience
- Then motorsport australia AUTHORISED as part of being a MEMBER OF FIA
- Confirm qualifications and that they have No objection and support my participation at the BGP
- Iran / USA war broke out 28 February 2026, causing cancellation of Bahrain & Saudi Arabia Grand Prixs
- Application accepted while at Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne on 3 March 2026
- Would the war affect the BGP – certainly air travel became very uncertain as well as the route to get there



CONGRATULATIONS STAN, YOUR APPLICATION FOR THE 2026 FORMULA 1 PIRELLI BRITISH GRAND PRIX HAS BEEN ACCEPTED!

Your duty on event: Flag Marshal
BGP Reference Number: 34340

01 • ARRIVING AT SILVERSTONE

THE EXPERIENCE BEGAN BEFORE THE FIRST CAR TOOK THE TRACK

- UK entry VISA applied for – ETA (electronic travel authorization) - no problems in obtaining
- Motorsport UK had approved and sanctioned my participation
- A week before I was due to depart, Accreditation was not approved by Silverstone Race Track Company, as it is a separate entity
- Silverstone require a Visa with a “right to work” in UK
- I explained that I was a voluntary race official appointed by Motorsports UK, hence should be exempt from obtaining a working Visa
- UK employment law states that if a person is appointed to a role, follows directions from someone and has scheduled times, they are deemed to be a ”worker”.
- If no money is actually paid, they are deemed to be an “unpaid worker” and still fall under the Visa requirement act
- This meant obtaining a working Visa from the embassy in North Sydney, they would require a letter from my employer, £350 and it would take 10 weeks for approval



Arrival at Silverstone



- I rented a campervan for my accommodation and transport and stayed in the Officials campsite, adjacent to the track



- I arrived on the Wednesday, as I was scheduled to participate in the High-speed test day on Thursday



- Car parks and campsites were massive, with huge crowds of 570,000 in attendance, a world record

Catering at Silverstone

Courtesy of the British Army







Catering at Silverstone - Courtesy of the British Army

Telstra Wi-Fi Call 7:58 pm 53%

Campsite Menu

Breakfast Menu

2 of 5

Cumberland Sausage
Free Range Scrambled Eggs
Baked Beans
Hash Browns
Mushrooms
Lincolnshire Plant Based Sausage (VE)
Brioche Roll (VE)
G/F Roll (VE)

Thursday Dinner Menu

Sausage Man Bratwurst, Sub Roll *(or Gluten Free Alternative)*, Cajun Tater Tots, Fried Onions, Crispy Onions

Choose one:
Original Pork (GF)
OR
Turkey Hotdog (GF, Halal)
OR
Plant Based Bratwhurst (GF, VE, Halal)

Friday Dinner Menu

Japanese Katsu Curry*, Egg Noodles or Rice, Stir Fried Vegetables

Choose one:
Breaded Chicken (Halal)
OR
Chargrilled Chicken (GF)
OR
Plant Based Chicken Strips (Halal, VE)
* Not Gluten Free





Saturday Dinner Menu

Hong Kong Style Sweet & Sour, Vegetable Rice, Prawn Crackers

Choose one:
Battered Chicken (Halal)
OR
Chargrilled Chicken (GF)
OR
Vegetable Spring Rolls (Halal, VE)

Sunday Dinner Menu

Pie, Mash Potato, Peas, Carrots, Gravy
(GF, V, Halal)

