

2013 AT A GLANCE

-  **1** **PHILLIP ISLAND**
AUSTRALIA
FEBRUARY 24
-  **2** **MOTORLAND ARAGÓN**
ARAGÓN
APRIL 14
-  **3** **ASSEN**
THE NETHERLANDS
APRIL 28
-  **4** **MONZA**
ITALY
MAY 12
-  **5** **DONINGTON**
EUROPE
MAY 26
-  **6** **PORTIMÃO**
PORTUGAL
JUNE 9
-  **7** **IMOLA**
ITALY
JUNE 30
-  **8** **MOSCOW RACEWAY**
RUSSIA
JULY 21
-  **9** **SILVERSTONE**
UNITED KINGDOM
AUGUST 4
-  **10** **NÜRBURGRING**
GERMANY
SEPTEMBER 1
-  **11** **INTERCITY ISTANBUL**
TURKEY
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SEPTEMBER 29
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FRANCE
OCTOBER 6
-  **14** **JEREZ**
SPAIN
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INDIA
NOVEMBER 17



CHECA BIDDING FOR DUCATI LEAP FORWARD

Carlos Checa hopes a productive recent test at Jerez will allow him and Team Ducati Alstare to get closer to the front of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship field at Assen this weekend.

Checa and team-mate Ayrton Badovini have endured a testing start to 2013 aboard the new 1199 Panigale machines, and languish some way down the championship standings in 13th and 15th respectively. Checa's seventh place in the first race at MotorLand Aragón is the best result the team have enjoyed so far, and falls way below the level of success the Spanish veteran has enjoyed since switching to Ducati machinery from Honda in 2010.

The 40-year-old finished third in 2010, before romping to the title in 2011 and taking a solid fourth place overall last season ahead of his move to Alstare from the Althea team for 2013. Despite the tough start to the new campaign, the team believe progress was made after they headed to Jerez for a two-day test directly after the last round at Aragón.

Checa said: "These were two very important days that we used to better understand the bike's reactions. The weather helped us this time around too."

"We worked on different solutions for both the front and rear setting, and in the end I'm happy with what we were able to get done. We've found a set-up that I like, and this is important in order to have a good base from which to start at Assen."

Badovini was similarly optimistic, and believes the team have found a set-up which should be effective at the famous Dutch circuit.

He said: "This test was key, and allowed us to work on the bike and improve sensation. We've worked particularly on traction, to sharpen the bike on used tyres and maintain constant grip, which was my main problem at Aragón."

"We've tried different solutions and collected information that will be useful at Assen. I'm pleased with the work we've completed and look forward to these races."

While Team Ducati Alstare look to take a step forward, Welshman Chaz Davies will be hoping to close in on championship leader Sylvain Guintoli. Aprilia rider Guintoli is 22 points clear of Davies, after the BMW Motorrad GoldBet racer took a superb double win at Aragón.

SUPERSPORT
FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Fabien Foret is keen to prove his victory in the FIM Supersport World Championship race at Aragón was no fluke when the series heads to Assen. Foret leads the standings after his fine victory followed fourth place in Australia, and knows he must now back it up. He said: "Consistency in this championship is the key, but you have to win when you can because full points are important too. It is a long season and this one should be exciting."



SUPERSTOCK 1000
FIM CUP

Eddi La Marra looks to get his Superstock 1000 FIM Cup challenge back on track at Assen after a difficult opening weekend in Aragón. The Italian was fourth for the Barni Racing Team after a difficult qualifying, while his team-mate Niccolò Canepa took second place. La Marra said: "Unfortunately, to come from behind is never easy and the pace of the first three was really fast in Aragón, but we will make sure things are better at Assen."



SUPERSTOCK 600
UEM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Bastien Chesaux hopes to continue his bright start to the 2013 season as his EAB Ten Kate Honda Junior Team prepare for their home round of the UEM Superstock 600 European Championship. The Swiss rider was third in the season-opener at Aragón, collecting his second podium in the class, and said: "The third place gives me great confidence for the next races. I'm looking forward to Assen, the home race of my EAB Ten Kate Junior Team."



ENI TITLE SPONSOR DEAL IS EXTENDED

A new deal has been announced that will keep fuel company eni as title sponsor and official supplier of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship for a further two years. The announcement was made by both companies during the first European round of the season at MotorLand Aragón, and covers the current season and 2014.

A statement from championship rights-holders Dorna said: "The goal of the agreement is to continue the positive experience of the last sporting season with an even higher level of commitment. From this year on, as the leading technological partner, eni is providing nine of the 13 teams in the series with the latest and most advanced fuel. Thanks to their presence in racing, eni took the opportunity to test their latest products, fuels and lubricants, and constantly exchange feedback with manufacturers."

