Rockingham

From LFS Manual
Jump to navigationJump to search

Rockingham: Europe's fastest racing circuit located at the heart of England, recreated with laser precision. It is the only real track in the game so far and the first track to require an S3 license.

Contents

Reveal

The first unofficial mention of Rockingham appearing in Live for Speed was in a forum thread created by boothy in Sep 20, 2009. He revealed that he had tried it using the FOX at the actual track itself in a special version of Live for Speed during a BTCC race weekend. Later in the thread, he posted a photo of a row of simulator rigs running LFS at Rockingham welcome centre to prove his point. Even though the photo was quite blurry, others were able to recognize that the in-game small map didn't look like any of the existing tracks.[1]

One day later, on Sep 21, 2009, the developers published an official announcement about Rockingham coming to LFS.[2]

Rockingham

Short name	RO
Track type	permanent circuit
License	S3
Introduced	0.6K
Last updated	0.6M
Resemblance	real
Weather types	clear day
	clear morning
	overcast afternoon
	clear sunset
Pit lane speed limit	65 km/h (40 mph)
Configurations	11
ISSC	
Short name	RO1
Length	3.097 km (1.924 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	8
Surface types	asphalt (100%)

Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

National

Short name	RO2
Length	2.697 km (1.676 mi)
Direction	↻ Clockwise
Turns	11
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

Oval

Short name	RO3
Length	2.363 km (1.468 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	4
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

ISSC Long

Short name	RO4
Length	3.253 km (2.021 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	9
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

Lake

Short name	RO5
Length	1.046 km (0.65 mi)
Direction	↻ Clockwise
Turns	5
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

Handling

Short name	RO6
Length	1.559 km (0.969 mi)
Direction	↻ Clockwise
Turns	5
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

International

Short name	RO7
Length	3.874 km (2.407 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	11
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

Historic

Short name	RO8
Length	3.565 km (2.215 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	10
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

Historic Short

Short name	RO9
Length	2.197 km (1.365 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	6
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No

International Long

Short name	RO10
Length	4.056 km (2.52 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise

Turns	12
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No
Sportscar	
Short name	RO11
Length	2.693 km (1.673 mi)
Direction	↺ Anti-clockwise
Turns	8
Surface types	asphalt (100%)
Grid size	40
Reversed option	✗ No
LFS.net details (https://www.lfs.net/tracks/RO)	LFS World hotlaps (https://www.lfsworld.net/?win=hotlaps&whichTab=wrs&track=ro)

Special LFS versions running Rockingham at the real venue during 2009 BTCC weekend

Development

The opportunity to develop Rockingham came in 2008 through a contact of the developers at V1 Championship (https://web.archive.org/web/20091115062000/http://www.v1championship.com/). The developers decided to use laser scanning as a method to recreate an accurate version of the real track. They asked apr services (https://web.archive.org/web/20090421134326/http://www.aprservices.net/) to obtain and process the laser scanned data. Their scanner produced data with a said accuracy of around 2 cm and each point included a colour derived from a photograph taken from the same spot. The developers also visited Rockingham to get a video of the track and take photos.[2]

It was released in version 0.6K on Dec 19, 2015.

Laser scanned data of Rockingham

Update

The subsequent version brought fixes and improvements to the environment with version 0.6M on Feb 13, 2016. A new weather option "Clear Sunset" was added and "Cloudy Afternoon" was replaced by "Clear Morning".

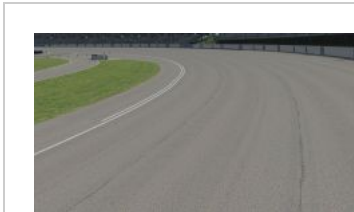0.6K: No track control lights on oval fences

0.6M: Track control lights on oval fences added

0.6K: Smaller start lights

0.6M: Larger start lights

0.6K: Plain asphalt texture without any tyre marks

0.6M: Permanent tyre mark textures added

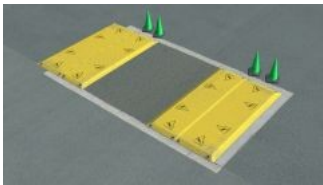0.6K: Grass without dirt near tyre barriers

