



**MATCH NOTES: INTERNAZIONALI BNL D'ITALIA**  
ROME, ITALY | SEPTEMBER 14-20, 2020 | €1,692,169 | PREMIER 5

**WTA Website:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | [facebook.com/wta](https://facebook.com/wta)

**Tournament Website:** [Internazionalibnlditalia.com](http://Internazionalibnlditalia.com) | @InteBNLDItalia | [facebook.com/internazionalibnlditalia](https://facebook.com/internazionalibnlditalia)

**WTA Communications:** Alex Prior ([aprior@wtatennis.com](mailto:aprior@wtatennis.com)), Ellie Emerson ([eemerson@wtatennis.com](mailto:eemerson@wtatennis.com))

SAP Tennis Analytics for Media is an online portal that provides real-time data and insights to media during every WTA event and across all devices. Please email [sapanalyticmedia@wtatennis.com](mailto:sapanalyticmedia@wtatennis.com) to request your individual login to grant access to SAP Tennis Analytics for Media.

## INTERNAZIONALI BNL D'ITALIA – DAY THREE

### [SE] VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #14) vs. [WC] VENUS WILLIAMS (USA #70)

V.Williams leads 6-2

**Azarenka** arrives following finalist performance at the US Open... **V.Williams** returns as a former champion, having lifted the crown in 1999... **Azarenka** was R-Up here in 2013

### ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA (RUS #36) vs. [4] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #6)

Pavlyuchenkova leads 3-1

**Pavlyuchenkova** bidding for third Top 10 win this season... **Svitolina** returning to Rome as a two-time champion, capturing back-to-back titles in 2017-18

### [6] BELINDA BENCIC (SUI #10) vs. [Q] DANKA KOVINIC (MNE #86)

Kovinic leads 1-0

**Bencic** playing in first event back since hiatus; prior to break, advanced to QF at Doha... **Kovinic** defeated the Swiss over five years ago at Charleston in their only previous meeting

### [1] SIMONA HALEP (ROU #2) vs. [WC] JASMINE PAOLINI (ITA #99)

First meeting

**Halep** currently on a nine-match winning streak, including title runs at Dubai and Prague... **Paolini** looking to improve 2-0 record against Top 10 ranked opponents

### BARBORA STRYCOVA (CZE #37) vs. [2] KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #4)

Ka.Pliskova leads 4-1

**Strycova** looking for her first pair of back-to-back wins since reaching SF at 2019 Wimbledon... **Ka.Pliskova** kicks off title defense after defeating Konta to lift last year's crown

## WTA4LOVE – SUPPORTING THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

- As part of the ongoing humanitarian campaign, WTA4Love, more than **100 community initiatives** have been undertaken by WTA players and partners since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March.
- Many players are stepping up again to raise awareness by wearing **WTA4Love patches** during competition in support of the ongoing campaign as we return to play.
- WTA4Love initiatives have provided COVID-19 support ranging from donations of medical equipment to hospitals, including **30,000 masks** donated to medical professionals through the efforts of the players and WTA Charities.
- Food insecurity has also been addressed by providing **24,000 meals** to families and frontline workers and through fundraisers for local foodbanks. WTA Charities will continue to support the ongoing needs of communities with upcoming donations of **100,000 meals** in partnership with Lilly Pulitzer.
- “WTA4Love” is a global campaign with activities and donations by players and WTA Charities in **14 of the countries** which are home to WTA tournaments and most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including China, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, among others.
- In addition to the urgent focus on the COVID-19 pandemic, WTA Charities has continued to support a wide range of nonprofit organizations including **live video chats** teaching leadership and character development to youth and **offering support and positive messaging** to Special Olympics participants.
- For more information on each player’s specific activities, please contact WTA Communications Manager, Teyva Sammet [TSammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:TSammet@wtatennis.com)



## A SNAPSHOT OF 2020 – THE YEAR SO FAR

- **One Top 10 Debut:** Sofia Kenin (at No.7 on February 3)
- **Fewest games dropped en route to a title:** Jennifer Brady (24, Lexington)
- **Lowest-ranked player to triumph:** Patricia Maria Tig (No.88, Istanbul)
- **Multiple finals:** Elena Rybakina: 4 (Shenzhen, R-Up, Hobart, W, St. Petersburg, R-Up, Dubai, R-Up); Sofia Kenin: 2 (Australian Open, W, Lyon, W); Simona Halep: 2 (Dubai, W, Prague, W); Naomi Osaka: 2 (Western & Southern Open, R-Up, US Open, W); Victoria Azarenka: 2 (Western & Southern Open, W, US Open, R-Up)
- **Maiden titles (3):** Ekaterina Alexandrova (Shenzhen), Jennifer Brady (Lexington), Patricia Maria Tig (Istanbul)
- **Youngest title winner:** Elena Rybakina, Hobart (20y 7m 1d)
- **Oldest title winner:** Serena Williams, Auckland (38y 3m 17d)
- **Aces leaders:** Elena Rybakina – 155, Garbiñe Muguruza – 128, Kristyna Pliskova – 125
- **Most aces in a match (22):** Alison Van Uytvanck (l. vs. Sofia Kenin 7-6(5) 6-7(2) 7-6(2) – Lyon, SF)
- **Match win leaders:** Elise Mertens – 24, Elena Rybakina – 23, Anett Kontaveit – 19, Sofia Kenin – 18
- **Most doubles titles (3):** Barbora Strycova / Hsieh Su-Wei (Brisbane, Dubai, Doha)
- **Best result by a qualifier (R-Up):** Kung (Hua Hin), Fernandez (Acapulco), Bouchard (Istanbul)
- **Longest match:** 3h 33m – Heather Watson d. Elise Mertens 6-7(5) 6-4 7-5 (Hobart, QF)
- **Shortest (completed) match:** 44m – Serena Williams d. Amanda Anisimova 6-1 6-1 (Auckland, SF)



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #14) vs. VENUS WILLIAMS (USA #70)