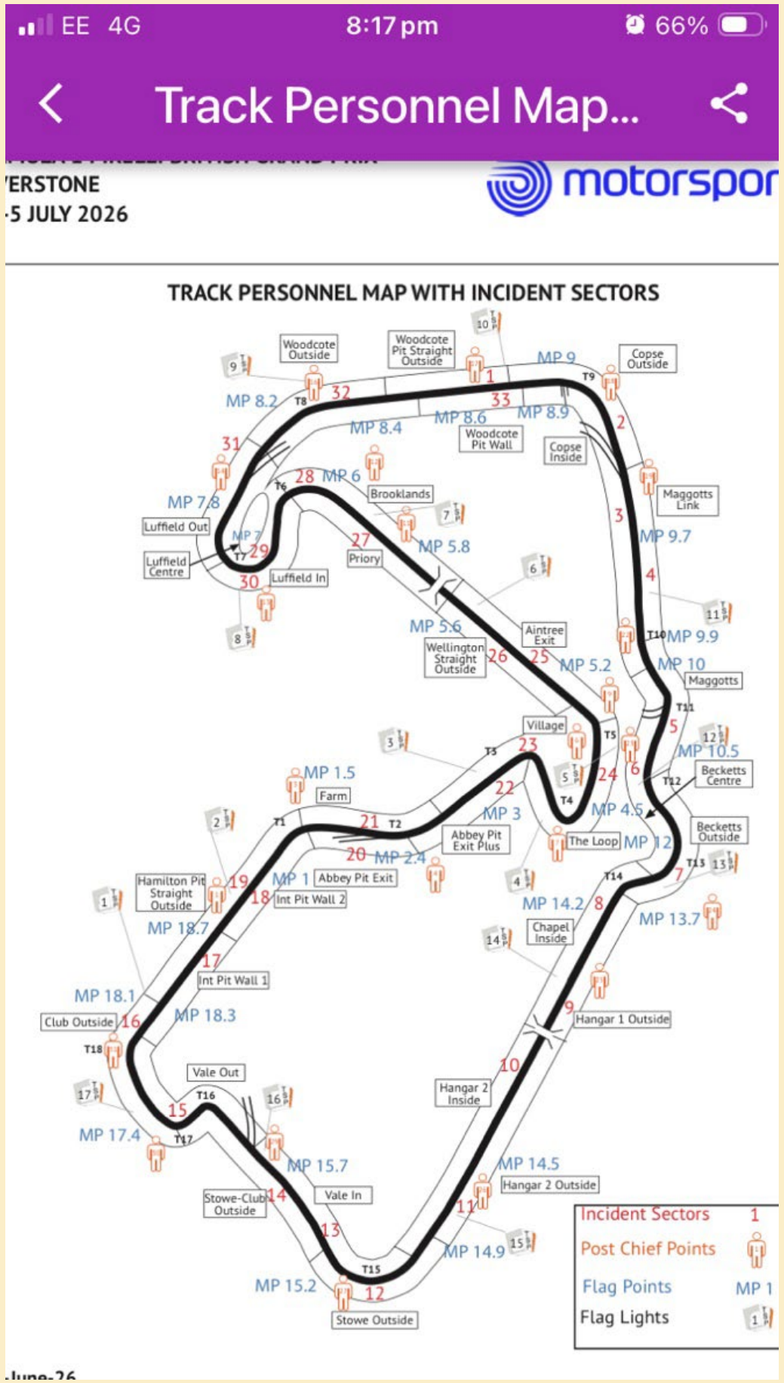
Choose one:
Minced Beef & Onion*
OR
Plant Based Cottage Pie (Gluten Free, VE, Halal)
* Not suitable for Gluten Free, Vegan, or Halal diets.

High Speed Test Day

- On Thursday 2 July 2026 I was allocated to Post 5.8 for the high-speed test day.
- I was mainly involved in the electronic light panel testing
- After the session finished, may of the teams cycled or walked around the track







High Speed Test Day

- Visitors and others around the track



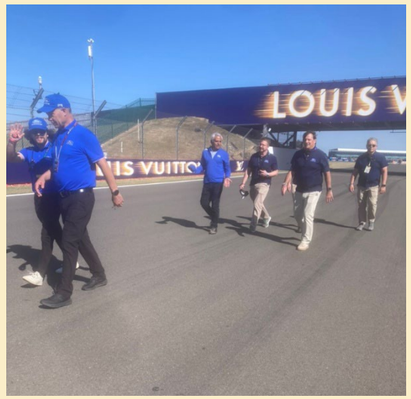
Alex Albon (Williams) cycling around the track



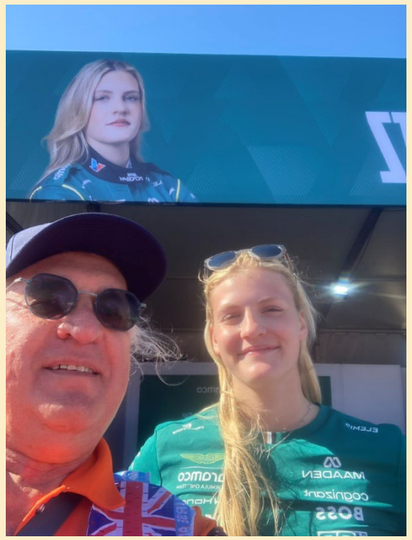
Rafaela Ferreira –
Red Bull's F1 Woman's Academy



Tom Kristensen –
9 times winner at 24 Hours Le Mans



Team Cadillac doing a walk-a-bout



Mathilda Plaatz –
Aston Martin's F1 Woman's Academy

01 · THE HERITAGE

SILVERSTONE'S HERITAGE MADE EVERY VIEW FEEL HISTORICALLY CHARGED

Silverstone hosted the first Formula One Grand Prix championship race in May 1950, won by Giuseppe "Nino" Farina in an Alfa Romeo in front of the watching King George VI.