0.6M: Dirtier grass texture near tyre barriers
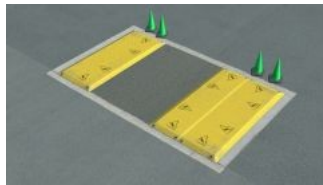

0.6K: Pit stop chalk lines blend in with concrete textures

0.6M: Brighter, more visible pit stop chalk lines

0.6K: Wet grip area panels

0.6M: Wet grip area panels

0.6K: No chalk lines for grid slots on National/Handling pit straight

0.6M: Grid slots marked by chalk lines on National/ Handling pit straight

0.6K: Marshall booth on the left

0.6M: Marshall booth on the right

Configurations



ISSC (RO1)
Length: 3.1 km (1.926 mi)

The circuit combines long straights, sweeping high-speed bends including the infamous Turn 1 and Gracelands and a lower speed, highly technical infield layout.

National (RO2)
Length: 2.7 km (1.678 mi)

Whilst not using any of the Oval, at 1.7 miles the circuit provides a wide range of corners testing the technical ability of drivers. There are some long straights with fast corners where road position is everything. In contrast, the layout includes the tight Tarzan, a very difficult to master right hand hairpin.
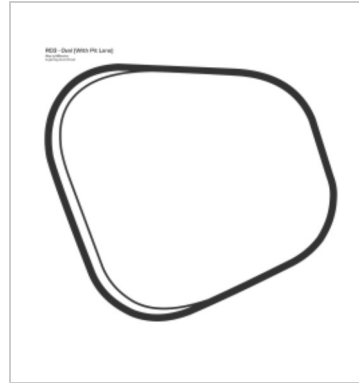
**Oval (RO3)**
Length: 2.4 km (1.491 mi)

Rockingham's 1.48 mile American-style banked oval circuit is unique in the UK and one of only two speedways in Europe. With banking set at 7 degrees, the oval comprises four very distinct corners. The circuit can also be converted to a road course layout for events by positioning temporary chicanes and curves both on the main area and apron of the circuit.
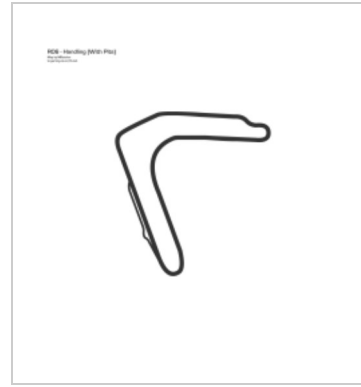
ISSC Long (RO4)
Length: 3.3 km (2.051 mi)
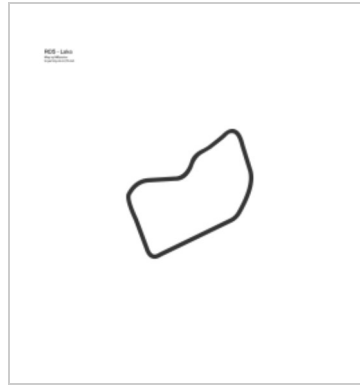
Lake (RO5)
Length: 1 km (0.621 mi)

The Lake circuit is a great trainer circuit which can be run in conjunction with the Handling and Oval configurations. This tight and twisty layout may be short but still provides a challenge for both man and machine alike.
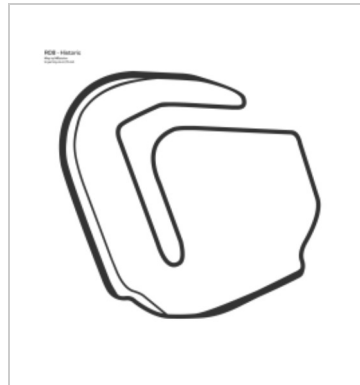
Handling (RO6)
Length: 1.6 km (0.994 mi)