Head to Head: VENUS WILLIAMS leads 6-2

2020	LEXINGTON	HARD O	R1	VENUS WILLIAMS	6-3 6-2	80 mins
2019	AUCKLAND	HARD O	R1	VENUS WILLIAMS	6-3 1-6 6-3	131 mins
2015	MADRID	CLAY O	R1	VICTORIA AZARENKA	6-3 7-5	89 mins
2015	DOHA	HARD O	SF	VICTORIA AZARENKA	2-6 6-2 6-4	138 mins
2014	STANFORD	HARD O	R16	VENUS WILLIAMS	6-4 7-6(1)	103 mins
2013	TOKYO	HARD O	R2	VENUS WILLIAMS	6-2 6-4	81 mins
2010	DUBAI	HARD O	F	VENUS WILLIAMS	6-3 7-5	91 mins
2008	OLYMPICS	HARD O	R16	VENUS WILLIAMS	6-3 6-2	70 mins

VICTORIA AZARENKA	WTA RANKING	VENUS WILLIAMS
14		70
3	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	262
31-07-1989 (31)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	17-06-1980 (40)
\$1,819,530	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$144,268
\$32,175,035	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$41,880,806
1 / 21	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 49
0 / 8	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 22
19-10	<b>ROME W-L (MD) *</b>	34-14
11-3 / 462-181	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	1-6 / 795-253
3-1 / 88-63	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	0-4 / 185-117
2-0 / 68-44	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	0-2 / 135-97
0-0 / 93-46	<b>YTD / CAREER CLAY W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 167-62
0-0 / 46-14	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 73-16
0-0 / 30-41	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 65-75
1-1 / 68-73	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-1 / 136-106
4-1 / 124-101	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-1 / 236-153

\* Updated entering 2020 Rome 1r



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## ROME Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

### VICTORIA AZARENKA

2019			
QF	L - KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #7)	6-7(5)	6-2 6-2
2018			
R1	L - NAOMI OSAKA (JPN #21)	6-0	6-3
2016			
R2	L - IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #35)	6-3	6-2
2015			
QF	L - MARIA SHARAPOVA (RUS #3)	6-3	6-2
2013			
F	L - SERENA WILLIAMS (USA #1)	6-1	6-3
2012			
R16	L - DOMINIKA CIBULKOVA (SVK #17)		W/O
2011			
QF	L - MARIA SHARAPOVA (RUS #8)	4-6	3-0
2010			
R2	L - ANA IVANOVIC (SRB #58)	6-4	6-4
2009			
SF	L - SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA (RUS #8)	6-2	6-4
2008			
R16	L - TSVETANA PIRONKOVA (BUL #64)	6-2	1-0
2006			
R1	L - ANASTASIA MYSKINA (RUS #13)	6-3	3-6 7-6(6)

### VENUS WILLIAMS

2019			
R16	L - JOHANNA KONTA (GBR #42)	6-2	6-4
2018			
R16	L - ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #26)	6-2	7-6(3)
2017			
QF	L - GARBINE MUGURUZA (ESP #7)	6-2	3-6 6-2
2016			
R2	L - TIMEA BABOS (HUN #48)	6-7(5)	7-5 6-4
2015			
R16	L - SIMONA HALEP (ROU #2)	6-2	6-1
2014			
R2	L - CARLA SUÁREZ NAVARRO (ESP #14)	6-4	6-2
2013			
R1	L - LAURA ROBSON (GBR #39)	6-3	6-2
2012			
QF	L - MARIA SHARAPOVA (RUS #2)	6-4	6-3
2010			
QF	L - JELENA JANKOVIC (SRB #7)	6-0	6-1
2009			
SF	L - DINARA SAFINA (RUS #1)	6-7(3)	6-3 6-4
2008			
QF	L - JELENA JANKOVIC (SRB #4)	5-7	6-2 6-3
2006			
SF	L - MARTINA HINGIS (SUI #21)	0-6	6-3 6-3
2000			
R16	L - JELENA DOKIC (AUS #37)	6-1	6-2
1999			
F	W - MARY PIERCE (FRA #8)	6-4	6-2
1998			
F	L - MARTINA HINGIS (SUI #1)	6-2	3-6 6-2

### V.WILLIAMS:

#### Rome

- Making 16th appearance at the Internazionali BNL d'Italia, as a former champion in 1999 (d. Pierce in F). Also reached final on debut in 1998 (l. Hingis in F)
- During title run here in 1999, notched second career win over a reigning World No.1, defeating Hingis in SF. First win over a No.1 also came against Hingis at 1998 Miami
- Has posted 34 wins at the tournament – only S.Williams (44), Martínez (42) and Evert (37) have registered more
- Sits in second place among active players for clay court titles, with nine, behind S.Williams (13)
- Faces No.14 Azarenka in 2r today; last Top 20 win on clay came 12 months ago, over No.20 Mertens in 1r here in Rome

- Only win of the season came over Azarenka in 1r at Lexington
- Winner faces No.3 seed Kenin in 2r
- At 40-years-old, is the oldest woman in this week's field; oldest player to play Rome was Date in 2011 (40y 233d)
- One of six players in this year's field to have held the WTA World No.1 ranking, and one of nine Grand Slam champions
- Currently ranked No.70 – her lowest position since occupying No.72 spot on July 30, 2012

### **Season**

- On record 22nd appearance at US Open, suffered first ever opening round exit at the tournament (l. Muchova)
- Made 1r exit at Western & Southern Open (l. Yastremska)
- Posted 2r showing at Lexington; snapped four-match losing streak with victory over fellow former No.1 Azarenka in 1r, before falling to sister Serena in 2r in what was the 31st career meeting between the sisters
- The win over Azarenka marked her first main draw win of 2020, having fallen in the opening round this year at the Australian Open (l. Gauff), Acapulco (l. Juvan) and Monterrey (l. Schiedlova)