Jack Brabham won the British Grand Prix in 1959, which was part of his first World Championship title, and secured a second victory there in 1960.



The Circuit turned racing history bucket list into a lived dream



Copse Out Team – Flag Post 9.7 / 19



Copse Out Flags: Helen Johns Yellow; Stan Jodeikin Blue

The Circuit turned racing history bucket list into a lived dream

The NATO phonetic alphabet code of Alpha Bravo etc had Oscar at Copse entry gate !





Beware, flake cone cost £8 ! That’s $16 !
Maccas $1.35 !!!

And then there are the Trackside Houses..... behind Copse



Owners buy a **125-year commercial lease** and are permitted to stay in their property for up to 60 nights per year.

For the rest of the year, the properties are integrated into a luxury 5-star hotel portfolio managed by Silverstone Estates with the owners receiving a percentage of the rental income.

3 to 4-Bedroom "Trackside" Residences:

These premium homes feature direct private roof terraces overlooking Copse, Maggots, and Becketts, valued between £2.2 million and £3.4 million ($4.4 and $6.8 million)

F1 British Grand Prix Weekend: Can cost upwards of **£42,000 for the weekend**



Racing weekend format

Qualifying turned every lap into a test of precision

- Practice 1
- Sprint Qualifying
- Sprint Race
- Race Qualifying
- Race



Sprint Race Podium

1. Kimi Antonelli
2. Lewis Hamilton
3. Lando Norris

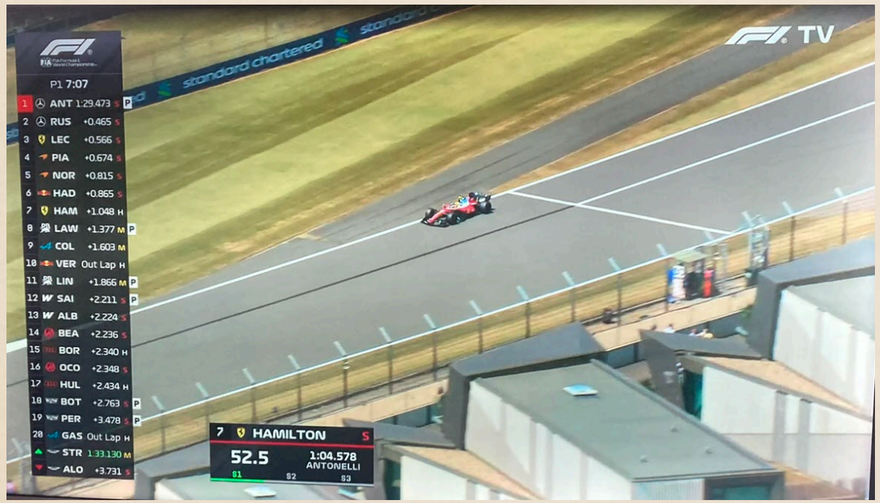
Race day turned the venue into one shared emotional experience

