

THE ROAD TO MASTERY

PHILOSOPHY, TECHNOLOGY AND EXCELLENCE
IN DRIVING

Aston Martin Drivers' Blyton Park Photo Event

August 22nd-25th 2022

- Full day at Blyton Park circuit (Lincolnshire) – Exclusive use of circuit limited to three cars on track at any one time. Cars will be treated with respect, yet you can explore their full performance.
- Dynamic and static photos taken during your time on track and across the wider event
- Hog roast car-and-driver meet on evening of Aug 23rd for Aston Martin owners in both* groups
- 1:1 performance driver coaching and helmets provided throughout your day
- Comfortable 3-4 star hotel with character for both nights
- Breakfast, lunch and evening meals (including drinks) included from arrival until departure
- Secure Aston-friendly parking overnight
- Two A3 photo prints of your choice provided to remember your event



*Group 1: August 22nd-24th – 9 Drivers

Aug 22nd – Group drive to arrive at hotel late afternoon

Aug 23rd – Full day at Blyton Park (group 2 joins in eve)

Aug 24th – Leisurely start and depart hotel for group drive

*Group 2: August 23rd-25th – 9 Drivers

Aug 23rd – Group drive to arrive at Blyton Park late afternoon

Aug 24th – Full day at Blyton Park (repeat of the day before)

Aug 25th – Leisurely start and depart hotel for group drive

£1,995 inc. VAT

Frequently Asked Questions:

What should I wear for the day at Blyton Park?

Please wear comfortable clothing including suitable flat-soled shoes, trousers and long sleeves. High-heels and flip-flops are prohibited and boots are ill-advised due to lack of feel.

You may feel hotter than usual whilst driving due to the extra physical and mental effort (as compared to road driving) as well as greater than usual engine heat produced. A single layer with long sleeves is usually the most comfortable except in cold/wet weather.

Is there any required preparation ahead of the event?

Whilst no special preparation is required, you should ensure that your car's engine and general mechanicals are well serviced, that oils and other fluids are checked or topped up and that both tyres and brakes have plenty of life left in them. If you haven't changed your brake fluid for two years or more, you should consider having it changed and bled in advance of the event.

We will bring tyre pressure gauges, pumps and a torque wrench to check wheel nuts before embarking on track driving, but please ensure tyre pressures are correct and wheel nuts are correctly tightened before you set off.

In the interest of safety and to avoid distraction, please remove **all** loose items from the cabin and rear seats. This includes personal items, satnav, phone holders (inc. sucker-mounted), umbrellas, maps, bottles etc. Any loose items may be stored in your boot, but it is advisable to only do this if they will not slide around during high intensity cornering or braking. Worst case, you are welcome to make a tidy pile and store them in the buildings made available to us at Blyton Park. (It's sensible to bring a large bag to keep things all together if you will do this.)

Are there any vehicles that are not welcome?

On marque-specific events, it is understood that only vehicles of this marque will be attending. In the event of short-notice vehicle issues, please contact us to discuss solutions. Generally, cars with windscreens, roof and seatbelts or harnesses are expected. If you have a rare or early car which does not feature all of these, please contact us before booking or attending to discuss any specific requirements for clothing, helmets, safety equipment etc. Should full-face helmets be necessary, we must advise our coaches to bring theirs.

What do I do about helmets?

We will provide suitable helmets and a hairnet or clean cotton balaclava for your comfort. If you have your own open-face helmet suitable for the activity, do feel free to bring it instead. Full-face or motorcycle helmets are ill-advised in most cases as it can be difficult to communicate in the car and your vision will be reduced.

What will happen to my tyres and brakes?

As with all driving, tyres and brakes will wear the more you use them. They are, ultimately, consumable parts. This event is not an all-out, full-bore trackday, nor a competitive, timed event. The emphasis is on understanding your car better, improving your driving and having buckets of fun.

Our coaches will ensure that your car will be treated with respect to limit wear-and-tear of engine, tyres and brakes. Nevertheless, you'll have the chance to explore their full performance in a closed, relatively safe environment.

