



I Travelled 36,900 km to Watch a Motor Race



40th Monaco Grand Prix, 1982

My first Grand Prix, 1982

- The first Grand Prix that I attended was the 1977 Australian Grand Prix at Oran Park, Sydney, but back then it was not part of the World Drivers' Championship.
- I witnessed my first international Grand Prix in 1982 from a 3rd floor balcony above the first corner, Sainte Devote, on the Monaco Grand Prix circuit.



My second Grand Prix, 1982

At my second international Grand Prix I watched my hero, Niki Lauda win the 1982 British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch.

For my third international Grand Prix I travelled some 36,900 km over a two week period by plane, ferry, bus and train, to watch the 1983 Monaco Grand Prix from the Loews Hotel hairpin (the old

Not quite the 'Planes, Trains and Automobiles' movie event, but close.

It is this trip to the Monaco Grand Prix that is the subject of this short document.



1982 British Grand Prix

41st Monaco Grand Prix, 1983

My fourth Grand Prix, 1987

My third Grand Prix, 1983

Station Hairpin).

- For my fourth international Grand Prix, I was an invited driver in the pre-race Celebrity Challenge driving identical Nissan Pular SSS—a race that I won.
- Following the celebrity race I was invited into the Foster's spectator area above the Lotus-McLaren pits.
- In this photo you can see me still wearing my blue race suit and white 'Nissan' capyes, I know I have been VERY lucky, but at least I am a true Grand Prix fan.



1987 Australian Grand Prix

October 2025 Page 2 © Grant Witheridge

Departing Sydney for Hong Kong and London



Hong Kong

Thursday, 5 May 1983 (7372 km)

- I flew out of Sydney on Cathay Pacific CX100 (dep. 20:40 hrs) to Hong Kong.
- Saw the movie 'The Man from Snowy River' on the plane.
- Stayed overnight at the Grand Hotel, Hong Kong.



Hong Kong Island



Friday, 6 May 1983

 Flew out of Hong Kong on British Caledonia BR381 to London, England (dep. 21:30 hrs).

Saturday, 7 May 1983 (17,023 km)

- Arrived at Gatwick Airport at 06:50 hours.
- Overnight in Camdentown, London.





Our Top Deck bus

Friday, 13 May 1983 (18,441 km)

- Depart the Enterprise Hotel on a Top Deck Monaco Tour.
- Ferry from Dover to Calais
- Bus from Calais to our camp site at Antibes, France, just west of Cannes.
- France really does have a great motorway system.



One of many beautiful people

Saturday, 14th May 1983 (18,580 km)

- Train into Monte Carlo.
- On Saturday I got access onto the same balcony that I was on for the 1982 Monaco Grand Prix.

Saturday's Program:

- 10:00 F1 practice
- 13:00 F1 qualifying
- 15:05 Historic racing
- 16:30 Renault 5 Turbo race
- 18:00 25th Grand Prix Monaco F3.



Somewhere in France — the same fuel stop we made on the 1982 Monaco GP Tour!

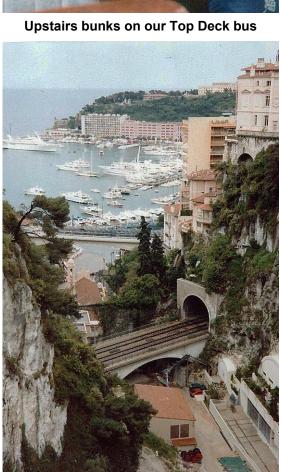


The climb out of Sainte Devote (view from our balcony)