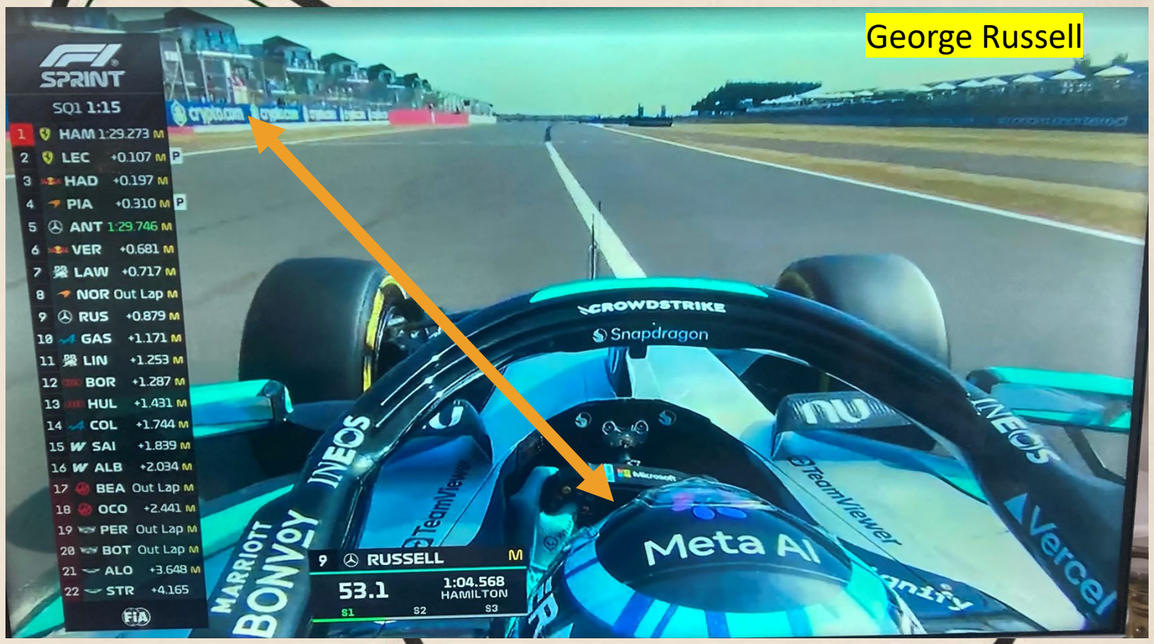


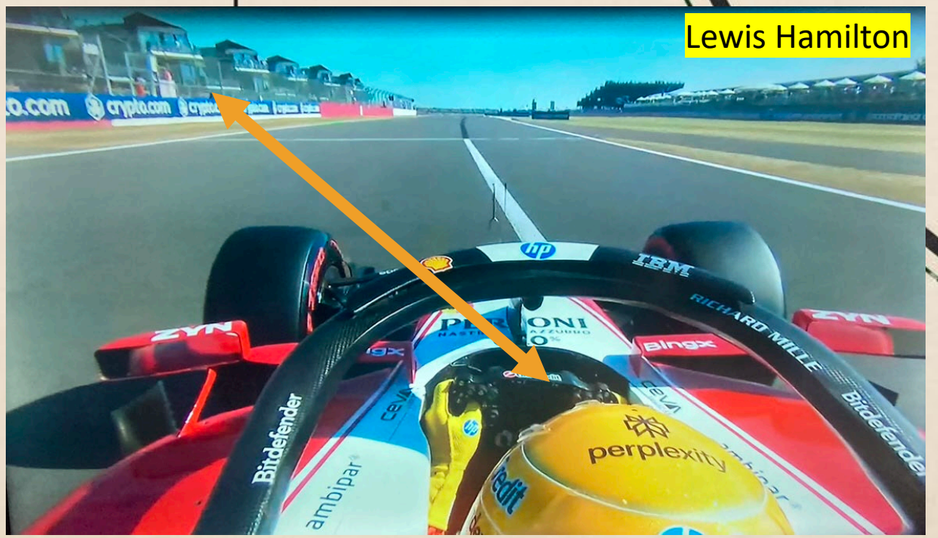


The view of Post 9.7 from an F1 car

- **Approach Speed:** Cars approach Copse at about 190 mph (305 km/h).
- **Apex Speed:** Drivers hit the apex of the corner at roughly 180 mph (290 km/h).
- **G-Force:** The turn produces over 5g of lateral force on the drivers





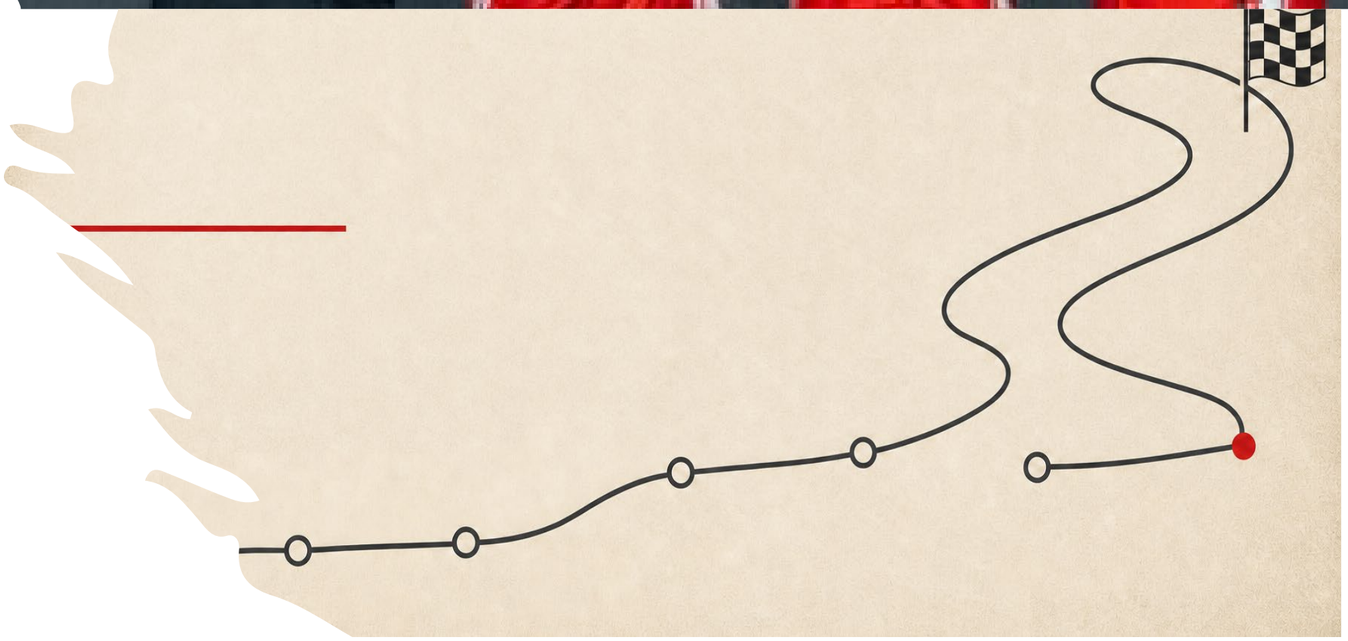


Winner takes all – The Podium



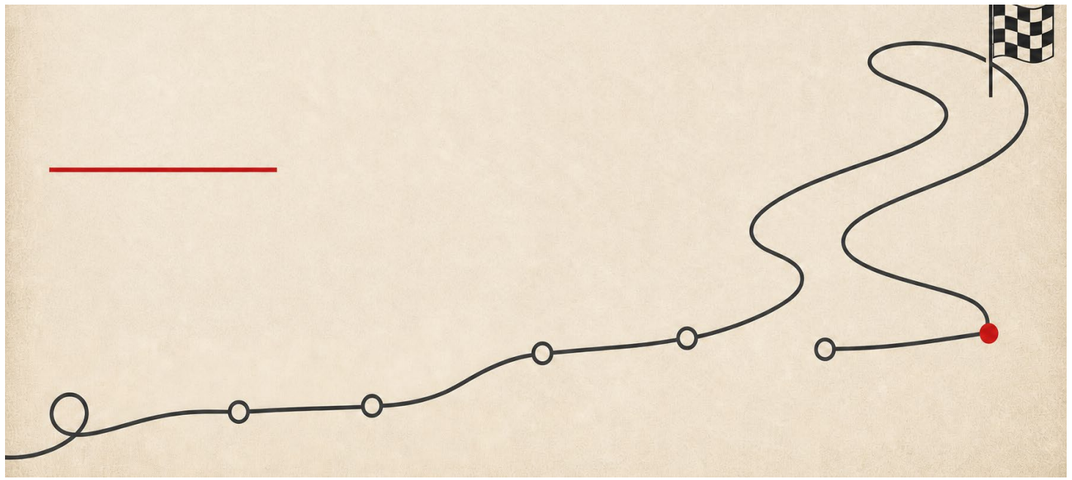
- The race was scheduled for 52 laps
- The safety car was deployed at the end of the race on **lap 48** after Max Verstappen crashed at Stowe.
- It remained out for the remaining **5 laps** (laps 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52) to the end of the race.
- Confusion arose on lap 51 when an erroneous "Safety Car In This Lap" message flashed due to a software error, but the safety car correctly stayed out for the final regulation lap.

- The podium features race winner Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) in first, George Russell (Mercedes) in second, and Lewis Hamilton (Ferrari) in third.



Some comparative statistics between Silverstone & Albert Park

- Minimum distance for an F1 race is 305 kms.
- Except Monaco is reduced to 260 kms (78 laps)



	Silverstone	Albert Park
Track length	5.891 kms	5.278 kms
Race laps	52	58
Race distance	306.198 kms	306.124 kms
Number of turns	18 corners	14 corners
Race Lap record	1:27.097 Max Verstappen 2020 GP	1:19.813 Charles Leclerc 2024 GP
Fastest time	1:24.303 Lewis Hamilton 2020 Qualifying	1:15.096 Lando Norris 2025 Qualifying
Crowd record	564,000 spectators – 2026 GP	483,934 spectators – 2026 GP

I left Silverstone with more than memories of a Race

