

ASTON MARTIN



10/33

15 MARCH 2019

AUSTRALIAN GP – FRIDAY PRACTICE

MAX VERSTAPPEN

First Practice Session: 1:23.792 Position: 4, Laps: 22

Second Practice Session: 1:23.400 Position: 3, Laps: 33

"I'm quite happy about today and the feeling so far is pretty good. Of course, there are always areas to improve and we are not fast enough yet but it's only the first day of the season and there is a long way to go. It looks like Mercedes are very quick and they seem to be a little happier with the overall balance. In general, the car felt alright with medium and soft tyres but we still need to fully understand the compounds. My running was also a little different to the others in terms of preparation and there is definitely some lap time in that. We will look at the data tonight and see what we can improve but from the engine side there were no problems and it all ran very smoothly. We had no expectations going into today and it's just good to get started."

PIERRE GASLY

First Practice Session: 1:24.932 Position: 8, Laps: 23

Second Practice Session: 1:23.442 Position: 4, Laps: 31

"It was great to be back on track for the first Free Practice of the season, and my first Friday at the track with Aston Martin Red Bull Racing was a special moment for me. It was a positive day, we tested a lot of things and my feeling in the car is getting better lap after lap. There's still work to be done but we're pretty happy with the package. We didn't have any expectations today, as after testing it's difficult to have a real idea of the pace of others. We managed to find some good direction for FP2 and I felt better in the car than I did in FP1. Let's see what we can do tomorrow. On the engine side, we had a small loss of power on the last lap and after some checks, it turned out to be a minor sensor issue."

ENDS



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