### **Career Milestones**

- Ended 2019 ranked No.53, down from No.40 in 2018
- Reached four QFs across 2019, including Auckland (l. eventual R-Up Andreescu), Indian Wells (l. eventual R-Up Kerber), Birmingham (l. eventual champion Barty) and Cincinnati (l. eventual champion Keys)
- Scored her best win of the season at Indian Wells, ousting No.3 Kvitova in 3s. Also defeated defending champion and then-ranked No.5 in Cincinnati
- Also made R16 at Miami (l. Halep) and Rome (l. Konta)
- Season highlights in 2018 were SF run at Indian Wells (d. S. Williams in 3r, l. eventual R-Up Kasatkina) and QF effort at Miami (l. Collins)
- Winnings at Indian Wells took her career total past \$40 million – S. Williams (\$92 million) is the only other player to pass this milestone
- Teamed up in Fed Cup for Serena's first competitive match back since giving birth in September 2017 (played dead doubles rubber, l. Kerkhove/Schuurs)
- Ended 2017 season as runner-up at WTA Finals (l. Wozniacki) – the oldest player to ever reach the title bout at the season finale
- Reached two other finals in 2017, at Australian Open (l. S. Williams) and Wimbledon (l. Muguruza) – only player in 2017 to reach two Grand Slam finals
- Shortly after her 37th birthday, returned to Top 10 by reaching 2017 Wimbledon final, becoming (at the time) the third oldest player to rank in Top 10 in WTA history behind Billie Jean King (September 26, 1983 – 39 years, 322 days) and Martina Navratilova (December 26, 1994 – 38 years, 75 days); also surpassed by 37-year-old Serena in February 2019
- 2016 season highlights including winning 49th career singles title at Kaohsiung (d. Doi). Is sixth-oldest player to win a WTA singles title, after Billie Jean King (39) at 1983 Birmingham, Kimiko Date (38) at 2009 Seoul, Serena Williams (38) at 2020 Auckland, Martina Navratilova (37) at 1994 Paris [Indoor] and Francesca Schiavone (36) at 2017 Bogotá
- With 49 titles, currently 11th on list of Open Era titleholders, chasing Monica Seles (53 titles)
- At Grand Slam level in 2016, advanced to SF at Wimbledon (l. Kerber) which was first time reaching that stage at a major since 2010 US Open
- At 2016 Rio Olympics won silver medal in the mixed doubles (w/Ram, l. Mattek-Sands/Sock)
- Returned to Top 10 for first time since March 2011 following victory in final of the 2015 WTA Elite Trophy
- Was diagnosed with Sjögrens Syndrome in 2011, missing the end of that season and start of 2012

- Won singles gold medal at 2000 Sydney Olympics (d. Dementieva in F); won doubles gold three times with sister Serena, at Sydney, Beijing and London
- Spent 11 weeks at World No.1 in singles (first ascended to top spot week of February 25, 2002) and topped the doubles rankings for eight weeks in 2010
- Made WTA main draw debut at Oakland in 1994; as unranked WC, defeated Stafford in 1r before falling to then-world No.2 Sánchez Vicario in three sets

### **Grand Slam History**

- Played 86th Grand Slam main draw at 2020 US Open, the most in the Open Era
- Is a seven-time Grand Slam singles champion, winning Wimbledon five times: 2000-01 2005 and 2007-08. Also won US Open in 2000 (d. Davenport in F) and 2001 (d. S.Williams in F)
- In addition, a nine-time Grand Slam R-Up across all four majors: Wimbledon (2002-03, 2009 and 2017), US Open (1997, 2002), Roland Garros (2002) and Australian Open (2003, 2017)
- The span between her maiden Grand Slam final at the US Open in 1997 and 2017 Wimbledon is the longest in Open Era history, followed by Navratilova 1975-94
- Owns 14 Grand Slam doubles titles (all w/S.Williams), most recently winning 2016 Wimbledon  
In mixed doubles, won Australian Open (w/Gimelstob) and Roland Garros (w/Gimelstob, d. S.Williams/ Lobo in F) in 1998

### **Personal**

- Owns interior design company, VStarr Interiors. Also set up clothing line called EleVen, designing her own on-court outfits
- Chief Brand Officer of Asutra, a self-care line
- In 2015 received Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Indiana University East
- Coached by Eric Hechtman, Richard Williams and Oracene Price. Split with long-term coach David Witt at end of 2018

## **AZARENKA:**

### **Rome**

- Making 12th appearance at Rome. R-Up in 2013 (l. S.Williams) and a semifinalist in 2009 (l. Kuznetsova); also a three-time quarterfinalist
- One of these QF runs came in 2019 (l. eventual champion Ka.Pliskova); en route recovered from 5-2 down in the third set (saved 1mp at 5-3) to defeat defending champion Svitolina in 2r, then recorded the 500th win of her career (including qualifying, ITF Circuit and Fed Cup) when 3r opponent Muguruza retired w/left thigh injury
- Last year also won doubles title here w/Barty (d. Groenefeld/Schuurs in F)
- Faces No.70 V.Williams in 1r today; two of three defeats in 2020 have been to players outside Top 50 – No.71 Zidansek (Monterrey) and No.67 V.Williams (Lexington)
- Won sole clay court title at Marbella in 2011
- Currently ranked No.14 – her highest ranking since returning to the tour from maternity leave in 2017
- Celebrated 31st birthday this summer – is one of 12 players aged 30 or over in the draw this week

### **Season**

- Coming off R-Up showing at US Open (l. Osaka in 3s); now 21-18 in singles finals
- Upset No.11 Sabalenka, No.18 Mertens and No.8 S.Williams en route to record the 122nd, 123rd and 124th Top 20 wins of her career and reach first major final since 2013 US Open – seven-year between major finals is second-longest in Open Era behind V.Williams (seven years, 207 days between 2009 Wimbledon and 2017 Australian Open)
- Made history alongside S.Williams in New York by becoming the first pair of mothers to reach the semifinals at the same Grand Slam
- Lifted 21st career title at Western & Southern Open when final opponent Osaka withdrew w/left hamstring injury
- Suffered 1r exit at Lexington (l. V.Williams) in her second WTA event of 2020
- Opened 2020 season with 1r exit at Monterrey (l. Zidansek), having not contested any events in Australia due to personal reasons

### **Career Milestones**

- Last tournament of 2019 was the US Open, where she fell to Sabalenka in 1r; also reached the doubles final w/Barty (l. Mertens/Sabalenka)
- Highlight of 2019 was 37th singles final at Monterrey (d. No.5 Kerber in SF, l. Muguruza in F via ret. w/leg injury). Also made QFs at Acapulco (l. Kenin), Stuttgart (l. Kontaveit via ret.) and Rome (l. Ka.Pliskova)
- On February 2, 2019 returned to Top 50 for first time following the birth of her child, Leo
- Highlights of 2018 season included SF at Miami (l. Stephens) and QF at San Jose and Tokyo
- Made return to tennis in June 2017 following birth of first child in December 2016
- Comeback tournament was Mallorca, reaching 2r (d. Ozaki, l. Konjuh). Prior to 2017 Mallorca, last tournament contested was 2016 Roland Garros (1r)
- Followed this with R16 at Wimbledon (l. Halep). Did not play after Wimbledon due to personal reasons
- Ended 2016 ranked No.13, despite missing second half of season after going on maternity leave (announced pregnancy mid-July). Lifted three titles, at Brisbane and 'Sunshine Double' of Indian Wells and Miami – third woman to achieve feat after Graf in 1994 and 1996 and Clijsters in 2005
- Posted 26-3 record for first six months of 2016 with losses coming at the Australian Open (QF, l. Kerber), Rome (2r, l. Begu) and Roland Garros (ret. vs. Knapp w/right knee injury)