REA RELISHES HIS VISIT TO CATHEDRAL

Jonathan Rea will head into this weekend's round of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship at Assen with high hopes. The Pata Honda racer is the third most successful rider of all time at the famous Dutch circuit, known as 'The Cathedral'.

The Northern Irishman has won four times in his eight races at the circuit, behind only Superbike legend Carl Fogarty, who won there 12 times, and Troy Bayliss, who scored six victories. Rea's haul included a double in 2010, race one in 2011 and race two last year. Assen also saw his first pole position, in 2010.

By contrast, BMW Motorrad GoldBet ace Marco Melandri has not managed a single podium finish in four SBK races at the circuit. The Italian was leading race one last year, only to fall before the race was stopped.

BMW DELIGHTED AT NEW SYSTEM DEBUT

Chaz Davies's outstanding double in the last round of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship at MotorLand Aragón was not the only reason for the BMW Motorrad GoldBet team to celebrate one of their best ever days in the sport.

The new BMW HP4 bike also made its debut in the Superstock 1000 FIM Cup, and was ridden to a dominant win by reigning champion Sylvain Barrier. The S1000 RR exceeded all expectations, and team general manager Andrea Buzzoni said: "Thanks to the development work the team has done over the last three months, BMW wrote an important page in the history of motorcycle racing as it is the first bike to win with an innovative electronic damping system. I congratulate the team and our colleagues in Munich for developing the system and Sylvain, who knows how to make perfect use of this new technology."

LEWIS DEFENDS HIS JUNIOR CUP LEAD

The 2013 Pata European Junior Cup, powered by Honda, is set for another exciting weekend of racing after the close battle of the opening round.

All 35 young riders – 33 full-time entries and two wildcards – take on the challenging Assen circuit in the Netherlands as Aragón winner Jake Lewis of New Zealand defends his lead over Michael Canducci (Colors Experience), Guillaume Raymond (Activbike), Illan Fernandez (Evo Kids Racing) and Zac Levy (Puma R.V.s).

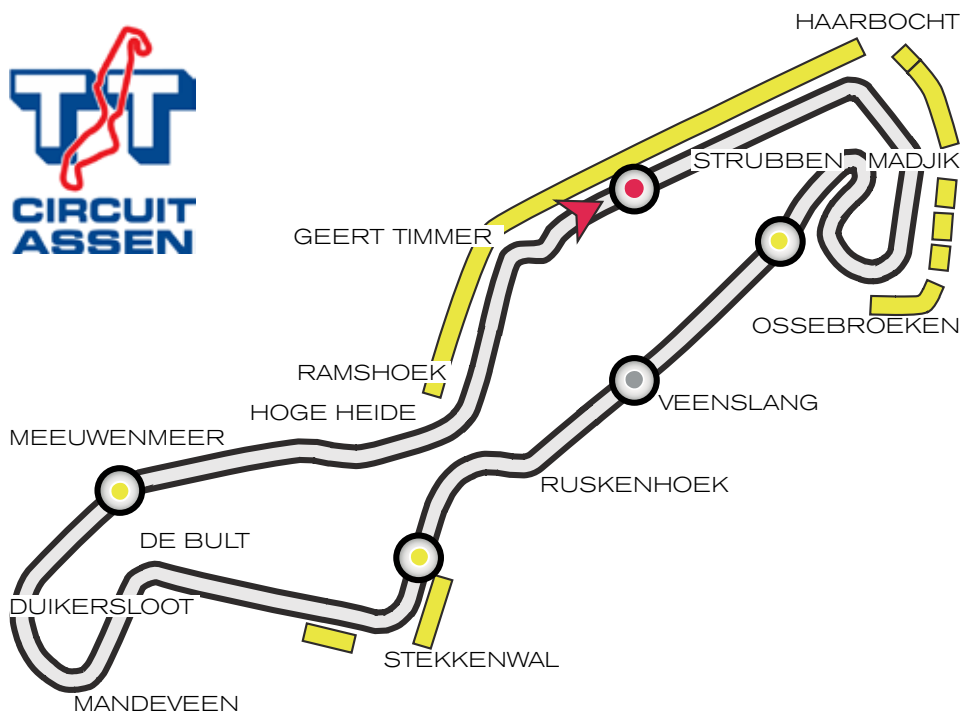
TOP 10: 1 Jake Lewis (Honda) 25; 2 Albert Arenas (Honda) 20; 3 Michael Canducci (Honda) 16; 4 Guillaume Raymond (Honda) 13; 5 Illan Fernandez (Honda) 11; 6 Zac Levy (Honda) 10; 7 Ali Adriansyah Rusmiputro (Honda) 9; 8 Peter Sebestyen (Honda) 8; 9 Kevin Manfredi (Honda) 7; 10 Illya Mykhalchuk (Honda) 6.

