

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Monday, 23 February 2026

## FREE F1 FAN FESTIVAL TO TAKE OVER FEDERATION SQUARE

Labor is bringing back the F1 Melbourne Fan Festival in 2026, providing free, family-friendly fun.

Minister Dimopoulos today announced the free festival will be at a new iconic location: Federation Square.

This will extend the thrill of the FORMULA 1 AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX beyond the circuit gates and into the heart of the city, making it cheaper and easier for more Victorians to be a part of the action.

The festival will be open from 10am to 10pm from Friday, 6 March through to Sunday, 8 March.

Fans will be able to watch the on-track action of the Formula 1<sup>®</sup>, Formula 2<sup>™</sup>, Formula 3<sup>™</sup>, and Supercars on the big screen from provided seating.

The three-day festival will feature live crosses direct from the Albert Park Grand Prix Circuit, and exclusive content outside of regular broadcast coverage.

This includes the Melbourne Walk and driver interviews from superstars like Melbourne's own Oscar Piastri and McLaren teammate Lando Norris.

Between broadcasts, fans can enjoy racing simulators and access the full range of F1<sup>®</sup> team merchandise.

Fans can also experience the thrill of stepping onto the top of the podium and can snap a selfie with their favourite driver at the virtual F1 Driver Selfie activation.

For the first time, fans can also get up close to the next generation F1<sup>®</sup> show car.

Food and beverage options will also be available, ensuring fans can stay fuelled while taking in the action.

To learn more, visit [grandprix.com.au/event/fan-festival](https://grandprix.com.au/event/fan-festival).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

*"The Formula 1 Grand Prix doesn't just create excitement – it brings real economic benefits – drawing visitors from around the country and the world, and supporting local businesses, hotels and jobs."*

*"The free fan festival is a fantastic opportunity for Victorians of all ages to soak up the atmosphere of this iconic event, right here in their own backyard."*

### Quotes attributable to Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO Travis Auld

*"There's something really special about seeing the city come alive during race week, and the F1 Melbourne Fan Festival is all about sharing that vibe. Whether you've got a ticket to the race or not, we want to give everyone a chance to experience the atmosphere and excitement of the event all across Melbourne."*

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