- Limited to total of 23 events over 2014-15 seasons due to variety of injuries
- Posted five consecutive Top 10 finishes between 2009 and 2013, qualifying for the WTA Finals on each occasion (l. Kvitova in 2011 final in Istanbul)
- Ascended to World No.1 after 2012 Australian Open and held top spot for a total of 51 weeks
- Began 2012 with 26-match win streak – best start since Hingis went 37-0 in 1997. Went on to win tour-leading 69 matches in 2012, season highlighted by six titles, finishing as WTA's year-end No.1
- Won two medals for Belarus at 2012 Olympics bronze in singles and mixed doubles gold (w/Mirnyi)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2005 Kolkata
- ITF Junior World Champion for 2005 – reached first tour-level semifinal at Guangzhou the same year

### **Grand Slam History**

- Contested landmark 50th major at 2020 US Open – one of nine active players to reach this milestone
- Two-time major champion, winning Australian Open in 2012 (d. Sharapova in F) and 2013 (d. Li in F)
- Also a three-time runner-up, at 2012 (l. S.Williams in 3s), 2013 (l. S.Williams in 3s) and 2020 US Open (l. Osaka in 3s)
- Advanced to Wimbledon SF in 2011 and 2012, while best result at Roland Garros is also SF run in 2013
- Four-time Grand Slam doubles finalist, at 2008 Australian Open (w/Peer), 2009 Roland Garros (w/Vesnina), 2011 Australian Open (w/Kirilenko) and 2019 US Open (w/Barty)
- Two-time Grand Slam mixed doubles champion, at 2007 US Open (w/ Mirnyi) and 2008 Roland Garros (w/B.Bryan). Most recently finished as mixed doubles R-Up at 2018 Wimbledon (w/J.Murray)
- Won girls' singles titles at the Australian Open and US Open in 2005

### **Personal**

- Currently coached by Dorian Descloix. Formerly coached by Wim Fissette, Sam Sumyk and Michael Joyce
- Gave birth to son Leo in December 2016
- Introduced to tennis at age 7 by mother Alla; father's name is Fedor and older brother is Max





# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA (RUS #36) vs. ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #6)

Head to Head: ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA leads 3-1

2017	AUSTRALIAN OPEN	HARD O	R3	ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA	7-5 4-6 6-3	152 mins
2016	TOKYO	HARD O	R16	ELINA SVITOLINA	7-6(5) 6-4	100 mins
2015	BEIJING	HARD O	R2	ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA	6-4 1-6 6-3	126 mins
2013	SOFIA	HARD I	R1	ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA	6-2 6-4	83 mins

ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA	WTA RANKING	ELINA SVITOLINA
36		6
27	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	37
03-07-1991 (29)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	12-09-1994 (26)
\$430,456	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$225,496
\$10,223,275	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$19,460,456
0 / 12	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	1 / 14
0 / 5	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 2
7-10	<b>ROME W-L (MD) *</b>	11-4
7-5 / 345-260	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	9-6 / 274-152
3-2 / 117-98	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1 / 82-51
4-3 / 85-71	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	2-0 / 54-44
1-1 / 66-59	<b>YTD / CAREER CLAY W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 54-32
2-2 / 30-31	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	3-0 / 24-21
2-1 / 15-35	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 19-18
2-2 / 34-66	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 33-38
3-2 / 65-115	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 59-68

\* Updated entering 2020 Rome 2r

### ROAD TO THE SECOND ROUND

**ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA (RUS #36)**

R64: d. SHUAI ZHANG (CHN #38) 6-4,6-7(5),6-1 (2h09)

**ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #6)**

BYE



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## ROME Tournament History

### ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA

Year	Round	Opponent	Score
2019	R1	L - MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #39)	6-1 7-5
2018	R1	L - MADISON KEYS (USA #14)	6-4 6-1
2017	R16	L - SIMONA HALEP (ROU #4)	6-1 4-6 6-0
2016	R1	L - ANA IVANOVIC (SRB #16)	6-4 6-4
2015	R2	L - SERENA WILLIAMS (USA #1)	6-1 6-3
2014	R1	L - BELINDA BENCIC (SUI #96)	6-3 3-6 6-3
2013	R1	L - ROMINA OPRANDI (SUI #44)	6-2 6-0
2012	R2	L - PETRA KVITOVA (CZE #4)	7-5 6-4
2011	R16	L - VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #4)	6-4 4-6 6-2
2010	R1	L - ALBERTA BRIANTI (ITA #78)	6-4 7-6(5)

### ELINA SVITOLINA

Year	Round	Opponent	Score
2019	R2	L - VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #51)	4-6 6-1 7-5
2018	F	W - SIMONA HALEP (ROU #1)	6-0 6-4
2017	F	W - SIMONA HALEP (ROU #4)	4-6 7-5 6-1
2016	R1	L - MONICA PUIG (PUR #57)	6-1 4-6 6-1
2015	R2	L - VENUS WILLIAMS (USA #16)	6-4 6-3
2014	R1	L - ELENA VESNINA (RUS #33)	6-2 6-3

### PAVLYUCHENKOVA:

#### Rome

- Making 11th appearance in Rome this week
- Best result were 3r showings in 2011 (l. Azarenka) and 2017 (d. No.18 Sevastova, l. Halep)
- Broke serve seven times to see off Zhang in 1r
- Faces No.6 Svitolina in 2r today – owns two Top 10 wins this season, over No.2 Ka.Pliskova (Australian Open) and No.4 Bencic (Dubai)
- Currently the No.2 ranked Russian woman of eight in Top 100 (also Alexandrova, Kuznetsova, Kudermetova, Blinkova, Kasatkina, Potapova and Gracheva)
- Owns three titles on clay, at 2013 Estoril, 2017 Rabat and 2018 Strasbourg

#### Season

- Marked return to tour in August with 1r exit at Prague (l. Rus)
- Before tour's hiatus, made 2r at Dubai (d. defending champion No.4 Bencic in 1r, l. Kontaveit)
- Matched last year's Australian Open result with QF finish, falling to eventual R-Up Muguruza (def. No.2 Ka.Pliskova and No.18 Kerber en route)
- Fell to eventual champion Barty in R16 at Adelaide following 1r exit to begin 2020 campaign at Brisbane (l. Kvitova)