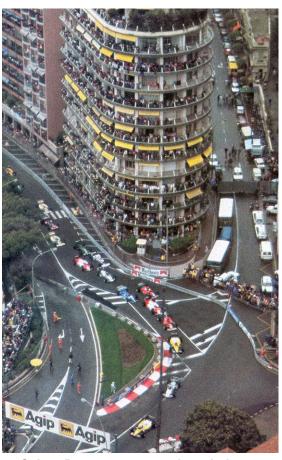


Looking down the pit straight towards the start-finish line





A view of the harbour



Sainte Devote corner and our balcony



Rade de Villefranche, France



One of Monaco's elevated grand stands



Lamborghini Countach LP course car



C. Cupellini in a Porsche RS 60



Mario Caliceti in a Porsche 550 RS



Start of the Formula 3 race



1st lap of the Formula 3 race



Start of the Renault 5 Turbo race



Maurizio Salvadori, Renault 5 Turbo

Entry list of the Formula One Drivers



1. K. Rosberg



2. J. Laffite



3. M. Alboreto



4. D Sullivan



5. N. Piquet



6. R. Patrese



7. John Watson



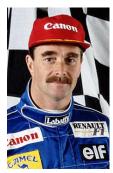
8. Niki Lauda



9. Winkelhock



11 E de Angelis



12. N. Mansell



15. Alain Prost



16. E. Cheever



17. E. Salazar



18. J. Schlesser



22 A de Cesaris



23. Mauro Baldi



25 J.P. Jarier



26. R. Boesel



27. P. Tambay



28. R. Arnoux



29. Marc Surer



30. C. Serra



35. D. Warwick



36 B Giacomelli



Keke Rosberg, Saudia Williams FW08C



Jacques Laffite, Saudia Williams FW08C



Michele Alboreto, Benetton/Tyrrell 011



Manfred Winkelhock, ATS/BMW-D6



Nelson Piquet, Brabham BT52



Riccardo Patrese, Brabham BT52



John Watson, Marlboro McLaren MP4-1C



Niki Lauda, Marlboro McLaren MP4-1C



Elio De Angelis, Lotus JPS 93T



Nigel Mansell, Lotus JPS 93T Renault



Alain Prost, Renault Elf RE 40



Mauro Baldi, Alfa Romeo 182 Turbo



Jean-Pierre Jarier, Ligier JS21 02



Raul Boesel, Ligier Gitanes JS21 02



Patrick Tambay, Ferrari 126 C2/B



Rene Arnoux, Ferrari 126 C2/B



Eventual race winner, Keke Rosberg in his Saudia Williams FW08C



Keke entering Sainte Devote corner on a wet track



Keke Rosberg at Sainte Devote corner



Keke Rosberg exiting Sainte Devote corner

Saturday, 14th May 1983, Post Qualifying



Saturday, 14th May 1983 (18,580 km)

- Went to the Loews Hotel after the F1 practice was finished.
- Met John Newell and Dale Goodman.
- The three of us then went for an evening walk around the track.





Hotel de Paris



The old casino





Looking towards the Loews Hotel hairpin



Looking up the hill, 'TipTop' on the right



The Loews Hotel hairpin

The evening of Saturday, 14th May 1983



The Loews Hotel hairpin



The Loews Hotel hairpin later in the night



The old casino



John and Dale walking along the pits



The Williams pit



The Ligier pit



The Renault pit



Stripped-down Renault Elf RE 40

Cars of Monte Carlo



Cars parked outside the Loews Hotel



Cars parked outside the Loews Hotel



Ferrari Boxer



Porsche 911



De Tomaso Pantera



Slope-nose Porsche 911 Turbos



Slope-nose Porsche 911 Turbo



Slope-nose Porsche 911 Turbo

Sunday, 15th May 1983, Race day



The view looking east

Sunday, 15th May 1983 (18,619 km) • Met Dale Goodman at the footbrid

- Met Dale Goodman at the footbridge that crosses over the track into the park grounds outside the Loews Hotel.
- Got access into the Loews Hotel to view the race.
- Had breakfast in the Loews Hotel restaurant looking over the Mediterranean.

Sunday's Program:

- 11:00 Historic race
- 13:15 Renault 5 Turbo race
- 15:30 41st Grand Prix Monaco F1.



John and Dale on the balcony



Our balcony (shown in a lighter shade)



View of the central park/gardens



Ground floor viewing (Loews Hotel)



Other balconies (Loews Hotel)



Ground floor viewing (Loews Hotel)

Sunday, 15th May 1983, Historic Race



Mario Caliceti in a Porsche 550 RS (1956)



Stirling Moss in a Cooper Monaco (1958)



T. Taraschi in a Porsche RS 60 (1960)



#3 Ferrari 500 TR and #2 Maserati A6,



#16 Ferrari 250 TR and #19 Cooper Monaco

Sunday, 15th May 1983, Renault 5 Turbo Race



Loews Hotel hairpin on Sunday



Jan Lamers in a Renault 5 Turbo



Jan Lamers in a Renault 5 Turbo



Renault 5 Turbo race



Wolfgang Schutz, Renault 5 Turbo

Sunday, 15th May 1983 - Opening laps of the F1 race



First lap of F1 race (Prost & Rosberg)



First lap of F1 race



Alain Prost, Renault Elf RE 40



F1 race (Arnoux and Tambay)



