

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery

Minister for Trade

Minister for Business Precincts

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Racing



Thursday, 5 August 2021

OCTOBER FEST: SUPERCARS, SUPERBIKES HEAD TO PHILLIP ISLAND

A weekend of elite motorsport action headlined by a round of the marquee Supercars series will attract thousands of visitors to the famous Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit and the wider Bass Coast region in October.

In addition to the Supercars' Phillip Island Supersprint, the 22-24 October Bass Coast Festival of Motorsport will boast Australian Superbikes and Porsche Carrera Cup championship racing. Further attractions could be added with talks with other championship bodies continuing.

The four and two-wheel bonanza will provide a feast of racing action and a major fillip for local businesses in the wake of the cancellation of the 2021 Australian MotoGP due to the ongoing impact of the global pandemic on international motorsport.

The Australian MotoGP is contracted to be held at Phillip Island until at least 2026.

The Andrews Labor Government has consistently backed Phillip Island's world-class tourism industry, including by locking away the Australian MotoGP and investing almost \$50 million in the Penguin Parade visitor centre.

The Bass Coast has been one of the major beneficiaries of the *Regional Travel Voucher Scheme*, with some 8,850 vouchers claimed and an estimated \$13.4 million spent by holders of those vouchers.

A fourth round of the *Regional Travel Voucher Scheme* involving 80,000 vouchers, each valued at \$200, will be released soon to encourage more Victorians to spend time on the Bass Coast and other regions.

Further information on the Bass Coast Festival of Motorsport including ticketing will be available soon at grandprix.com.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula

"This new weekend of motorsport action is going to be a major winner for race fans and will provide a real boost for businesses across the Bass Coast."

"We'll see top drivers and riders in multiple championships races on a circuit that fans love to come to."

Quotes attributable to Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale

"If we have learnt anything this year it is we need to adjust to changing circumstances and think differently on our road to recovery."

"This festival is an example of just that and we look forward to welcoming visitors from near and far to our beautiful corner of Victoria in October."

Quote attributable to Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO Andrew Westacott

"What a bonanza to have championship rounds of Supercars leading into Bathurst and one of the final rounds of the Australian Superbike Championship."

Quote attributable to Australian Supercars CEO Sean Seamer

"Our fans and drivers absolutely love the Phillip Island race track so it's exciting to be getting back there for the first time since 2019."

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