



 2024
**THE GRAND PRIX OF
SOUTH AMERICA**
BUENOS AIRES TO CARTAGENA
30 DAY RALLY NOV 1 TO 30, 2024





"The very best" is how Sir Stirling Moss describes Juan Manuel Fangio. The legendary Argentine (pictured left) enjoyed a fantastic career in racing. In Formula One he scored 24 Grand Prix victories from just 51 starts. He tops nearly every poll that attempts to name the world's best, and it is easy to see why Moss refers to him as **"the greatest of all time."**



It was hailed as the greatest road race of its age and attracted such star driving legends as Fangio and the Galvez brothers to compete for 11,000kms over just 14 days for the glory of winning the Grand Prix of South America.

THE HISTORY

In 1948 the Ford V8 was the car making all the running. Fangio in his Chevrolet Master was in the top five but was chasing Oscar Galvez's Ford which was a front runner all the way swapping stage wins with his brother Juan in a similar car.

Fangio, meanwhile was heading towards disaster on Stage 7, but before that he was to win stage 5 from La Paz to Arequipa. At the same time a real Knight of the Road was emerging in the form of Eusabio Marcilla who was dubbed El Caballero del Camino for his selfless acts of rescuing competitors when they got into trouble on the road.

He was the person who came to the aid of Fangio on the 1322km Stage 7 when his car slipped off the edge and disappeared down a 200 metre drop. Marcilla was in contention all the way and would probably have had a top two or three finish if he had ignored the plight of his fellow competitors.

With Juan and Oscar Galvez now clear of their main rivals they continued to swap stages through Tumbes, Quito, Pasto, Cali, Bogota, Cucuta and Valera before the final run into Caracas.

But drama was unfolding as the cars sped towards the finishing line. Juan Galvez was involved in an accident on the last stage leaving the prize open to his brother only for him to breakdown within sight of the finishing line. As he was pushing the car towards the chequered flag a spectator joined in which resulted in this being classified as receiving outside assistance and a disqualification!

The spoils then went to the surprised Domingo Marimon, nicknamed Toscanito, because of his habit of always smoking a Tuscan cigar. He had driven a steady race and was rewarded for his cautious approach.

The rally covered nearly 10,000kms, visited Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela and attracted crowds of millions along the way.

IT IS STILL REGARDED AS THE GREATEST ROAD RACE EVER AND ONE THAT DESERVES TO BE RE-RUN IN CARS OF THE PERIOD.

In 2024 we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of this great event with a the second Grand Prix of South America which follows the original route where possible. Where the roads are new we find the old and where they have been covered in tarmac we look for dirt.

This competitive event will start at midnight in Buenos Aires (just as the original event did) and will run north to Salta and into Bolivia. Once over the border we cross the high plains to the great salt flats at Uyuni. The roads we select are very much the same as they were in 1948 when the cars scabbled over the gravel on these challenging stages.

From Bolivia the route is modified to run to Cusco along Lake Titicaca, then through the Andes before dropping down to a welcome regroup in Trujillo.

After Trujillo we are once again on the historic route with minor changes to ensure we find some of the more interesting roads and stages. We enter Ecuador just after Tumbes which saw Fangio crash out in 1948.

After Quito we enter Colombia for four intensive days of driving before arriving for a heroes' welcome in Cartagena.

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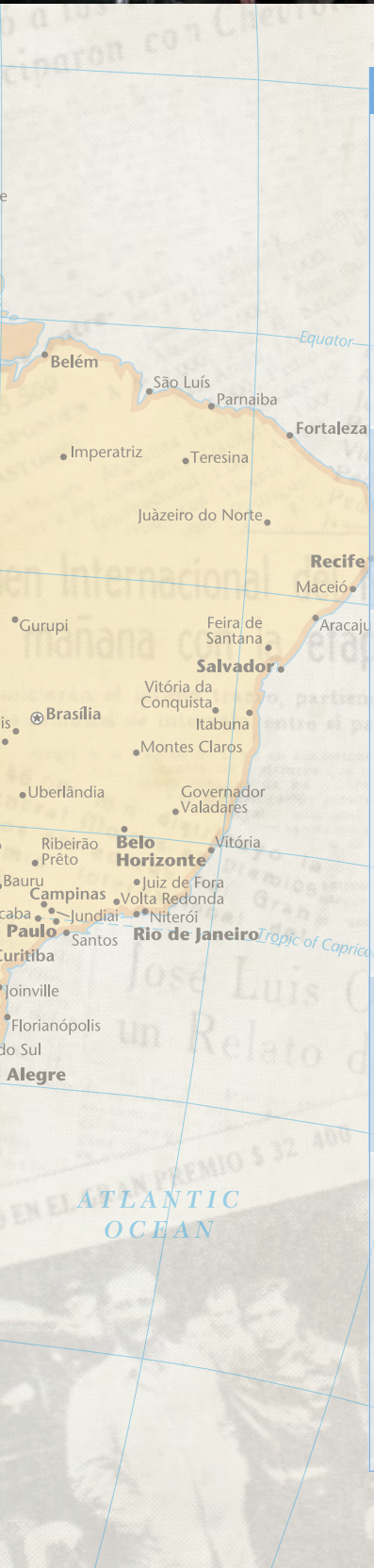
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The 2024 Grand Prix of South America will start 75 years to the day of the original start – and will follow the same route as far as possible but include some race tracks and special tests as road racing is now prohibited. Our event aims to recreate the look and feel of the great original Grand Prix.

