[1] SIMONA HALEP (ROU #2) vs. IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #82)

Head to Head: SIMONA HALEP leads 6-0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Tourn. Stage</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>SHENZHEN</td>
<td>HARD O</td>
<td>SF</td>
<td>SIMONA HALEP</td>
<td>6-1 6-4</td>
<td>89 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>WUHAN</td>
<td>HARD O</td>
<td>R2</td>
<td>SIMONA HALEP</td>
<td>6-3 2-0</td>
<td>68 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>MADRID</td>
<td>CLAY O</td>
<td>QF</td>
<td>SIMONA HALEP</td>
<td>6-3 0-6 6-1</td>
<td>96 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>HOBART</td>
<td>HARD O</td>
<td>R16</td>
<td>SIMONA HALEP</td>
<td>6-4 6-2</td>
<td>90 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>BUCHAREST</td>
<td>CLAY O</td>
<td>R1</td>
<td>SIMONA HALEP</td>
<td>7-5 6-2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>BUCHAREST 2</td>
<td>CLAY O</td>
<td>QF</td>
<td>SIMONA HALEP</td>
<td>6-3 6-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WTA RANKING**

**PORSCHE RACE TO SINGAPORE LEADERBOARD**

**DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)**

**YTD PRIZE MONEY**

**CAREER PRIZE MONEY**

**SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)**

**DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)**

**PRAGUE W-L (MD) **

**YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) **

**YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) **

**YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) **

**YTD / CAREER CLAY W-L (MD) **

**YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) **

**YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) **

**YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) **

**YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) **

* Updated entering 2020 Prague SF

**ROAD TO THE SF**

[1] SIMONA HALEP (ROU #2)

QF: d. MAGDALENA FRECH (POL #174) 6-2,6-0 (0h59)

R16: d. BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #118) 3-6,7-5,6-2 (2h05)

R32: d. POLONA HERCOG (SLO #46) 6-1,1-6,7-6(3) (2h30)

Total games: 70

Won/lost: 42-28

Sets won/lost: 6-2

Total time on court: 5h34

Average time on court: 1h51

Average rank of opponent: 113

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IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #82)

QF: d. SARA SORRIBES TORMO (ESP #84) 6-2,4-6,6-2 (2h40)

R16: d. LEONIE KUNG (SUI #157) 6-7(3),7-5,7-6(7) (3h28)

R32: d. [9] ANASTASIJA SEVASTOVA (LAT #43) 6-2,6-2 (1h08)

Total games: 80

Won/lost: 48-32

Sets won/lost: 6-2

Total time on court: 7h16

Average time on court: 2h25

Average rank of opponent: 95

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HALEP

- Playing Prague Open for the first time; previous appearance on Czech soil was during 2019’s Fed Cup World Group quarterfinal, where she won singles rubbers against Siniakova and Ka.Pliskova to inspire Romania to a 3-2 victory
- No.1 seed this week; the top seed has prevailed once in Prague, during the inaugural staging in 2015 when Ka.Pliskova claimed the title
- Eventually closed out a hard-fought 1r victory over Hercog on her seventh match point on Tuesday. Followed this with another 3s victory, recovering from 2-0 down in the final set to beat Krejcikova in 2r
- Defeated Frech in QF which was her 55th Tour-level QF win (55-25 record, and now 22-5 on clay)
- Faces Begu in SF today – last faced a fellow countrywoman at 2019 Wimbledon (d. Buzarnescu in 2r)
- Has won all six previous meetings with Begu, dropping only one set (which was on clay)
- Record in Tour-level SFs stands at 36-16 entering today’s match
- Is through to her third SF of 2020 (also Australian Open – I. Muguruza, and Dubai – WON)
- Bidding to reach first final on clay since 2018 Roland Garros, and the 38th final of her career
- Fell in 1r of doubles this week w/Strycova (l. Kudermetova/Pavlyuchenkova)
- Used tennis’s hiatus in 2020 to recover from a foot injury that had ruled her out of Indian Wells in March and spend time with her family (read more in her exclusive WTA Insider interview on wtatennis.com)
- Owns an excellent record on clay, winning seven titles on the surface; only two active players have won more – S.Williams (13) and V.Williams (nine)
- Including this week, has been ranked inside the Top 10 for 342 consecutive weeks – the 10th longest streak in WTA history
- In her final event before the tour’s shutdown in March, lifted her 20th career title, drawing her level with Azarenka in fifth place on the list of active title winners (behind S.Williams, V.Williams, Clijsters and Kvitova); win over Jabeur en route to title was her 500th (including ITF Circuit and qualifying)
- Began 2020 season by reaching QF at Adelaide (l. Sabalenka) and SF at Australian Open (l. Muguruza)
- Ended 2019 ranked No.4 for sixth consecutive year in the Top 5; campaign highlighted by winning second career Grand Slam title at Wimbledon (d. S.Williams in F)
- Last season, also finished R-Up at Madrid (l. Bertens) and QF at Roland Garros (as defending champion, l. Anisimova) and Toronto (ret. vs. Bouzova w/Achilles pain)
- Ended 2018 as World No.1 for the second time in her career, with season highlighted by maiden Grand Slam title at Roland Garros (d. Stephens in F). Also won titles that year at Shenzhen (d. Siniakova in F) and Montréal (d. Stephens in F) and was R-Up at Australian Open (l. Wozniacki), Rome (l. Svitolina) and Cincinnati (l. Bertens)
- Won first career WTA doubles title at 2018 Shenzhen (w/Begu). Now 1-1 in career doubles finals
- Finished 2017 as the year-end World No.1, having ascended to the No.1 spot for first time in career on October 9, 2017 – became the 25th woman to reach the top spot, and the 13th to hold year-end No.1
- Defended Madrid title in 2017 (d. Mladenovic in F); reached four more finals in 2017: Rome, Roland Garros, Cincinnati and Beijing
- Lifted three titles in 2016, at Madrid, Bucharest and Montréal
- Between May 2013 and August 2014, improved ranking from No.64 to No.2, winning seven titles and finishing R-Up at 2014 Roland Garros
- Has qualified six times for WTA Finals in Singapore (2014-19, although withdrew injured in 2018), reaching final in 2014 (l. S.Williams, having defeated the World No.1 in the round robin stage)
- Named 2013 WTA Most Improved Player, winning her first six WTA titles and ending year ranked No.11
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2010 Marbella as a qualifier, reaching quarterfinals
- Reunited with long-time coach, Darren Cahill during offseason after taking a 12-month break. Formerly coached by Wim Fissette and Victor Ionița
- Sponsorship portfolio includes deals with Mercedes and Unilever
Playing Prague Open for a second time, having fallen 1r in 2015 (l. Siniakova)

