

Monday, 14th July, 2025

## MotoGP STARS WHET APPETITE FOR AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX ON SHORT VISIT TO SPIELBERG

2025 Austrian Motorcycle Grand Prix | 15th - 17th August | Red Bull Ring | Press conference | Álex Márquez | Brad Binder | Pedro Acosta | Miguel Oliveira | Carlos Ezpeleta | Gust | Auinger | First-time staging of Red Bull Legends Parade at MotoGP in Spielberg | Jonas Folger and Red Bull KTM RC16 Two-Seater | Racing and entertainment | Tickets

On Monday, the Red Bull Ring was the venue for a worthy prologue to the 2025 Austrian Motorcycle Grand Prix. A star-studded line-up of MotoGP riders and the roar of powerful machines whetted the appetite for the race weekend in August. Spielberg hosted title contenders Álex Márquez, Brad Binder, Pedro Acosta and Miguel Oliveira, as well as Dorna Sports Director Carlos Ezpeleta. While Jonas Folger set the scene on the Grand Prix circuit, providing taxi rides on a Red Bull KTM RC16 Two-Seater, Austrian motorcycle legend Gustl Auinger made a major announcement concerning the inclusion of the Red Bull Legends Parade in the MotoGP events programme for the first time. On the weekend of 15th - 17th August, Steiermark province will once again host the standout fixture of the Central European MotoGP calendar. For detailed information and to purchase tickets, visit <u>www.redbullring.com</u>.

**From the Sachsenring to the Styrian Alps**: On Monday, immediately after the race weekend at the Sachsenring, four of the MotoGP riders travelled directly to the Mur Valley in Steiermark province. For the benefit of their fans in Central Europe, the contestants shared their impressions so far and described what they associate with the Austrian GP, what they remember most about it and why they always enjoy coming back to the Red Bull Ring. To keep their hand in until the next race, Brad Binder, Pedro Acosta and Miguel Oliveira competed in a short but intense MiniGP race at the Red Bull Ring Driving Center, which was waved off by Álex Márquez.

## MOTORCYCLING GRAND PRIX OF AUSTRIA 2025 | Comments from the press conference | Spielberg | 14th July

**Álex MÁRQUEZ** (ESP, BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP): "I'm very happy to be here, straight from the Sachsenring after a great comeback from my recent injury. I wasn't expecting second place. That was really important in ensuring that we haven't lost too many world championship points. After the summer break, we'll travel to the Red Bull Ring in high spirits and well rested. I always recommend the Red Bull Ring to any friends who show an interest in coming to a European race. There's something magical about this track, surrounded by mountains. I'm really looking forward to it. And riding a Ducati bike, the chances of winning are also good."

**Brad BINDER** (ZAF, Red Bull KTM Factory Racing): "The Red Bull Ring has always been a good track for me. I won here in Moto2 and then celebrated my maiden MotoGP victory here as well. There's nothing better than winning the home Grand Prix for KTM at the Red Bull Ring. That was definitely the highlight of my career to date. I love racing here and the Austrian Grand Prix is the closest thing to a home race for me. The whole atmosphere is fantastic; it always feels like there's that extra something that makes the race weekend here so special – just walking in and experiencing the museum vibe in the Welcome Center. Lots of friends want to come here, and they ask me if I can get them tickets."

**Pedro ACOSTA** (ESP, Red Bull KTM Factory Racing): "In Moto2, we were super-fast at the Red Bull Ring. Wearing lederhosen was the best way to celebrate my podium finish in 2023. I like it here when the grandstands are lit up in orange and the people cheer us on at KTM's home race. The support at the track is always overwhelming."

**Miguel OLIVEIRA** (PRT, Prima Pramac Yamaha MotoGP): "One of the best moments of my career came in Moto2 when I was riding in the orange livery of KTM. The biggest success came in 2020, when I seized the opportunity to overtake Jack [Miller] and Pol [Esparagró] in the last corner and chalk up my first MotoGP victory. Achieving this was

definitely the best day of my career. As Álex said, people don't expect to find a race track here in the middle of the Alps, right at the foot of a mountain. The tranquil backdrop is an impressive contrast. It creates one of the best locations and it's an amazing experience for fans to watch a race here."

