

Paris (France), April 1st, 2026

MICHELIN Grand Prix de France
Michelin highlights its strong roots in Le Mans and unveils its initiatives for the 2026 French Grand Prix

- **A unique and strategic presence at Le Mans:** The French Grand Prix is a flagship event for Michelin, combining strong territorial heritage, highly engaged fans, and a powerful human connection with spectators, teams, and employees.
- **Tire expertise at the heart of MotoGP performance:** On a demanding circuit like Le Mans, Michelin demonstrates its key role by delivering tires that enhance performance, consistency, strategy, and riders' ability to adapt.
- **A 2026 evolution focused on efficiency and responsibility:** Michelin is optimizing its tire allocation to reduce resource consumption while maintaining a high level of performance and offering riders greater strategic flexibility.

On the occasion of the official presentation of the MICHELIN Grand Prix of France 2026, Michelin reaffirms its historic attachment to the Le Mans circuit and presents the evolution of its MotoGP tire offering, combining performance, efficiency, and environmental responsibility.

The French Grand Prix, a flagship event for Michelin

For Michelin, the French Grand Prix holds a unique place on the MotoGP calendar. Held at Le Mans, a historic territory for the Group, the event embodies both the excellence of motorsport and the passion of a loyal and highly engaged crowd—the largest of the season.

This close connection is fully expressed through the relationship with fans, as well as with Michelin employees, many of whom are invited to attend as part of recognition initiatives. It also extends throughout the year thanks to the work carried out with teams and riders across all championship circuits.

A decade of innovation in MotoGP showcased in the fan village

For the 2026 edition, Michelin will offer fans a dedicated space in the village themed "A decade of Michelin in MotoGP." This initiative highlights ten years of commitment, technological innovation, and close collaboration with teams.

Through this experience, Michelin aims to share its expertise, showcase the progress made, and open perspectives on the future of its involvement in motorcycle racing.

A demanding circuit that showcases tire performance

The Bugatti Circuit at Le Mans stands out for its technical demands. With heavy braking zones, strong acceleration phases, and frequently changing weather conditions, it is particularly revealing of tire performance.

As demonstrated by Johann Zarco's victory in 2025, performance depends not only on speed, but also on tire management, race analysis, and strategic adaptation.

With this in mind, Michelin develops solutions that enable races where performance, consistency, and strategy are key differentiators.

Edition 2026: an optimized allocation serving efficiency

As part of its continuous improvement approach, Michelin is evolving its tire allocation in 2026 to combine sporting performance with resource optimization.

At Le Mans, as on most circuits, riders will have access to two specifications for both front and rear tires. Compared to the previous season, one front option has been removed, while the number of tires per specification has increased from five to seven.

*"For us, the French Grand Prix is never just another race," said **Piero Taramasso**, Michelin motorcycle motorsport manager. "Le Mans is Michelin's home: a place of passion, motorsport, and a very strong connection with the public. It is also a unique event thanks to the engagement of the fans and the importance of the human dimension, which we share with them as well as with our employees and partners throughout the season."*

From a sporting standpoint, Le Mans is a particularly demanding circuit for tires. Management often makes the difference, as we saw last year. With the evolution of our 2026 allocation, our objective is clear: to do more with less, improve efficiency, and give riders the conditions to fully express performance, strategy, and adaptability."

This evolution reduces the total number of tires produced, transported, and used, while providing teams with greater operational flexibility thanks to increased availability of the most relevant specification.

A strong partnership supporting the French Grand Prix

The 2026 edition marks the conclusion of a three-year cycle during which Michelin served as title partner of the French Grand Prix.

On this occasion, Michelin would like to thank Claude Michy and the PHA teams, as well as the Automobile Club de l'Ouest, a long-standing partner of the Group.

The quality of this collaboration is a key factor in the success and visibility of the event.

Michelin ready for an intense race weekend

As the Grand Prix approaches, Michelin is ready to support teams and riders in maximizing the performance of its tires.

True to its reputation, the Le Mans circuit is once again expected to deliver a spectacular and highly competitive race.

About Michelin

Michelin is building a world-leading manufacturer of life-changing composites and experiences. Pioneering engineered materials for more than 130 years, Michelin is uniquely positioned to make decisive contributions to human progress and to a more sustainable world. Drawing on its deep know-how in polymer composites, Michelin is constantly innovating to manufacture high-quality tires and components for critical applications in demanding fields as varied as mobility, construction, aeronautics, low-carbon energies, and healthcare. The care placed in its products and deep customer knowledge inspire Michelin to offer the finest experiences. This spans from providing data- and AI-based connected solutions for professional fleets to recommending outstanding restaurants and hotels curated by the MICHELIN Guide. Headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand, France, Michelin is present in 175 countries and employs 129,800 people. (www.michelin.com).



Follow all our news on

X@Michelin



MICHELIN GROUP MEDIA RELATIONS

 112, avenue Kléber - 75116 Paris

 +33 (0) 1 45 66 22 22 | 7 days a week  www.michelin.com

 @Michelin