

Top 10 Things First-Timers Should Experience at the Rolex 24

1. Enjoy the Carnival Atmosphere

24 hours is too long to limit yourself to just racing action. One of the most enjoyable elements of the off-track activity is the carnival that takes place in the infield. Located along the main access road, this area can provide fun and entertainment for all ages. The Ferris wheel has become an icon at the race and is one of the tallest on the east coast of Florida. A spot at the top provides you a panoramic view of the track, as well as terrific sightlines of the Atlantic Ocean. It's fun to go day or night, but lines tend to get a little shorter after the sun sets.

2. Vendors & Exhibitions

Along the main access road through the infield there are a number of vendors and exhibitions. The food is top-notch and souvenir options are endless. Featured exhibitions will be running the entire weekend from some of the world's largest and most well-respected auto-manufacturers. Take a blast to the past and check out some of the older cars that used to race this track with our Heritage Exhibition or look into the future as manufacturers display brand-new additions.

3. Walk the Grid

Many fans would rate this at the top of your to-do list when going to the Rolex 24 At DAYTONA. Before the race you can walk the starting grid and the frontstretch of the Daytona International Speedway. Enjoy unprecedented access as you will be able to walk up to the cars and drivers to take photos and get autographs. You can even step out onto the track and climb the steep 18 degree banks to the wall at the start/finish line. Once you do, you will never look at it the same way again.

4. Get a Garage Pass

Few places give you garage access like IMSA and Daytona International Speedway. Garage passes give you a first-hand look at everything it takes to compete in a 24-hour endurance race. You can rub elbows with drivers and racing teams while taking in the adrenaline-inducing sounds of blaring engines and the smell of burning rubber.

5. Walk through the famous Twin Tunnels

This is an experience that even those unacquainted with racing will appreciate. Whether it's your first race or you're a DAYTONA regular, you're likely to still get goosebumps as you drive into the infield through the original tunnels constructed in 1959. As you travel through the tunnel your eyes will quickly adjust to the darkness and tranquility of the entryway before a flurry of action, color and grandeur explodes before your eyes as you enter into "The World Center of Racing."

6. Enter the Sprint FANZONE

The Sprint FANZONE is located in the infield next to the garages and pit road and is the epicenter of your Rolex 24 At DAYTONA experience. The Sprint FANZONE offers access to the Budweiser Bistro, driver Q & A's, show cars, driver introductions, garage window access, inspection viewing, Sprint FANDECK access, and you can even sign the historic start/finish line.

7. Dig in to the Taste of the 24

The Taste of the 24 features a blend of food and fast cars with access all weekend long to the 54th anniversary of the Rolex 24 At DAYTONA and Sprint FANZONE. Taste more food than you ever imagined as patrons can sample and enjoy cuisine from 24 of the area's finest restaurants, a cigar bar, live jazz music, beer and wine from around the world, and a chance to win a Rolex. Get your Taste of the 24 tickets through the NASCAR Foundation [right here](#).

8. Jam to Live Entertainment

The Sprint FANZONE Main Stage will welcome a variety of exciting bands and musical acts before those live acts turn things over to the audience for some karaoke. Fueled with the adrenaline of nearly 70 of the world's fastest sports cars in the background, courageously step up to the mic and belt out a few of your favorites.

9. Wine and Cheese Tasting

With the roar of sports cars buzzing in the background, treat your palate to some exquisite wines and nibble on a variety of cheeses at the annual Wine and Cheese Tasting. Nothing pairs better than a bold win and wire-to-wire endurance racing.

10. Café 24 Breakfast Garage

After a thrilling, yet likely tiring first day and night of Rolex 24 racing, gather your friends and family to get your day started the right way with a hearty breakfast at Café 24 Breakfast Garage located in the Café 24 Activity Zone. The hot breakfast is highlighted by offerings like farm-fresh eggs, golden hash browns and Florida orange juice.