CAMIER FIGHTS TO BE FIT FOR ASSEN

Leon Camier has this week been battling to be fit for the third round of the eni FIM Superbike World Championship at Assen as he recovers from a knee injury. The Fixi Crescent Suzuki rider suffered a severe wound to his knee in a Friday practice crash at the last round in Aragón, and was forced to miss out on racing after undergoing surgery.

Camier has undertaken a comprehensive rehabilitation process, and the former British Superbike champion was due to be assessed by his doctor during the build-up to Assen to determine if he will be able to take his place alongside team-mate Jules Cluzel. Camier lies 14th in the championship standings thanks to the two ninth-placed finishes he picked up at the opening round in Australia.



CIRCUIT GUIDE: ASSEN

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS
WORLD SUPERBIKE

1	Sylvain Guintoli	FRA	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	85
2	Chaz Davies	GBR	BMW S1000 RR	63
3	Eugene Laverty	IRL	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	45
4	Marco Melandri	ITA	BMW S1000 RR	43
5	Michel Fabrizio	ITA	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	42
6	Tom Sykes	GBR	Kawasaki ZX-10R	38
7	Jules Cluzel	FRA	Suzuki GSX-R1000	33
8	Loris Baz	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-10R	31
9	Jonathan Rea	GBR	Honda CBR1000RR	30
10	Leon Haslam	GBR	Honda CBR1000RR	29
11	Davide Giugliano	ITA	Aprilia RSV4 Factory	23
12	Max Neukirchner	GER	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	20
13	Carlos Checa	ESP	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	17
14	Leon Camier	GBR	Suzuki GSX-R1000	14
15	Ayrton Badovini	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	12

WORLD SUPERSPORT

1	Fabien Foret	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-6R	38
2	Michael van der Mark	NED	Honda CBR600RR	36
3	Luca Scassa	ITA	Kawasaki ZX-6R	26
4	Kenan Sofuoglu	TUR	Kawasaki ZX-6R	25
5	Andrea Antonelli	ITA	Kawasaki ZX-6R	22

SUPERSTOCK 1000

1	Sylvain Barrier	FRA	BMW S1000 RR HP4	25
2	Niccolò Canepa	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	20
3	Leandro Mercado	ARG	Kawasaki ZX-10R	16
4	Jeremy Guarnoni	FRA	Kawasaki ZX-10R	13
5	Eddi La Marra	ITA	Ducati 1199 Panigale R	11

LAST TIME
ARAGÓN 14.04.13
RACE ONE (20 laps)

1	Chaz Davies	BMW	39'50.332
2	Sylvain Guintoli	Aprilia	@5.216
3	Marco Melandri	BMW	@7.089
4	Jonathan Rea	Honda	@8.196
5	Loris Baz	Kawasaki	@14.417
6	Jules Cluzel	Suzuki	@18.332
7	Carlos Checa	Ducati	@24.306
8	Michel Fabrizio	Aprilia	@25.884
9	Leon Haslam	Honda	@35.721
10	Ayrton Badovini	Ducati	@44.129
11	Max Neukirchner	Ducati	@51.424
12	Federico Sandi	Kawasaki	@1'09.217
13	Ivan Clementi	BMW	@1'14.091
14	Vittorio Iannuzzo	BMW	@1'48.328
NC	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia	@6 laps
Ret	Davide Giugliano	Aprilia	@1 lap
Ret	Alexander Lundh	Kawasaki	@9 laps
Ret	Mark Aitchison	Ducati	@14 laps
Ret	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki	@15 laps

SBK eni
SUPERBIKE
 FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

RACE TWO (19 laps)

1	Chaz Davies	BMW	37'52.691
2	Sylvain Guintoli	Aprilia	@5.035
3	Tom Sykes	Kawasaki	@7.677
4	Davide Giugliano	Aprilia	@12.549
5	Marco Melandri	BMW	@19.766
6	Loris Baz	Kawasaki	@23.855
7	Jules Cluzel	Suzuki	@26.926
8	Carlos Checa	Ducati	@31.593
9	Leon Haslam	Honda	@35.308
10	Ayrton Badovini	Ducati	@44.497
11	Michel Fabrizio	Aprilia	@53.071
12	Max Neukirchner	Ducati	@55.223
13	Alexander Lundh	Kawasaki	@1'32.995
14	Ivan Clementi	BMW	@1'41.979
15	Jonathan Rea	Honda	@1 lap
Ret	Federico Sandi	Kawasaki	@13 laps
Ret	Vittorio Iannuzzo	BMW	
Ret	Eugene Laverty	Aprilia	
NS	Mark Aitchison	Ducati	

SBK eni
SUPERBIKE
 FIM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP