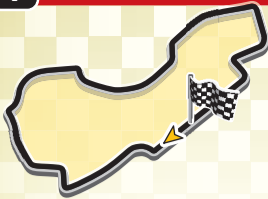


# AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 RACES

## 1 AUSTRALIA

March 16



Albert Park, Melbourne

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

Formula One favourite but race faces an uncertain future with pressure from Bernie Ecclestone for it to be held at night.

First GP	1996
Laps	58 x 5.303km
Spectator capacity	80,000
Top speed	325kmh
Lap record	1m 24.125s (Michael Schumacher, 2004)
2007 winner	Kimi Raikkonen

## 2 MALAYSIA

March 23



Sepang International Circuit, Kuala Lumpur

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

High humidity makes this a strength-sapping race. Wants to switch to a night format from 2009.

First GP	1999
Laps	56 x 5.543km
Spectator capacity	130,000
Top speed	330kmh
Lap record	1m 34.223s (Juan Pablo Montoya, 2004)
2007 winner	Fernando Alonso

## 3 BAHRAIN

April 6



Bahrain International Circuit, Sakhir

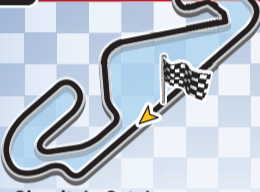
### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

The first and only race in the Middle East, until Abu Dhabi makes its debut next year. Sand can be a problem for drivers and their cars here.

First GP	2004
Laps	57 x 5.412km
Spectator capacity	50,000
Top speed	315kmh
Lap record	1m 30.252s (Michael Schumacher, 2004)
2007 winner	Felipe Massa

## 4 SPAIN

April 27



Circuit de Catalunya, Barcelona

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

The most familiar circuit to all the teams, who regularly test there.

First GP	1991
Laps	66 x 4.655km
Spectator capacity	107,000
Top speed	325kmh
Lap record	1m 22.680s (Felipe Massa, 2007)
2007 winner	Felipe Massa

## 5 TURKEY

May 11



Istanbul Park, Kurtkoy

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

One of three anti-clockwise circuits in the championship, the other being Interlagos in Brazil. Likened to Spa for its fast and undulating layout, some 67 per cent of each lap is spent at full throttle.

First GP	2005
Laps	58 x 5.338km
Spectator capacity	110,000
Top speed	320kmh
Lap record	1m 24.770s (Juan Pablo Montoya, 2005)
2007 winner	Felipe Massa

## 6 MONACO

May 25



Circuit de Monaco, Monte Carlo

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

Qualifying is crucial due to the difficulty of overtaking in the tight and twisty streets. The slowest race on the calendar, but still a thrill because this is where the glitz and glamour reaches their height.

First GP	1950
Laps	78 x 3.340km
Spectator capacity	120,000
Top speed	305kmh
Lap record	1m 14.439s (Michael Schumacher, 2004)
2007 winner	Fernando Alonso

## 7 CANADA

June 8



Circuit Gilles Villeneuve, Montreal

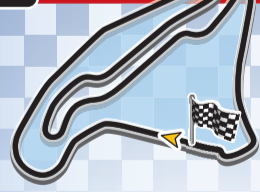
### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

Named after the late Ferrari driver and father of 1997 champion Jacques, this is now the only North American race. The circuit on a man-made island in the St Lawrence Seaway can be dusty in practice due to lack of use and puts a heavy burden on brakes.

First GP	1978
Laps	70 x 4.361km
Spectator capacity	100,000
Top speed	348kmh
Lap record	1m 13.622s (Rubens Barichello, 2004)
2007 winner	Lewis Hamilton

## 8 FRANCE

June 22



Circuit de Nevers, Magny-Cours

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

Unlikely to remain on the calendar for much longer, with Ecclestone pushing for a Paris Grand Prix. The circuit is good, with a very smooth surface, but its location in the middle of rural France plays against it.

First GP	1991
Laps	70 x 4.411km
Spectator capacity	120,000
Top speed	320kmh
Lap record	1m 15.377s (Michael Schumacher, 2004)
2007 winner	Kimi Raikkonen

## 9 BRITAIN

July 6



Silverstone Circuit, Towcester

### DOWN THE STRAIGHT

Another circuit in need of a revamp and regularly threatened by Ecclestone, despite having hosted the very first championship race in 1950.

First GP	1950
Laps	60 x 5.141km
Spectator capacity	90,000
Top speed	335kmh
Lap record	1m 18.739s (Michael Schumacher, 2004)
2007 winner	Kimi Raikkonen