



PRESS RELEASE

MOTORSPORT

Phillip Island (Australia), October 18, 2023

Guru by Gryfyn Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix **The MICHELIN Power Slick and Power Rain tyre ranges** **face the most asymmetrical track of the season**

- Uncertain weather awaits the entire paddock in Australia, as even under the sun, the circuit overlooking the Pacific Ocean is regularly swept by gusts of cold wind.
- The highly asymmetrical layout and abrasive asphalt of Phillip Island require specific tyres.
- The Australian circuit lap record still stands from the period before MICHELIN Power Slick tyres. If the weather is good, Michelin hopes to see it fall this weekend.

The 16th round of the 2023 MotpGP™ season - the Guru by Gryfyn Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix - takes place in Australia, on the Phillip Island circuit from 20 to 22 October.

At Phillip Island the riders will find themselves on a real cliff. To keep them firmly glued to this 4.4 km ribbon of asphalt perched on the Bass Strait – a stretch of sea which separates the island of Tasmania from the state of Victoria – Michelin will provide them with a range MICHELIN Power Slicks designed specifically for this circuit. It consists of three asymmetrical front specifications in Soft, Medium and Hard compounds and two asymmetrical rear specifications in Soft and Medium. The difference between the two compounds of the tyres is the widest of the season, with a significantly reinforced left side. This type of allocation is a rarity during the season, as we only use an entirely asymmetrical range of slick tyres on two other circuits - the Sachsenring (Germany) and Valencia (Spain).

The decision to bring such specific tyres to Australia, with harder rubber on the left, is imposed by the unique conditions found on this circuit. The layout, ridden in an anti-clockwise direction, is characterized by seven left and five right turns applying highly asymmetrical stresses on the tyres. Additionally, the surface is very abrasive. The endurance of the rubber compounds is the key factor to meet these requirements, but the quick warm-up of the tyres is also crucial, as the shoulders of the tyres can cool very quickly with the cold wind coming from the Antarctic.



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As it's the beginning of spring in Australia, this season is also conducive to rain. In case of showers, the MICHELIN Power Rain tyres are available in Soft and Medium compounds, the fronts being symmetrical and the rears asymmetrical, again with a harder left side.

*"At Phillip Island, the combination of the highly asymmetrical layout and the changing weather frequently pushes the tyres to their limits," says **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin Motorsport Two-Wheel Manager. "As with previous visits, we have refined a specific range of tyres for this circuit. By working on the rubber compounds, we offer riders a level of asymmetry unprecedented in the rest of the range. On the other hand, the internal structure remains what we consider 'standard', the layout not requiring any particular adaptations. While the track lap record remains in our sights, rider safety is our top priority. In Australia, the versatility of tyres and the responsiveness of the teams will be crucial, with very changeable weather and cool temperatures, the right choice of tyres will be essential. Grip, endurance, longevity, consistency and fast warm-up: this track requires the 'complete' tyre!"*

Activities will begin on Friday 20 October with a first Free Practice session in the morning, and the Practice session valid for qualifying in the afternoon. Saturday morning action will begin with a second Free Practice session, before Q1 and Q2 and the Tissot Sprint, which will take place in the afternoon at 3:00 p.m. local time. After the morning Warm Up, the riders will start the 27-lap Guru by Gryfyn Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix on Sunday 22 October at 2:00 p.m. (local time).

About Michelin

Michelin's ambition is to sustainably improve its customers' mobility. The leader in the mobility sector, Michelin designs, manufactures, and distributes the tires best suited to their requirements and uses as well as services and solutions to improve transport efficacy. Michelin also puts forward offers that allow its customers to enjoy unique moments when traveling. Michelin also develops high-technology equipment intended for multiple fields. Based in Clermont-Ferrand, Michelin is present in 175 countries, employs 132,200 people and operates 67 tire factories that, together, produced approximately 167 million tires in 2022. (www.michelin.com).

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