



BELGIAN GRAND PRIX RACE

**LEWIS HAMILTON WINS JUST AHEAD OF SEBASTIAN VETTEL,
USING DIFFERENT TWO-STOP STRATEGIES AFTER A LATE SAFETY CAR**

**A WIDE VARIETY OF DIFFERENT STRATEGIES USED THROUGHOUT THE TOP 10
AS THE ULTRASOFT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL SPA DEBUT**

**FASTEST RACE LAP IS NEARLY FIVE SECONDS FASTER THAN 2016
EQUIVALENT, THANKS ALSO TO THE ULTRASOFT TYRES**

Spa-Francorchamps, August 27, 2017 – On one of the most demanding circuits for tyres that Formula 1 visits all year, Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won the Belgian Grand Prix ahead of Sebastian Vettel after what was effectively a sprint race in the final laps. The race was turned on its head by a safety car on lap 30, which gave drivers the opportunity for a ‘free’ pit stop. Hamilton, in the lead, ran the soft tyre for his final stint, while Vettel went for the ultrasoft: theoretically more than one second per lap faster. Up until the safety car, both were using an identical ultrasoft-soft strategy in a closely-fought battle, with Vettel making his first pit stop two laps later than Hamilton.

A different strategy was adopted by Red Bull’s Daniel Ricciardo, who swapped from ultrasoft to supersoft in his first stop, then changed again to ultrasoft under the safety car to finish on the podium. Both Force Indias also ran the supersoft in the second stint.

Vettel set the fastest lap of the race – an astonishing 1m46.577s – on the ultrasoft tyres: nearly five seconds faster than the fastest race lap one year ago, set on medium tyres.

After some uncertain weather earlier in the weekend, the race started with 27 degrees ambient and 34 degrees of track temperature, remaining dry throughout the 44-lap distance.

MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

“The safety car obviously transformed the race strategy by eliminating any questions of wear and degradation in the closing stages, as drivers took advantage of the neutralisation to change tyres. However, the strategic decision then remained as to which compound to choose. As has been the case all weekend, the frontrunners were very closely matched on pace. Before the safety car, it seemed that the leaders were set for a one-stop strategy on one of the toughest circuits of the year, having started the race on the ultrasoft, which made a successful debut at Spa.”

BEST TIME BY COMPOUND

		
Hamilton 1m 46.603s	Perez 1m 48.300s	Vettel 1m 46.577s
Bottas 1m 47.721s	Ricciardo 1m 48.739s	Ricciardo 1m 47.549s
Vettel 1m 48.917s	Grosjean 1m 49.087s	Raikkonen 1m 47.730s



LONGEST STINT OF THE RACE

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
SOFT	Palmer	22
SUPERSOFT	Vandoorne, Kvyat	18
ULTRASOFT	Sainz	19

TRUTHOMETER

Lewis Hamilton won the race using two pit stops, having taken advantage of the safety car on lap 30 like all his key rivals. His first pit stop from ultrasoft to soft came on lap 12: he then selected softs again for his second stop, holding off Sebastian Vettel on the ultrasoft to the finish after a tight battle.



SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS PIT STOP SUMMARY

Car	Driver	Start	Pit 1	Pit 2	Pit 3
44	HAM	USu	Sn (12)	Sn (30)	
5	VET	USu	Sn (14)	USn (30)	
3	RIC	USu	SSn (14)	USn (30)	
7	RAI	USu	Sn (15)	SG (17)	USn (29)
77	BOT	USu	Sn (13)	Sn (30)	
27	HUL	USu	Sn (11)	USu (29)	
8	GRO	USn	Sn (10)	SSn (29)	
19	MAS	SSn	Sn (11)	USn (29)	
31	OCO	USu	SSn (10)	SSn (27)	USu (29)
55	SAI	USn	Sn (19)	SSn (29)	
18	STR	SSn	Su (9)	USn (29)	
26	KVY	SSn	USn (18)	USn (30)	
30	PAL	USu	Sn (8)	USn (30)	
2	VAN	SSn	USn (18)	USn (30)	
20	MAG	USn	Sn (9)	SSn (30)	USu (34)
9	ERI	SSn	Sn (8)	Sn (23)	USn (29)
11	PER	USu	SSn (12)	SSn (25)	USu (29)
14	ALO	USn	Sn (10)		
33	VER	USu			
94	WEH	Sn			

S= Soft SS= Supersoft US= Ultrasoft n= new u= used

SG=Stop and go



F1 PRESS AREA

SOCIAL

THE RACING SPOT

Copyright-free videos and photos
f1pressarea.pirelli.com

Follow us on
[@pirellisport](https://twitter.com/pirellisport)
[Facebook/PirelliMotorsport](https://www.facebook.com/PirelliMotorsport)
[Instagram/pirelli_motorsport](https://www.instagram.com/pirelli_motorsport)

More info on
Racingspot.pirelli.com

For further information please contact

Roberto Boccafoli • +39 335 125 6694 • roberto.boccafoli@pirelli.com

Maria Stella Narciso • +39 338 942 3585 • mariastella.narciso@pirelli.com

Anthony Peacock • +44 7765 896 930 • anthony@mediaticaworld.com

Sara Vimercati • +39 366 620 9720 • sara.vimercati@pirelli.com

Pirelli Tyre Press Office • +39 02 6442 4270 • pressoffice@pirelli.com