

Goodwood Festival of Speed Hillclimb

Rapidly joining Ascot, Henley and Wimbledon as one of the premier sporting and social events of the season, it's hard to believe the Festival is only in its third year. Its success is largely due to the Earl of March's tireless pursuit of legendary cars and drivers to tackle his famous Goodwood House hillclimb. Safety questions raised after last year's event will probably mean more barriers and straw bales this year, but spectators can still get closer to the action at Goodwood than at any other motoring event. Competitive entries are by invitation only. Tickets at the gate on Saturday and Sunday are £9 and £12 respectively, £2 cheaper if you buy in advance. Weekend tickets are available at £15 per person, ordered in advance. Call 01243 774107. Goodwood is off the A285, north of Chichester, West Sussex.

 Driver's rating
 10/10

 Spectator's rating
 10/10

 Style rating
 10/10



Coys International Historic Festival

The biggest event of the classic year, with crowds at Silverstone surpassed only by the British GP. Traditionally the finest gathering of historic racing cars in the world, the festival also includes myriad club stands, autojumbles and automobilia. The racing action includes a round of the European Historic Touring Car Championship, '50s Sportscars, the Historic Grand Prix Drivers Association and the Coys GT race. Aston Martin is the featured marque. Viewing at Silverstone is famously poor, but the grass bank at Copse and the Luffield/Brooklands complex probably provide the most excitement. For ticket information contact the BRDC on 01327 857271. Silverstone is just off the A43 between Towcester and Brackley, west of Milton Keynes.

 Driver's rating
 10/10

 Spectator's rating
 9/10

 Style rating
 9/10



Monterey Historic Races

California's answer to the Silverstone Historic Festival — and the biggest gathering of classics in the US. Fierce racing at the Laguna Seca track, plenty of off-track entertainment plus the added attraction of the glamorous Pebble Beach Concours have ensured Monterey a prime position in the historic calendar. Enthusiasts saw red last year as Ferrari was feted as the official 'celebrated marque'; this year's event sees Lotus become the focus of attention, which should guarantee some classic racing battles. Visitors to Monterey can expect the widest possible range of veteran, vintage and classic machinery, including Alfa, Maserati, Morgan, Porsche, MG and Ferrari. Best place to see the action at Laguna is by the notorious 'corkscrew' combination of bends. Admission to the Monterey Historic Festival starts from \$30 a day; a three-day admission including paddock access costs \$150. Call 0101 805 9669151 for more.

 Driver's rating
 9/10

 Spectator's rating
 10/10

 Style rating:
 8/10





