

2026 Goodwood Festival of Speed to celebrate 'The Rivals - Epic Racing Duels'

- Goodwood announces theme for 2026 Festival of Speed presented by Mastercard.
- Event will celebrate some of the most legendary rivalries from across motorsport.
- Festival of Speed takes place Thursday 9 - Sunday 12 July 2026.
- Early bird tickets available at [goodwood.com](https://www.goodwood.com).

As we look forward to the 2026 motorsport season, Goodwood today announces the theme for the Festival of Speed presented by Mastercard: **'The Rivals - Epic Racing Duels'**.

The Festival of Speed theme is the thread that draws together the cars, bikes, drivers, riders, teams and manufacturers that attend the event. In 2026, Goodwood will pay tribute to the most fiercely contested encounters from across motorsport, celebrating the emotion and intensity that has pushed people and machines to the limit; the very essence of competition that sits at the heart of racing.

The racing annals are punctuated by defining rivalries and head-to-head battles that have captured the world's attention. Through the lens of 'The Rivals', the Festival of Speed will mark a number of notable anniversaries, including 60 years since the American muscle of Ford took on the might of Ferrari at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1966, and 50 years since the legendary rivalry between James Hunt and Niki Lauda as they vied for the Formula 1 World Championship in 1976.

A dedicated batch of cars and bikes illustrating motorsport's 'Epic Racing Duels' will take to the Goodwood Hill across the Festival of Speed weekend, as the event once again brings together drivers, riders, teams, and manufacturers, from Formula 1, MotoGP, Grand Prix racing, World Endurance Championship, WorldSBK, Isle of Man TT, IndyCar, World Rally Championship and Touring Cars.

The Duke of Richmond CBE DL said: *"Over the years, Goodwood has seen some fierce competition, whether in the early days of the circuit, when the all-time greats were battling it out, or in more recent years on the famous Goodwood Hill. With that in mind, next year's Festival of Speed will capture the drama and intensity of motorsport's greatest contests as we celebrate "The Rivals – Epic Racing Duels." The event will bring to life such rivalries as that of James Hunt and Niki Lauda, whose epic encounters, particularly in 1976, are now the stuff of legend.*

Further information about the 2026 Festival of Speed, including details of attending vehicles and competitors will be announced in the coming months.

Book now to save on tickets during the early bird window

Customers can save on Festival of Speed tickets during our early bird window. Tickets are available to book at [goodwood.com](https://www.goodwood.com).

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors:

Festival of Speed presented by Mastercard will take place Thursday 9 - Sunday 12 July 2026.

Tickets

Tickets can be purchased at [goodwood.com](https://www.goodwood.com) or by calling the Ticket Office on +44 (0)1243 755055.

Hospitality

As well as tickets, Goodwood's unrivalled hospitality packages are also now available to book for the 2026 Festival of Speed. Whether customers are looking for a great day out with friends, entertaining clients or celebrating something special, Goodwood's hospitality provides the ultimate setting to enjoy the event. Email hospitality@goodwood.com or call +44 (0)1243 755054.

Contact

For more information about Goodwood's motorsport events, please contact Katharine Morgan, PR Manager: Katharine.Morgan@goodwood.com

For all other press enquiries please contact: media@goodwood.com

Imagery and news from Goodwood are available from our [Press & Media site](#).

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About the Festival of Speed presented by Mastercard

First staged in 1993, the Goodwood Festival of Speed presented by Mastercard is the world's largest automotive garden party; set against the spectacular backdrop of Goodwood House in West Sussex, UK. Over 600 cars and motorcycles spanning the phenomenal history of motoring and motorsport take part along with legendary figures from the automotive world. Highlights include Future Lab presented by Randox, Forest Rally Stage presented by Subaru, Supercar Paddock, Supercar Run, F1 Pit Lane, Drivers' Club, GAS Arena and Cartier Style et Luxe Concours d'Elegance.

About Mastercard

Mastercard powers economies and empowers people in 200+ countries and territories worldwide. Together with our customers, we're building a sustainable economy where everyone can prosper. We support a wide range of digital payments choices, making transactions secure, simple, smart and accessible. Our technology and innovation, partnerships and networks combine to deliver a unique set of products and services that help people, businesses and governments realize their greatest potential.

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