## **Career Milestones**

- Ended 2019 ranked No.30, up from No.42 in 2018 – marking her 12th consecutive Top 50 finish
- Advanced to two finals in 2019 – both at the Premier-level – at Osaka (l. Osaka in F) and Moscow (l. Bencic in F)
- Fell in qualifying at Cincinnati (l. Dijas) - first time contesting WTA qualifying since 2011 Dubai
- Reached QF in Melbourne in 2019 to match best Grand Slam result (l. Collins); took out No.9 Bertens, No.5 Stephens en route
- 2018 season highlight was claiming her 12th WTA singles title at Strasbourg (d. Cibulkova in F). Other highlights were QF runs at Stuttgart (l. Kontaveit), Wuhan (d. No.11 Bertens in 2r and No.5 Kvitova in R16, l. Barty), Linz (l. Alexandrova) and Moscow [Kremlin Cup] (l. Kasatkina)
- Owns 12 WTA singles titles, including a career-best three titles in a single season in 2017 at Monterrey, Rabat and Hong Kong
- Notched only win over a reigning World No.1 against Kerber en route to fourth Monterrey title in 2017
- Is a winner of five doubles titles from eight finals, most recently at 2017 Sydney (w/Babos)
- In addition to reaching last eight at 2016 Wimbledon, reached a further six quarterfinals in 2016: Brisbane (l. Kerber), St. Petersburg (l. Bencic), Acapulco (l. Wickmayer), Montréal (l. Keys), Linz (l. Cibulkova) and Moscow (l. Gavrilova)
- Owns 32 Top 10 victories (32-63 record), most recently No.8 Bertens at 2019 Osaka
- Represented Russia at Rio Olympics, losing to eventual gold medalist Puig in 2r
- Broke into Top 100 in singles on July 7, 2009 and entered Top 50 on November 3, 2008
- Made Top 20 debut on September 13, 2010 and rose as high as No.13 (July 4, 2011)
- Played first WTA main draw as a wildcard at 2006 Moscow
- Named 2006 ITF Junior World Champion

## **Grand Slam History**

- Has reached QFs at all four majors; 2011 Roland Garros (l. Schiavone) and US Open (l. S.Williams), 2016 Wimbledon (l. eventual champion S.Williams), 2017 Australian Open (l. eventual R-Up V.Williams), and 2019 Australian Open (l. Collins)
- One of just five active players to reach QF or better at all four majors in both singles and doubles (also Williams sisters, Kuznetsova and Zvonareva) and is the only player to do so since 2011
- Made Grand Slam debut as 15-year-old wildcard at 2007 Wimbledon (l. Hantuchova 6-0 6-1)
- In doubles, is a three-time semifinalist, at Australian Open (2015 w/Groenefeld and 2016 w/Ka.Pliskova) and Wimbledon (2016 w/Ka.Pliskova)
- Reached first Grand Slam final of any kind at 2014 Roland Garros, finishing runner-up in mixed doubles (w/Zimonjic; l. Groenefeld/Rojer)
- As well as twice winning the girls' singles at the Australian Open (2006, 2007), won 2006 US Open junior title)

## **Personal**

- Began new coaching partnership with Sam Sumyk in September 2019.
- Occasionally works with father, Sergey and brother, Aleks - introduced to tennis at age six by family
- Grandmother played basketball for USSR and grandfather was high-level basketball referee; father was Olympic-level canoeist (missed Games due to boycott) and mother a swimmer

## **SVITOLINA:**

### **Rome**

- Making her seventh consecutive appearance in Rome, where she is a two-time champion
- Defeated three Top 10 opponents here in 2017 to win title (No.2 Ka.Pliskova in QF, No.3 Muguruza in SF and No.6 Halep in F) to secure her eighth career title and the second of her impressive three Premier 5 titles last season – also Dubai and Toronto
- Returned in 2018 to defeat three Top 20 players en route to title, including World No.1 Halep in F
- After 1r bye, fell to Azarenka in 2r last year
- As one of the leading eight seeds, received another 1r bye this year; faces No.36 Pavlyuchenkova in 2r today – has lost to three players ranked outside Top 30 this season, No.32 Muguruza (Australian Open), No.84 Hibino (Hua Hin) and No.52 Brady (Dubai)
- Has 26-11 career record in matches immediately following byes, losing the most recent of these to Anisimova at 2020 Doha
- Owns four clay titles in her career, winning Marrakech (2015), Istanbul (2017) and Rome (2017-18)
- One of two Ukrainians in the draw, also Yastremska (who she played doubles with here – l. 1r vs. Halep/Niculescu)

### **Season**

- During the tour's break, played exhibitions on hard, grass and clay in Germany and Switzerland
- At Monterrey won 14th WTA title of her career (d. Bouzkova in F); now 14-3 in WTA singles finals
- Fell 1r at Dubai (l. Brady) and 2r at Doha (after 1r bye, l. Anisimova)
- Made QF at Hua Hin (l. Hibino)
- In Fed Cup action, lost only singles rubber to Kontaveit even though Ukraine beat Estonia 2-1 in Group 1 promotional play-off
- Fell 3r at Australian Open (l. eventual R-Up Muguruza)
- Kicked off season falling in 1r at Brisbane (l. Collins)

### **Career**

- Finished 2019 at No.6, her third consecutive Top 10 finish
- Season highlight was reaching the title match as defending champion at the Shiseido WTA Finals (l. Barty)
- Loss to Barty ended her nine-match unbeaten run at the year-end championship having gone undefeated in the RR stage from 2018-19
- In 2018, won 13th – and most prestigious – career title at 2018 WTA Finals (d. Stephens in F), after going 3-0 during round robin stage. Ended year ranked No.4. Also won titles at Rome (as defending champion, d. No.1 Halep in F), Dubai (as defending champion, d. Kasatkina in F) and Brisbane (d. Sasnovich in F)
- Enjoyed stand-out 2017, finishing year at No.6, winning a tour-leading five titles and posting second-most wins (53, behind Wozniacki with 60)
- Season culminated by qualifying for WTA Finals in Singapore, becoming first Ukrainian woman to qualify for the season-ending tournament in singles (fell at round robin stage with 1-2 record)
- In 2017, became first player to win three Premier 5 titles in a single season (Dubai, Rome, Toronto), since such tournaments were introduced in 2009

