

2026 Bahrain Grand Prix in Malaysia - Preview

Hinwil, 29 September 2026 – Audi Revolut F1 Team heads to Sepang for the Bahrain Grand Prix, the second leg of the Asian triple-header. With Formula One returning to the Malaysian circuit for the first time in almost a decade, the venue – a classic track known for changing weather conditions and humidity – will pose a new challenge for the team. After introducing a new package in Baku, the focus will be on continuing to fine-tune it and extracting maximum performance from the R26 over the weekend.

Allan McNish, Racing Director: "Sepang will pose a brand-new challenge for us as a team, and it will be interesting to see how the weekend will develop. Baku was another step on our journey of growth: we went close to scoring points, and we saw another good display of operations, with fast pit stops and solid teamwork. We are all looking forward to seeing how our package will work on a more traditional track layout, one that should more accurately show the benefit of our upgrades. We felt this circuit should suit us better, so the aim is to put ourselves in a stronger position and fight for points, after having narrowly missing out on them last weekend."

Nico Hulkenberg (Car 27): "It's cool to head back to Sepang this year. This circuit has been around for a long time and it's one we haven't raced at for a while. It's not a track that relies on big headline corners, but there are a few sections that are quite technical and reward getting the details right. Add the heat and the humidity, and it always creates an interesting challenge. We learned a few useful things with the new package in Baku, and now it's about building on that and extracting more from it."

Gabriel Bortoleto (Car 5): "There were some positives with the new package we introduced in Baku, so I'm looking forward to seeing what we can do with it in Sepang. It's a new circuit for me, and it will be important to make the most of the practice sessions to learn everything about it, but I'm excited to get out there. We've been close to the points over the last few races, so hopefully we'll be able to take another step in the right direction and be in the mix again."

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Audi Revolut F1 Team is the official factory team of Audi, as the brand enters the FIA Formula 1 World Championship for the first time in 2026. This project, in which Audi will create its own hybrid drive system ('power unit') developed in Germany, represents the ultimate expression of the manufacturer's 'Vorsprung durch Technik' philosophy and embodies a long-term commitment to compete at the pinnacle of motorsport with the clear objective of challenging for world championships by 2030. Audi Revolut F1 Team is based in three locations: the power unit is developed by Audi Formula Racing GmbH at the Audi Competence Center Motorsport in Neuburg, Germany; the chassis is engineered and race operations are managed from the state-of-the-art facilities of Audi Motorsport AG in Hinwil, Switzerland; while the Audi Motorsport Technology Centre UK in Bicester, United Kingdom, provides a foothold in the heart of 'Motorsport Valley', with direct access to top F1 talent and key strategic partners. This integrated structure provides complete control over the project, embedding a culture of precision, innovation, and relentless performance. Audi's entry is strategically timed to coincide with new Formula 1 regulations focused on increased electrification, as the electric share of the hybrid drive is raised to almost 50%, and the introduction of 100% sustainable fuels. The entry into Formula 1, one of the most important platforms in the world, serves as a high-tech catalyst for the entire Audi brand, acting as a global stage to demonstrate technological leadership and connect with new, diverse audiences by creating cultural impact that resonates far beyond the race track.

