

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



Sunday, 10 April 2022

MASSIVE CROWDS LAP UP MELBOURNE'S GRAND PRIX ACTION

The Formula 1® Australian Grand Prix 2022 is proving to be one of the biggest motorsport events held in Melbourne, with an expected crowd of up to 130,000 set to race through the gates at Albert Park today and total attendance over four days close to record numbers.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula today joined representatives of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation at Albert Park to celebrate the successful return of racing to Albert Park.

Over 290,000 people are estimated to have already poured through the gates over the last three days, with five new grandstands constructed to cater for the increased demand.

Ticket holders have been spoilt for choice with turbocharged action both on and off the track. Fans will today continue to enjoy trackside entertainment, live music, food and wine experiences, plus plenty of family friendly activities on offer.

Lights go out for today's main race at 3pm, with the eyes of the world set to witness the world's best drivers – including Australia's own Daniel Ricciardo – racing in Melbourne for the first time since 2019, with the newly modified and resurfaced circuit delivering more competitive racing.

The Andrews Labor Government continues to support international major events like the Grand Prix because they are a significant economic driver for the Victorian economy, promoting Melbourne to the world and providing a boost to accommodation and hospitality businesses.

The event contributes to the vibrancy and livability of Victoria and provides significant benefits to local businesses and creates jobs for Victorians.

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

"It's been fantastic to see hundreds of thousands of fans pour through the gates at Albert Park over the last three days as the Australian Grand Prix returns to Melbourne."

"Melbourne is humming with so much to see and do. From comedy shows, theatre, live music or the best food and wine experiences – Victoria is the place to be."

"There is only one place to see Formula One in Australia and that's right here in Melbourne. This year's event is one of the biggest ever held – and that's a win for Victorian jobs."