In 1r this week, beat No.43 Sevastova –her first Top 50 win since beating Zhang at 2018 Roland Garros

Her next two matches this week were both prolonged due to poor weather – she began her 2r match on Thursday before defeating King on Friday, saving 3MP in third-set tie-break

Then later on Friday, she began her QF match vs. Sorribes Tormo, which was eventually finished earlier today

Is through to her first SF since 2018 Istanbul (l. Parmentier), and bidding to reach first final since 2017 Bucharest

A win today vs. No.2 Halep would be her best win-by-ranking, bettering that of No.4 Muguruza at 2016 Madrid

Has lost all six previous meetings with Halep, winning only one set (which was on clay)

Overall has six career Top 10 wins: No.9 Wozniacki (2012 US Open), No.9 Kerber (2015 Australian Open), No.4 Muguruza (2016 Madrid), No.6 Azarenka (2016 Rome), No.8 Bencic (2016 Birmingham via ret.) and No.5 Ostapenko (2018 Madrid)

Last week, fell 1r at Palermo (l. Siegemund). Prior to tour’s hiatus was in good form, winning the title at WTA 125K Series event at Indian Wells and another title at $100K ITF/Cairo-EGY

Ended 2019 at No.99 -sixth straight Top 100 finish

Season highlight was 3r run at Roland Garros (l. Anisimova) and three QF runs at Hobart (l. Schmiedlova), Budapest (l. Vondrousova) and Bucharest (l. Siegemund)

In doubles in 2019, won Hua Hin (w/Niculescu), her ninth doubles title

Won two doubles titles in 2018 –Shenzhen and Bucharest –finishing the year at a career-best No.23 in the WTA Doubles Rankings. Reached SF stage of 2018 Australian Open doubles event w/Niculescu

Reached two singles SFs -Shenzhen and Istanbul -and one QF in 2018. Also defeated No.5 Ostapenko at 2018 Madrid for second Top 5 win of career having also beaten No.4 Muguruza at 2016 Madrid

2017 season was highlighted by lifting fourth singles title of her career at Bucharest without dropping a set (d. Goerges in F); also took home the doubles trophy without dropping a set w/Olaru

Also in 2017 reached two SFs: Istanbul (l. Mertens) and Moscow (l. Kasatkina), and one QF at Charleston (l. eventual champion Kasatkina)•Represented Romania at 2016 Rio Olympics, making 1r exits in singles (l. Hibino) and doubles (w/Niculescu, l. Chan/Chan)

Other notable results in 2016 included SF at Rome (l. S.Williams), QF at Charleston (l. Kerber) and QF at Madrid (l. Halep)

Posted career-best ranking at No.22 (August 22, 2016)

In run to QF at 2016 Madrid was one of four Romanians for reach QF –which was first time this had occurred at a Premier Mandatory event (also Halep, Cirstea and Tig). Secured two milestones during Madrid: career-best win vs. No.4 Muguruza, and 300th match win of career (all levels) with R16 defeat of McHale

Owns four WTA singles titles from seven finals, lifting the trophies at 2012 Tashkent, 2015 Seoul, 2016 Florianopolis and 2017 Bucharest

Owns nine WTA doubles titles from 16 finals, most recently at 2019 Hua Hin (w/Niculescu)

Struggled with right shoulder injury in 2013 –first felt pain at 2013 Australian Open and missed three months of action

Holds 11 singles titles and 19 doubles titles on ITF Circuit

Voted WTA Newcomer of the Year in 2011 (media vote)