F1 race (Mauro Baldi & M. Alboreto)

Sunday, 15th May 1983



Keke Rosberg, Saudia Williams FW08C



Jacques Laffite, Saudia Williams FW08C



Danny Sullivan, Benetton/Tyrrell 011



Nelson Piquet, Brabham BT52



Riccardo Patrese, Brabham BT52



Manfred Winkelhock, ATS/BMW-D6



Elio De Angelis, Lotus JPS 93T



Nigel Mansell, Lotus JPS 93T Renault

Sunday, 15th May 1983



Alain Prost, Renault Elf RE 40



Eddie Cheever, Renault Elf RE 40



Andrea De Cesaris, Alfa Romeo 182 Turbo



Mauro Baldi, Alfa Romeo 182 Turbo



Jean-Pierre Jarier, Ligier JS21 02



Raul Boesel, Ligier Gitanes JS21 02



Patrick Tambay, Ferrari 126 C2/B



Rene Arnoux, Ferrari 126 C2/B

Sunday, 15th May 1983 – End of race victory lap by Keke Rosberg





Victory lap

Keke Rosberg with hands in the air



Race winner, Keke Rosberg with both hands in the air



Race winner, Keke Rosberg

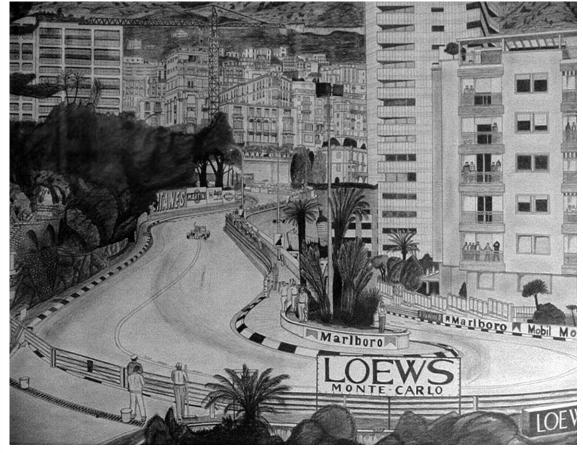


Race winner, Keke Rosberg

Sunday, 15th May 1983 - End of race victory lap



The winner, Keke Rosberg on his victory lap



My first attempt at a large pencil drawing (completed in 1990)

Sunday, 15th May 1983, Drawings



Eventual race winner, Keke Rosberg during Sunday mornings warm-up



My <u>sixth</u> pencil drawing (presented to Ann Bradshaw of Williams Racing in 1991)

Monday, 16th May 1983



Fragonard factory with Eze in background

Monday, 16th May 1983 (18,662 km)

- On Monday the bus tour travelled to the Fragonard perfume factory near Eze, just West of Monaco.
- Back in 1983, the historic town of Eze was a quiet village, and a total joy to visit and walk around.



Eze, on arrival



Eze, after the fog moved in



Someone is having a birthday on the bus



Downstairs area on our bus



Our bus tour crew with silly hats (post birthday party), mostly Australians and Kiwis

Tuesday-Wednesday, 17-18th May 1983



Our bus in Paris

Tuesday, 17th May 1983 (19,350 km)

Our bus travelled to Paris.

Wednesday, 18th May 1983 (19,409 km)

- Visited the palace at Versailles—Wow!.
- Saw the French police and army lining the streets in Paris due to recent riots.
- Paris; my favourite city in the world—I can understand why the French are so passionate about their capital.



Notre-Dame



Arc de Triomphe (round-about)



French police take an interest in all the girls on our bus!



The palace at Versailles, France

Flying from London to Sydney via Hong Kong



London buses

Thursday, 19th May 1983 (19,911 km)

Travelled back to London.

Friday, 20th May 1983

British Caledonia BR382 to Hong Kong.

Saturday, 21st May 1983 (29,562 km)

- Arrived in Hong Kong at 18:20 hours.
 Sunday, 22nd May 1983
- Cathay Pacific CX101 to Sydney.

Monday, 23rd May 1983 (36,934 km)

Arrived in Sydney at 09:55 hours.



Somewhere over Arabia?



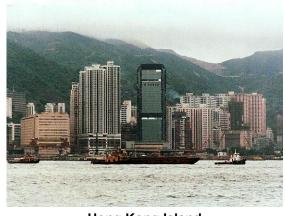
Somewhere over Arabia?



Flight to Hong Kong



Hong Kong street



Hong Kong Island



Hong Kong Island

