Paris (France), November 25, 2026

Motul Grand Prix of Valencia
Michelin prepares to close its MotoGP™ chapter after eleven seasons at the pinnacle of motorcycle racing

- From 27 to 29 November, the Ricardo Tormo Circuit in Valencia (Spain) will host the final round of the 2026 FIM MotoGP World Championship and Michelin's last Grand Prix as the exclusive tyre supplier to the premier class, after eleven seasons of involvement.
- Michelin will retain the three front tyre compounds already used in Valencia in 2025. At the rear, the 2025 Medium becomes the 2026 Soft, while the Medium features a compound one step harder to improve resistance to wear.
- On Thursday, 26 November, Michelin will bring the MotoGP community together in the Ricardo Tormo Circuit paddock. Matthieu Bonardel and Piero Taramasso will address guests to celebrate these eleven seasons and thank everyone who has contributed to them.

From 27 to 29 November 2026, the Ricardo Tormo Circuit in Cheste will host the Motul Grand Prix of Valencia, the final round of the FIM MotoGP World Championship. The event will mark the end of Michelin's involvement as the exclusive tyre supplier to the premier class. Since its return in 2016, the French tyre manufacturer has supported every rider, team and manufacturer on the grid over eleven seasons.

For this final event, Michelin is retaining its 2025 front tyre allocation while revising its rear tyre offering. The 4.005km circuit runs anti-clockwise and features nine left-hand and five right-hand corners. This layout places particularly high demands on the left shoulder of the tyres, especially through the long corner leading onto the pit straight. Track temperatures, which can be relatively cool at this time of year (between 20°C and 25°C), also make it particularly important to bring the less frequently used right shoulder up to operating temperature.

At the front, the riders will have access to the three Michelin Power Slick specifications used in 2025 – Soft, Medium and Hard – all featuring an asymmetric design with a reinforced left shoulder. Alongside the Sachsenring (Germany) and Phillip Island (Australia), Valencia is the third circuit where both front and rear tyres are asymmetric.

At the rear, the 2025 Soft has been withdrawn from the allocation. It will be replaced by last year's Medium, which will be available alongside a new Medium featuring a compound one step harder.

Developed to offer greater resistance to wear, this compound is designed to give riders more flexibility in managing their rear tyre as the laps unfold.

Piero Taramasso, Michelin Two-Wheel Motorsport Manager

"*At Valencia, the left shoulder of the rear tyre is subjected to particularly high loads. It is a relatively short circuit featuring tight corners and a long left-hander leading onto the short pit straight. Last year, all tyre specifications were used during the Tissot Sprint, while for the Grand Prix the riders opted for the Hard front and Medium rear. This year's Medium rear will be one step harder, as we want to give the riders more scope to manage tyre wear. From Friday onwards, we will work closely with each rider and their team to identify the tyre combination best suited to their bike, riding style and track conditions. As the race is taking place two weeks later in the season, we expect temperatures to be even lower.*"

Celebrating eleven seasons in the paddock on Thursday evening

On the eve of the opening practice sessions, Michelin will bring the entire paddock community together for a reception at its hospitality unit at the Ricardo Tormo Circuit on Thursday, 26 November. Matthieu Bonardel, Director of Michelin Motorsport, and Piero Taramasso will address guests to celebrate the eleven seasons since Michelin returned to MotoGP. They will pay tribute to the riders, teams, manufacturers and championship organisers, as well as to the Michelin personnel who have contributed to this commitment, both in the garages and at the French tyre manufacturer's research centres and workshops.

The records to beat

All four benchmark times were established at the 2025 edition of the event. Marco Bezzecchi (Aprilia Racing) holds the all-time circuit lap record of 1'28.809, set during qualifying. He also established the Grand Prix race duration record of 40'54.458 over 27 laps. Raúl Fernández (Trackhouse MotoGP Team) set the fastest race lap in 1'29.976. In the Tissot Sprint, Álex Márquez (BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP) set the benchmark time of 19'37.490 over 13 laps.

The weekend schedule

The MotoGP riders will take to the track on Friday, 27 November, for the opening free practice session from 10:45am to 11:30am, followed by Practice from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. On Saturday, 28 November, the second free practice session will run from 10:10am to 10:40am, ahead of qualifying, with Q1 from 10:50am to 11:05am and Q2 from 11:15am to 11:30am. The 13-lap Tissot Sprint will get underway at 3:00pm. On Sunday, 29 November, the warm-up session will take place from 9:40am to 9:50am, ahead of the 27-lap Grand Prix, which will start at 2:00pm.

Following Valencia, Michelin will continue its involvement in motorcycle racing by becoming the exclusive tyre supplier to the FIM Superbike World Championship (WorldSBK) from the 2027 season onwards.

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 122,600 people.

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