

Charles Marc Hervé Perceval Leclerc^[2] (French pronunciation: [ʃaʁl ləkʁɛʁ]; born 16 October 1997) is a [Monégasque racing driver](#), currently competing in [Formula One](#) for [Scuderia Ferrari](#).

After a successful [karting](#) career—culminating in his victory at the [junior direct-drive Karting World Cup](#) in 2011—Leclerc graduated to [junior formulae](#). He won his first championship at the [2016 GP3 Series](#) with [ART Grand Prix](#). Leclerc then won the inaugural [FIA Formula 2 Championship](#) in 2017 with [Prema Racing](#), becoming the fourth driver to win the [GP2/Formula 2](#) championship in their rookie season.

Leclerc made his Formula One debut in 2018 with [Sauber](#) as part of the [Ferrari Driver Academy](#), leading their Constructors' Championship charge from last the year prior to eighth, scoring 81% of their tally from 10 points finishes. He joined Ferrari for the 2019 season to partner [Sebastian Vettel](#), and became the second-youngest driver to qualify on [pole position in Formula One](#) at the [Bahrain Grand Prix](#). Leclerc took his maiden career win in [Belgium](#), and ended Ferrari's record [nine-year drought](#) at the [Italian Grand Prix](#). After winless seasons for Ferrari in 2020 and 2021, Leclerc finished runner-up to [Max Verstappen](#) in the [2022 World Drivers' Championship](#). In 2024, Leclerc won the [Monaco Grand Prix](#), becoming the first Monégasque driver to win the race in 93 years.

As of the [2024 Italian Grand Prix](#), Leclerc has achieved seven race wins, 25 pole positions, nine fastest laps and 38 podiums in Formula One. He scored the first [grand slam](#) of his career at the [2022 Australian Grand Prix](#). Leclerc is set to remain at Ferrari until at least the end of the 2026 season.^[3]

Personal life: Born to father Hervé Leclerc and mother Pascale Leclerc,^[4] Leclerc grew up as the middle child between older brother Lorenzo and younger brother [Arthur](#). His dog's name is Leo. His father also raced cars, driving in [Formula 3](#) in the 1980s and 1990s. Hervé died after a long illness, aged 54, four days before Leclerc won the feature race at the [2017 Baku Formula 2 round](#).^{[5][6]} Two days before his death, Leclerc lied to his father that he had signed a Formula One contract for the 2018 season; he signed with [Sauber](#) a month later.^[7] Leclerc's older brother Lorenzo was best friends with the late [Jules Bianchi](#), who became Leclerc's godfather until [Bianchi's death in 2014](#). Leclerc's younger brother Arthur is also a racing driver in the [European Le Mans Series](#), having raced in the [FIA Formula 2 Championship](#) the [year before](#).

Leclerc is trilingual, fluent in French, Italian, and English.^[8] Although the French pronunciation of his name uses silent final consonants, he has stated that when speaking English he often uses the Anglicised pronunciation. He has said "he likes both", and that others using either pronunciation is acceptable to him.^[9] Leclerc has described his religious stance as "[believing] in God, but [not someone] who would pray or go to church."^[10]