- One of five players to make Top 10 debut in 2017, after winning Dubai in February (also Ostapenko, Garcia, Mladenovic and Vandeweghe). Peaked in rankings at No.3 on September 11, 2017
- On four occasions could have reached World No.1 spot – at 2017 US Open, then needed to win 2017 Beijing (fell in QF), then needed to triumph at 2017 WTA Finals (failed to progress from group stage), or reach final at 2018 Australian Open (fell in QF)
- End to 2016 season also saw her reach first SF at Premier Mandatory level at Beijing (l. A.Radwanska) Qualified for 2016 WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai for the second time (l. Kvitova in F)
- Reached three finals in 2016, at Kuala Lumpur (d. Bouchard in F) and advancing to finals at New Haven (l. A.Radwanska) and Zhuhai (l. Kvitova)
- Other 2016 season highlights included SFs at Dubai, Tokyo [PPO] and Moscow, and QF at Rio Olympics
- Owns two career doubles titles: 2014 Istanbul (w/Doi) and 2015 Istanbul (w/Gavrilova)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2012 Baku (lost in 1r but went on to win title there in both 2013 and 2014)
- Played first ITF Circuit events of career in 2008
- Ukrainian Fed Cup Team, 2012-15, 2017, 2020

### **Grand Slam History**

- Made 30th consecutive Grand Slam main draw appearance at 2020 Australian Open
- Tied best Grand Slam result by reaching 2019 US Open SF (l. S.Williams), also made this stage at 2019 Wimbledon (l. eventual champion Halep) - previous QF record at Slams was 0-4
- Became the first woman from Ukraine to reach a major SF; on the men's, Medvedev made that stage at Roland Garros in 1993 (SF) and 1999 (R-Up)
- Elsewhere, has posted QF showings at 2015 Roland Garros (l. Ivanovic), 2017 Roland Garros (l. eventual R-Up Halep), 2018 Australian Open (l. Mertens) and 2019 Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- Joint-highest seeding at a Slam is No.4 (2017 Wimbledon and US Open, 2018 Australian Open and Roland Garros)

### **Personal**

- Parents are Mykhaylo and Olena; brother is Yulian
- Coached by Andrew Bettles and added Marcos Baghdatis to her team during offseason. Has previously worked with Iain Hughes and Thierry Ascione
- Won the Jerry Diamond ACES Award in the 2018 WTA Awards, in recognition of promotion of women's tennis to fans, media, and local communities by performing off-court promotional and charitable activities
- Launched the Elina Svitolina Foundation on March 18, 2019 with a mission to encourage children, through the sport of tennis, to learn the values of hard work, self-discipline and the importance of giving 100 percent every day in life



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## [6] BELINDA BENCIC (SUI #10) vs. [Q] DANKA KOVINIC (MNE #86)

Head to Head: DANKA KOVINIC leads 1-0

2015 CHARLESTON CLAY O R2 DANKA KOVINIC 4-6 6-3 6-2 118 mins

BELINDA BENCIC	WTA RANKING	DANKA KOVINIC
10		86
31	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	98
10-03-1997 (23)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	18-11-1994 (25)
\$271,401	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$175,719
\$8,117,609	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$1,685,667
0 / 4	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 2	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 1
2-3	<b>ROME W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1
8-7 / 156-115	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	4-5 / 53-79
1-3 / 57-38	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	1-3 / 20-25
4-1 / 40-26	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	2-1 / 9-21
0-0 / 20-20	<b>YTD / CAREER CLAY W-L (MD) *</b>	3-1 / 31-29
0-1 / 15-11	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 0-6
0-0 / 13-8	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
0-0 / 24-22	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-1 / 1-5
0-0 / 30-40	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-2 / 1-13

\* Updated through entering 2020 Rome 2r

### ROAD TO THE SECOND ROUND

#### BELINDA BENCIC (SUI #10)

R64: BYE

Total games: 0  
Won/lost: 0-0  
Sets won/lost: 0-0  
Total time on court: 0h00  
Average time on court: 0h00  
Average rank of opponent: 0

#### DANKA KOVINIC (MNE #86)

R2-Q: d. KATARZYNA KAWA (POL #125) 3-6,6-4,6-3 (2h27)  
R1-Q: d. ULRIKKE EIKERI (NOR #250) 6-2,6-1 (1h08)  
R64: d. JULIA GOERGES (GER #40) 6-1,6-0 (1h03)

Total games: 13  
Won/lost: 12-1  
Sets won/lost: 2-0  
Total time on court: 1h03  
Average time on court: 1h03  
Average rank of opponent: 40

### ROME Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

#### BELINDA BENCIC

2019

R2 L - KRISTINA MLADENOVIC (FRA #63)

6-2 2-6 6-1

#### DANKA KOVINIC

2016

R1 L - EKATERINA MAKAROVA (RUS #29)

6-2 6-2



## MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

### 2015

R1 L - DARIA GAVRILOVA (AUS #78) 6-7(2) 7-5 6-2

### 2014

R2 L - FLAVIA PENNETTA (ITA #12) 6-2 2-6 6-3

## BENCIC:

### Rome

- Making her fourth main draw appearance at Internazionali BNL d'Italia
- Reached 2r in 2014 (as qualifier, d. No.25 Pavlyuchenkova, l. Pennetta) and 2019 (d. No.13 Sevastova, l. Mladenovic)
- Fell 1r in 2015 (l. Gavrilova)
- After 1r bye, faces No.86 Kovinic today in her first event back following the Tour's five-month hiatus
- Has fallen to players ranked outside the Top 50 twice in 2020 – l. No.58 Blinkova (Shenzhen) and No.185 Fernandez (Fed Cup playoffs in February)
- Has won her last three matches following a 1r bye – 2019 Moscow (WON), 2020 St. Petersburg (QF) and 2020 Doha (QF)
- Career record on clay stands at 20-20. In 2019, highlights on this surface include SF at Madrid (l. Halep) and QF at Charleston (l. Martic)
- Enters this week ranked No.10. Achieved a career high of No.4 on February 17, 2020
- One of two Swiss women to start in the main draw – also Teichmann (l. Blinkova in 1r)