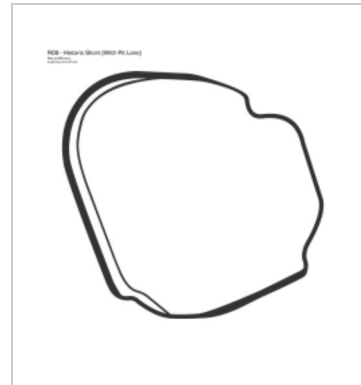The Handling Circuit is an excellent option for training and shakedowns. It can be run simultaneously with the banked Oval and Lake circuits to provide great flexibility for multi-circuit events. It combines long straights and tight turns with the awesome Gracelands left hander.

International (RO7)
Length: 3.9 km (2.423 mi)

Historic (RO8)
Length: 3.6 km (2.237 mi)

Historic Short (RO9)
Length: 2.2 km (1.367 mi)

International Long (RO10)
Length: 4.1 km (2.548 mi)

Sportscar (RO11)
Length: 2.7 km (1.678 mi)

Timeline

- 2008: The opportunity to get access to Rockingham and permission to develop it for LFS through V1 Championship came about.
- 2009: Rockingham coming to LFS announced after being spotted at a BTCC race weekend.
- 2015: Rockingham released as S3 content in 0.6K on December 19.
- 2016: Version 0.6M released on February 13, with fixes and improvements to the environment.
- 2018: A graphics progress report published on September 22, showing screenshots of a slightly updated Rockingham with more 3D kerbs and more accurate crash barriers. [4]

Gallery

Rockingham track image (1 pixel = 1 meter)
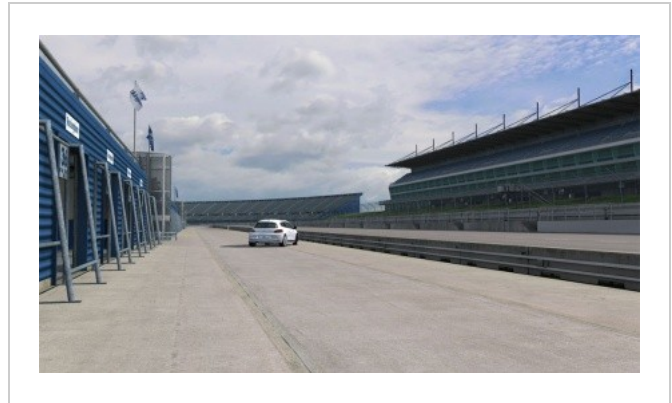
Pit lane of Rockingham

In-game vs real life comparison of Rockingham

Shared repository has media related to
*Rockingham (https://upload.lfsmanual.net/
wiki/Category:Rockingham)*.

References

1. ^ "Rockingham spotted in LFS at BTCC race (formerly: Great jobs Devs - LFS rocks!)" (https://ww
   w.lfs.net/forum/thread/61582). *LFS Forum*. 20 September 2009. Retrieved 1 January 2025.
2. ^ "Rockingham, recreated in Live for Speed" (https://www.lfs.net/rockingham). *LFS*. 21 September
   2009. Retrieved 1 January 2025.
3. ^ "V1 Championship - free to enter race driver search" (https://web.archive.org/web/20091115062000/
   http://www.v1championship.com/). *V1 Championship*. 25 October 2023. Archived from the original
   (http://www.v1championship.com/) on 15 November 2009. Retrieved 1 January 2025.
4. ^ "Live for Speed, Graphics Progress Report: Rockingham" (https://www.lfs.net/report-sep2018-ro).
   LFS. 22 September 2018. Retrieved 2 January 2025.

External links

- Rockingham Motor Speedway - Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockingham_Motor_Speed
  way)
- Rockingham UK (archived) (https://web.archive.org/web/20160315034811/http://www.rockingham.c
  o.uk/)

Live for Speed tracks			˅
Demo	**S1**	**S2**	**S3**
- Blackwood	- South City - Fern Bay - Autocross	- Kyoto Ring - Westhill - Aston	- Rockingham - Layout Square

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