It is open to all cars built before 1960 but will have a special category for the type of American cars of the period which ran in the first Grand Prix event

This is a competitive event which will combine Regularity, closed roads and circuits. We include a Touring class for those who want to join in with the journey but not the competition.





COUNTRIES	DAY	DATE	CITIES	TO	KMS
 ARGENTINA	1 + 2	1+2 NOV	BUENOS AIRES	ARRIVE + CARS	0
	3	3 NOV	BUENOS AIRES	SAN FRANCISCO	551
	4	4 NOV	SAN FRANCISCO	CORDOBA	240
	5	5 NOV	CORDOBA	CATAMARCA	424
	6	6 NOV	CATAMARCA	SALTA	532
	7	7 NOV	SALTA	SALTA	20
	8	8 NOV	SALTA	HUACALERA	361
 BOLIVIA	9	9 NOV	HUACALERA	UYUNI	497
	10	10 NOV	UYUNI	UYUNI	80
	11	11 NOV	UYUNI	HUANUJATO	620
	12	12 NOV	HUANUJATO	PUNO	336
 PERU	13	13 NOV	PUNO	URUBAMBA	585
	14	14 NOV	URUBAMBA	URUBAMBA	0
	15	15 NOV	URUBAMBA	AYACUCHO	337
	16	16 NOV	AYACUCHO	HUANCAYO	433
	17	17 NOV	HUANCAYO	HUANUCO	632
	18	18 NOV	HUANCAYO	HUARAZ	308
	19	19 NOV	HUARAZ	TRUJILLO	250
	20	20 NOV	TRUJILLO	PIURA	491
	21	21 NOV	PIURA	LOJA	380
 ECUADOR	22	22 NOV	LOJA	CUENCA	385
	23	23 NOV	CUENCA	CUENCA	0
	24	24 NOV	CUENCA	QUITO	450
	25	25 NOV	QUITO	PASTO	378
 COLOMBIA	26	26 NOV	PASTO	CALI	440
	27	27 NOV	CALI	CALI	0
	28	28 NOV	CALI	MEDELLIN	485
	29	29 NOV	MEDELLIN	MONTERIA	455
	30	30 NOV	MONTERIA	CARTAGENA	305
	31		CARTAGENA		0



WAGON TOURISM

Wagon Tourism or Turismo Carretera as it is called in Argentina was created in 1937 and is the oldest racing series still active in the world. Initially used for road racing it is now more generally used as a closed circuit category. We are reviving it in its traditional sense for the 2024 Grand Prix of South America where it will apply to 'stock' cars of the original period. Juan Manuel Fangio won the 1940 and 1941 TC championships in his Chevrolet, helping to launch his career as arguably the world's greatest ever Grand Prix driver.

SERVICE SUPPORT

We will only provide limited mechanical back-up on this event so we will allow dedicated service wagons at a separate cost. They must be vehicles not newer than 1988 and weigh no more than 3.5 tons – anything larger than a small van is not eligible. They will have a dedicated service route and service points. The service vehicles can be shared.

PERIOD LOOK

Participants are encouraged to dress in period style clothing. There will be awards for best combination of car and clothing throughout the event.

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The GP of South America was a great event and John and I enjoyed ourselves immensely. It is always good to be the first to try something that no one else has done for a long time, in this case 70 years. Your team were fantastic and that made it even more enjoyable. The roads were challenging as they should be and the scenery spectacular. The hotels were good quality and the food was very good. This is an event for anyone who wants an adventure and I would whole heartedly recommend it; if you want to do something a bit different, exciting and a bit of a challenge, then the GP of South America is for you. Thanks John and team for putting together such a great event.

Paul Michael, The Grand Prix of South America 2018

'I would like to thank you and all your staff for the wonderful time we had. Sarah, John, the two mechanics, the doctor and all the others were always very helpful and did a great job. We experienced demanding back roads, unbelievable landscapes, always good hotels (in some remote places the best available) and a perfect organization. In all an experience we would like to repeat.'

**Arnold and Melanie Meier,
The Grand Prix of South America 2018**

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MARCH 13TH TO APRIL 7TH, 2024

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