



Mexico City Grand Prix 2025: A beautiful place to win

- *Norris takes title lead with a brilliant performance at the Mexico City Grand Prix*
- *The total attendance of the Mexico GP Weekend was 401,326*

Mexico City, October 26, 2025. – McLaren’s Lando Norris made the best use of his superb pole position to win Sunday’s Mexico City Grand Prix 2025 at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez, in which 153,867 gathered, moving him into the lead in the three-man fight for the drivers’ World Championship.

Norris had said on Saturday how much he could win by, the answer was a stunning 30.324 seconds from Charles Leclerc’s Ferrari, with Red Bull’s Max Verstappen less than a second further back in third, while Oscar Piastri in the second McLaren minimized the damage to his own title hopes with a fighting fifth place from seventh on the grid. Norris, on 357 points, now leads his teammate by just one, with Verstappen 33 further back, and four races left in a thrilling finish to the season.

“Beautiful weekend, well done everyone, incredible result!”

That was Norris’s message to his crew after his sixth win of 2025, the 10th of his career, and McLaren’s first in Mexico since Ayrton Senna won in 1989. “A pretty straightforward race,” said the 25-year-old Englishman, “I could just keep my eyes forward and focus on what I was doing. My first win here in Mexico, a beautiful one to win, especially here in the Stadium – man, this is awesome here, so thanks to all the fans.”

No papaya rules, plenty of F1 regulations

Norris made the perfect start to lead into Turn 1 as chaos unfolded behind him. He pitted at half-distance and emerged still comfortably ahead after a 2.6-second stop. With Piastri starting a long way back there was little need for McLaren’s famous papaya rules, but the F1 regulations played a major part in shaping the race, both at the start and at the finish. Lewis Hamilton’s Ferrari was given a 10-second penalty for leaving the track and gaining an advantage on the opening lap, dropping the aggrieved two-time Mexico winner to an eventual eighth place.

Then, as Verstappen hunted down Leclerc, and Piastri was bearing down on Ollie Bearman’s Haas, race officials decided a Virtual Safety Car was needed to clear Carlos Sainz’s stricken Williams. Second place would have moved Verstappen three points closer to Norris in the title fight, while fourth would have kept Piastri in the lead.

Leclerc keeps Mexico streak going, Safety Car stops Max attack

Monaco driver Leclerc was one of the few men pleased by the late-race VSC as he posted his third successive podium at AHR, albeit half a minute behind the race winner. ‘I was quite happy about the Safety Car at the end,’ he smiled, ‘my tires were completely gone, and I could see Max was coming back – I think the Safety Car saved me at the end.’



Less than happy was Verstappen, who said on Saturday that the start would be ‘very spicy’ and was proven correct. ‘It was a very hectic beginning of the race for me,’ said the Dutchman. ‘I had a very good start, made up a position on the long run to Turn 1, we were on the outside, three or four wide, so I had to be on the kerb, then after that there was a lot going on. To be still fighting for P2 after what happened on the first two laps, it’s a very strong result.’ After starting on Medium tires, Verstappen’s switch to the Softs on lap 38 also switched the Red Bull on for what his race engineer called ‘an insane stint’.

‘Strange to get my head around’: Tough lessons for Oscar

Piastrì could not have hoped for much more after a poor Qualifying performance left him seventh on the grid. His race was compromised by two long periods spent trying to pass two cars: the Red Bull of Yuki Tsunoda at the start, the Mercedes of George Russell near the end. ‘The whole race I was right behind someone,’ the 24-year-old Australian said, ‘and just struggling in dirty air. Yesterday it became obvious there were a few things I needed to change about how I was driving. I’ve had to drive very differently or not driven differently when I should have. That has been strange to get my head around.’ Winless in five races, Piastrì needs a strong result in Brazil next time out to keep his title campaign on track.

Haas on a Mexico City high

The day’s other top story was Ollie Bearman finishing fourth, equalling the Haas team’s best-ever result in their 210th Grand Prix. The 20-year-old Englishman has been in the top 10 at the last three races and set up his superb result with a strong performance in Qualifying. He then took full advantage of the first-corner confusion to edge ahead of Verstappen before pitting on lap 25, and came in again on lap 49 in response to Mercedes bringing Russell in. Bearman’s previous best result was sixth. The day became better as Esteban Ocon brought the second Haas home in a fine ninth place.

Best of the rest

Russell spent a lot of time on the radio asking to be allowed past his youthful teammate Kimi Antonelli, which the team finally agreed to on lap 40 – too late, as Russell could make no impression on the flying Bearman. He eventually gave the place back to his teammate as they finished sixth and seventh.

The final point went to Gabriel Bortoleto, setting up a five-star welcome when he heads to his home race in Brazil, and compensating Sauber for the early loss of Nico Hulkenberg with a power unit problem. The other two non-finishers were Fernando Alonso’s Aston Martin with a brake issue and Liam Lawson in the Racing Bull, which suffered debris damage after the early collisions.

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