### Season

- In last event contested prior to the Tour's hiatus, reached QF at Doha (l. Kuznetsova). Also reached QF in doubles field (w/Kenin, l. eventual champions Hsieh/Strycova)
- As the defending champion, fell 1r at Dubai (l. Pavlyuchenkova)
- Produced QF visit in St. Petersburg (l. Sakkari in 3s)
- Split Fed Cup singles matches vs Team Canada (def. Dabrowski, l. Fernandez)
- Made QF exit at Adelaide (l. Collins) and fell 3r at Melbourne Park (l. Kontaveit)
- Opened 2020 season with 1r exit at Shenzhen (l. Blinkova)

### Career Milestones

- Enjoyed a stellar season in 2019, in which she lifted two titles – at Dubai (d. Kvitova in F) and Moscow (d. Pavlyuchenkova in F)
- Posted a career-best 49 Tour-level match wins in 2019 - only Ka.Pliskova (52), Barty (54) and Bertens (55) scored more. By contrast, posted a combined total of 37 wins at this level across 2016-18
- Victory in Moscow ensured she became first Swiss to compete in singles at the WTA Finals since Hingis in 2006, going on to reach SF at the season-ending showpiece in Shenzhen

- Equaled her then-career high ranking of No.7 following Moscow title run (October 21, 2019)
- Also in 2019, marked 20th Grand Slam main draw by reaching her maiden major SF at US Open (l. eventual champion Andreescu), finished R-Up at Mallorca (l. Kenin after holding 3mp at 5-4 in second set) and advanced to SF at Hobart, Indian Wells and Madrid
- Led the WTA with six victories over Top 5 players last season, including upsets over No.1 Osaka at Indian Wells, Madrid and US Open
- Standout results in 2018 were R-Up finish at Luxembourg (as qualifier, l. Goerges), QF at New Haven and Washington, D.C., and R16 run at Wimbledon
- In first round at 2018 Australian Open, defeated No.5 V.Williams. Having also upset then-No.1 S.Williams in SF at 2015 Toronto is one of seven women to defeat both Williams sisters before their 21st birthday (also Hingis, Sharapova, Clijsters, Henin, Chakvetadze and Osaka)
- Underwent left wrist surgery in spring 2017, missing five months – ranking fell outside Top 300
- Run to 2016 St. Petersburg final saw her break into Top 10 (at No.9) for the first time in her career; became 116th player to break into the Top 10 since computerized rankings were introduced in 1975. In the last 20 years, 11 players have made their Top 10 debut before their 19th birthday
- At 2015 Eastbourne, at 18y 109d, became second youngest player to win a WTA Premier level final (Wozniacki won 2008 New Haven aged 18y 43d)
- With 2015 Toronto triumph, became first teenager to win an event at Premier 5 level or higher since Azarenka at 2009 Miami
- Qualified for 2015 WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai however withdrew due to hand injury
- Won second WTA doubles title of career in 2015 at Washington, DC (w/Mladenovic), the first coming earlier in the year at Prague (w/Siniakova)
- Voted 2014 WTA Newcomer of the Year after a campaign highlighted by R-Up finish at Tianjin (l. Riske) and QF run at 2014 US Open (defeated No.7 Kerber in 3r, No.10 Jankovic in R16); at 17 years of age, was youngest player through to last eight at Flushing Meadows since 1997 when Hingis won the title
- Played first WTA qualifying event at Luxembourg in October 2011, and first WTA main draw 12 months later at same event as WC (l. V.Williams, 1r); only 15 years, 7 months at the time
- Won junior singles titles at Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 2013; was named ITF Junior World Champion for 2013

### **Grand Slam History**

- 2020 Australian Open marked 21st Grand Slam main draw appearance
- Best result came with SF run at 2019 US Open (l. eventual champion Andreescu)
- Next best Grand Slam singles result was QF at 2014 US Open; defeated two Top 10 players en route (No.7 Kerber in 3r, No.10 Jankovic in R16)
- Has made R16 at Australian Open in 2016 (l. Sharapova) and at Wimbledon in 2015 (l. Azarenka) and 2018 (l. eventual champion Kerber). Best result at Roland Garros is 3r in 2019 (l. Vekic)

### **Personal**

- Fitness trainer is Martin Hromkovic, a former football player from Slovakia
- Coached primarily by father, Ivan. Split from coach Vlado Platenik at the end of 2018; has worked extensively with Melanie Molitor and Martina Hingis



- Also holds Slovak citizenship through her parents
- Includes Nike, Yonex and Rolex among her sponsors

## **KOVINIC:**

### **Rome**

- Making second appearance at Rome following a 1r exit in 2016 (l. Makarova)
- Defeated Eikeri and Kawa in qualifying to enter this week's main draw
- In 1r on Monday, dropped just one game to oust No.41 Goerges in 1hr 4min, winning 83% of her first service points
- Win over Goerges marked her first Top 50 victory since 2016 Tianjin (d. No.33 Puig)
- Faces No.10 Bencic today in their second career meeting, having defeated the Swiss over five years ago at Charleston
- Owns one career win over a Top 10 ranked opponent over No.8 Vinci at 2016 Madrid (1-5 career record)
- Is the sole player from Montenegro within the WTA Top 500 (currently ranked No.86). Reached a career high of No.46 on February 22, 2016
- In 2019, captured three ITF singles titles on clay at \$25K ITF/Campinas-BRA, \$25K ITF/Ystad-SWE and \$100K ITF/Szekesfehervar 3-HUN. Also reached the final at WTA 125K event at Bastad (l. Doi in F)

### **Season**

- Coming off QF showing at Istanbul (l. eventual R-Up Bouchard) – her first Tour-level QF since 2019 Tashkent (l. Cirstea in QF)
- Made 2r at US Open (l. Linette) following a qualifying exit at Western & Southern Open (l. Zvonareva)
- Prior to Tour's five-month hiatus, fell 1r in back-to-back weeks at Acapulco (l. Bondarenko) and Monterrey (l. eventual champion Svitolina)
- Opened 2020 campaign at Australian Open, falling to Mertens in 1r

