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## Eau Lord... it's Spa's greatest (and most terrifying) corner

22 September 2014 | Charis Whitcombe

*For drivers, Eau Rouge is up there with the Corkscrew at Laguna Seca, Paddock Bend at Brands Hatch, and the Foxhole at the Nürburgring Nordschleife as one of motor racing's great challenges...*

Eau Rouge was one of the first artificial corners in the history of motorsport (early road-type circuits were on closed public roads), when it was built in 1939 at Spa-Francorchamps to improve average speeds at what was already a phenomenally fast circuit.

### When Eau becomes new



Originally, there was a sharp left at the bottom of the hill (you can still see the remains of it in the

picture above, in front of the BP signs), which ran up to a hairpin and a very tight right at the old customs post on the German-Belgian border. When this was replaced by the left-right of Eau Rouge, immediately followed by the left of Raidillon, the result was one of the fastest, trickiest and most fascinating corners in the sport.

*Photos: Rex Features / Getty*

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