Depending on the condition of the track and any recent activity, it is possible that excess rubber, or *marbles*, shed by other vehicles will be present off the 'racing line'. Under certain circumstances, this can be collected on the tread of your car's tyres and give them an unfamiliar appearance. This is not a problem and can be reversed in a number of ways. Do feel free to speak to us further about this phenomenon.

Does it matter if I'm a total novice or will I be held back if I've got lots of experience?

Worry not, our performance driver coaches are used to working with drivers of all abilities. If it's your first time on track, we'll build things up gently, increase your confidence and gently stretch your comfort zone. Should you have bags of experience, we'll take the opportunity to focus on the more subtle improvements you can make to improve your circuit driving. In all cases you'll go away a better driver. If your car is suitably prepared for more intense circuit driving, we'll ensure you have the opportunity to make use of it should you wish to.

Do I need insurance for the track?

Legally, you do not require insurance. Whilst every effort has and will be made to ensure the safety of both you and your car, high performance driving can be dangerous. We do not encourage, nor dissuade you from, arranging cover for your on-track activity. You will have an industry-leading performance driver coach with you at all times, but you are, ultimately, in control of your vehicle.

If you prefer to arrange insurance for your car, you are welcome to do so for peace of mind. Certainly, we have customers who have had free or sensibly-priced insurance provided for these type of days through their current motor insurance. If yours requires information of our event in order to provide cover, please let us know and we'll be pleased to assist you. It may be sensible to include our driver coaches on the insurance should you wish them to provide a driving demonstration at any point during the day.

What do I do about fuelling my car during the event?

There are a number of fuel stations in Gainsborough, near Blyton Park. We recommend that you fill up in Retford or, preferably, Gainsborough to ensure you have maximum volume ahead of your day on track. Unless your car has a particularly small tank (or is exceptionally thirsty!) you should manage to run the full day on one tank.

Alternatively, you are welcome to fill up in Gainsborough at the lunch break when all on-track activity will cease. The highest quality fuel in the area is at the Gulf station on the south side of the town. There are Shell, Esso and BP fuel stations in Retford.

What happens if it rains during our event?

Ignoring facetious answers, not much will change from a dry day. Speeds will be slightly lower due to reduced grip and lower cornering/braking intensities. In reality, you're one of the lucky ones if you get a wet day – you'll learn far more than when things are bone dry. You'll trade the excitement of higher g forces for a chance to learn how to generate more delicate inputs and your car will feel as if it has significantly more horsepower.

Should I worry if my car doesn't have traction control or stability control?

There is no need to worry if your car doesn't have electronic safety systems such as these. If you are driving well, the systems are not required and you will have an industry-leading performance driving coach to assist you during all laps of the circuit. If your car has these systems, we will tend to leave them active unless they start to interfere with your driving. Under certain circumstances they may be switched off, but this will be as part of specific personalised training and only done so if it is deemed safe and sensible to do so. It is prudent to understand how these systems can be deactivated and reactivated (including any 'sport' modes) before the event should you wish to understand more about them and the correct opportunity to switch modes (or off altogether) presents itself.

Can I bring a guest?

The price of the event includes hotel, food and drinks for one person. If you wish to bring a guest, please contact us directly to discuss your requirements and any additional fee. Unfortunately, we cannot accept young children as guests due to the nature of the activity and racetrack environment.

What happens if I can't make it on the day?

Should you be unable to attend on the day, please phone us in order to ensure we are aware of the circumstances and know that you will not attend. Please see our cancellation policy for full terms, but we reserve the right to offer no refund or credit.

How much driving will I get?

On this event, there will be nine drivers and three driver coaches. You will have approximately one third of the available track time for your sessions. In reality, this represents baby bear's porridge: just the right amount. It'll be enough to learn and thoroughly enjoy your day, yet not so much that you feel you're just wearing out your tyres and brakes or becoming overly fatigued.

Do I need to bring anything for sun/rain etc.?

During sessions when you are not in the car, you'll appreciate having a windproof/waterproof jacket and baseball cap (or other sun hat). Due to the exposed nature of the track and limited shelter, it can be sensible to bring an umbrella, sun cream etc. however there are buildings available should it pour with rain.

Can I bring young children, a dog or other pet?

Due to the nature of the activity and the facilities at the circuit, regrettably, pets and young children are unable to attend.