**Carlos EZPELETA** (Sporting Director, Dorna Sports): "Austrian hospitality is probably the best in the world. The staff at the Red Bull Ring do a great job of making the teams feel at home. It's a race that you always mark in your calendar – highly recommended for the whole family and friends. The food and the scenery are fantastic. We've also had numerous great battles for victory at the Red Bull Ring. Five, six or even seven Grands Prix were decided in the last lap, for example the victories recorded by Brad and Miguel. Marc's [Márquez] battle with Dovi [Andrea Dovizioso] was also legendary. Austria is always good for a surprise. The fans have a lot of fun here thanks to the supporting programme, especially behind Turn 1, where there's always something interesting going on. Marc [Márquez] is having a sensational season, but four other riders have already notched up wins this year. It looks like Ducati have that little bit of extra power. The other teams are catching up. I'm convinced that KTM will give it their all in their home race. I hope we'll see a few surprises!"

**Thomas ÜBERALL** (General Manager, Red Bull Ring): "We've had so many exciting races at the Red Bull Ring in the past, especially with keenly fought contests in Turn 10, where victory has been decided by fractions of a second. The whole supporting programme that we put together makes the race weekends special for the fans – for example, the 'Austrian MopedGP' which is taking place for the second time this year. The riders are happy to come here because we place great emphasis on the hospitality that Austria is famous for."

**Red Bull Legends Parade to make MotoGP debut:** After unveiling the original race bike of New Zealander Simon Crafar, Austrian motorcycling luminary Gustl Auinger surprised everyone on Monday by announcing that the Red Bull Legends Parade would be part of the MotoGP support programme for the first time this year: "I am extremely pleased to be showcasing the 1998 Yamaha 500 today. Together with Dietrich Mateschitz, I attended the British Grand Prix at Donington Park when Simon Crafar won on this machine. I will never forget that occasion. I will cherish and care for the bike in my workshop over the next few weeks, and I am really looking forward to it making its grand appearance at this year's Austrian Grand Prix in August as part of the Red Bull Legends Parade. The fans are sure to enjoy seeing these motorcycles doing a lap of the circuit with their original riders in charge." In August, he will personally lead the way as numerous motorcycling legends transform the Red Bull Ring Spielberg into a seething cauldron of two-wheeler history, riding their racing machines from yesteryear. Among those currently confirmed as prepared to swing themselves onto their trusty steeds from back then are Giacomo Agostini, Luca Cadalora, Loris Capirossi, Simon Crafar, Andrea Dovizioso, Tom Lüthi, Toni Mang, Dani Pedrosa and Casey Stoner. The list of riders is constantly being updated.

**Three MotoGP fans take the ride of their lives:** On Monday, a dream came true for three MotoGP fans when they rode pillion on a thoroughbred racing machine. They were the lucky winners of the big prize in the competition of the year at the Red Bull Ring. With MotoGP test rider Jonas Folger in control, they experienced incredible G-forces, superhuman lean angles and the most unforgettable race taxi ride of their lives on the Red Bull KTM RC16 Two-Seater.

**Festival atmosphere and racing at its finest:** The Red Bull Ring in the heart of Steiermark province is the top address for motor racing supplemented by a first-class programme of off-track entertainment, which makes it the standout fixture of the Central European leg of the MotoGP calendar. In August, the world championship contestants will once again be showing athletic prowess and mastery of racing bikes that reach speeds of well over 300 km/h. Fans can look forward to a packed programme of entertainment on, off and even above the track, including concerts, stunt shows, air displays and show runs. MotoGP Bike City will be the venue for four days of entertainment, with a festival atmosphere and live music. Last but not least, fans can rub shoulders with all the motorcycle stars here, taking home autographs and selfies as souvenirs.

For information about the Motorcycle Grand Prix of Austria 2025 and to purchase tickets, visit <u>www.redbullring.com</u> or use the Red Bull Ring app.