### **Career Milestones**

- Ended 2019 at No.88, returning to the Top 100 after finishing 2017 at No.118 and 2018 at No.182
- Reached career-best year-end finish in 2015 at No.58 followed by 2016 finish at No.74
- Highlights from 2019 include lifting titles at \$100K ITF/Szekesfehervar-HUN, \$25K ITF/Campinas-BRA and \$25K ITF/Ystad-SWE
- Now owns 11 singles and four doubles titles on the ITF Circuit
- Additionally, in 2019, made R-Up appearance at 125K event in Bastad, Sweden (l. Doi in F) and QF run at Tashkent Open (l. Cirstea)
- Spent majority of 2018 competing on the ITF Circuit, though advanced through qualifying at WTA International tournaments Lugano and Istanbul to record back-to-back R16 runs
- 2016 season highlight was reaching second career singles final at Istanbul (l. Buyukakcay). Is now 0-2 in WTA singles finals, having also finished as R-Up at 2015 Tianjin (l. A.Radwanska)
- Set career-high ranking of No.46 on February 22, 2016
- Made Top 100 debut on May 4, 2015 at No.95
- Reached QF at 2013 Budapest, which was her WTA main draw debut

## **Grand Slam History**

- Recorded 13th Grand Slam main draw appearance at 2020 US Open, reaching the 2r of a Slam for the fifth time in her career (but never further)
- 2020 Australian Open marked her first main draw appearance at a major since 2017 Wimbledon
- At 2015 Roland Garros became first player – man or woman – from Montenegro to advance to 2r of a Grand Slam (already set the national record for first player to appear in 1r at major at 2014 Roland Garros)

## **Personal**

- Her mother, Snjezana, hoped she would play handball, but when she was five Danka began asking to play tennis. She eventually started tennis lessons when she was seven
- Growing up she idolized Jelena Jankovic – would have played her in 3r at 2015 Charleston, however Jankovic withdrew due to injury
- Describes herself as an aggressive baseliner; likes to control the point. Goal is to improve her net game; also working on improving her hard court game, having grown up playing mostly on clay
- Favorite tournament is the Australian Open; favorite surface is clay



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## [1] SIMONA HALEP (ROU #2) vs. [WC] JASMINE PAOLINI (ITA #99)

Head to Head: 0-0

SIMONA HALEP	WTA RANKING	JASMINE PAOLINI
2		99
5	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	96
27-09-1991 (28)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	04-01-1996 (24)
\$1,469,594	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$148,034
\$36,577,615	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$534,894
2 / 21	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 1	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
15-7	<b>ROME W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1
15-2 / 385-170	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	3-5 / 12-23
5-0 / 115-57	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	2-1 / 6-2
5-1 / 52-56	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 2-2
5-0 / 125-45	<b>YTD / CAREER CLAY W-L (MD) *</b>	3-3 / 10-15
0-0 / 35-15	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 1-1
0-0 / 12-29	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
0-0 / 39-49	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
3-1 / 102-76	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 1-3

\* Updated through entering 2020 Rome 2r

### ROAD TO THE SECOND ROUND

#### SIMONA HALEP (ROU #2)

R64: BYE

Total games: 0  
 Won/lost: 0-0  
 Sets won/lost: 0-0  
 Total time on court: 0h00  
 Average time on court: 0h00  
 Average rank of opponent: 0

#### JASMINE PAOLINI (ITA #99)

R64: d. ANASTASIJA SEVASTOVA (LAT #45) 6-2,6-3 (1h06)

Total games: 17  
 Won/lost: 12-5  
 Sets won/lost: 2-0  
 Total time on court: 1h06  
 Average time on court: 1h06  
 Average rank of opponent: 45



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## ROME Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

### SIMONA HALEP

2019			
R2	L - MARKETA VONDROUSOVA (CZE #44)	2-6	7-5 6-3
2018			
F	L - ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #4)	6-0	6-4
2017			
F	L - ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #11)	4-6	7-5 6-1
2016			
R2	L - DARIA GAVRILOVA (AUS #32)	6-3	4-6 6-3
2015			
SF	L - CARLA SUÁREZ NAVARRO (ESP #10)	2-6	6-3 7-5
2014			
R16	L - CARLA SUÁREZ NAVARRO (ESP #14)	W/O	
2013			
SF	L - SERENA WILLIAMS (USA #1)	6-3	6-0
2012			
R1	L - VENUS WILLIAMS (USA #63)	6-3	6-4
2011			
R1-Q	L - VIRGINIE RAZZANO (FRA #95)	7-6(3)	6-0

### JASMINE PAOLINI

2019			
R1	L - SOFIA KENIN (USA #37)	6-1	6-2
2015			
R1-Q	L - MONICA NICULESCU (ROU #67)	7-6(1)	2-6 6-0

## HALEP:

### Rome

- Making ninth main draw appearance at Rome (10th overall)
- R-Up on two occasions, in 2017 and 2018 (l. Svitolina in both finals)
- Also made SF twice, in 2013 (l. eventual champion S.Williams) and 2015 (l. Suárez Navarro)
- Reached R16 in 2014 (l. Suárez Navarro), 2r in 2016 (l. Gavrilova) and 2019 (l. Vondrousova), and 1r in 2012 (l. V.Williams). Fell in qualifying on tournament debut in 2011
- Second time contesting Rome as No.1 seed (also in 2018, l. Svitolina in F)
- Faces Italian wildcard and No.99 Paolini today in their career first meeting. A loss today would mark her worst-by-ranking since falling to No.116 Townsend at 2019 US Open 2r
- Last time she faced an Italian woman was Vinci en route to 2017 Madrid title
- Currently on a nine-match winning streak, including titles at Dubai (four wins) and Prague (five wins)
- Among active players, owns the third-most clay court titles with eight, behind V.Williams (9) and S.Williams (13)
- Since 2013, when Halep won her first of 21 titles, only Serena Williams (27) has won more titles than the Romanian
- Playing doubles this week w/Niculescu. The pair defeated Svitolina/Yastremska in 1r on Tuesday 6-1, 6-0

## **Season**

- Last month, captured her 21st career title at Prague (d. Mertens in F). Tied with Azarenka for fifth-most titles among active players, behind Serena (73), Venus (49), Clijsters (41) and Kvitova (27)
- Prior to Tour's five-month hiatus, clinched her 20th career title at Dubai (d. Rybakina in F)
- Reached eighth career Grand Slam SF at Australian Open (l. Muguruza) bringing record in major SF matches to 5-3
- Opened 2020 season with QF appearance at Adelaide (l. Sabalenka)

## **Career Milestones**

- Ended 2019 ranked No.4 for sixth consecutive year in the Top 5
- 2019 highlighted by winning second career Grand Slam title at Wimbledon (d. S.Williams)
- 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 season 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 last 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). Is 18-16 in career finals
- 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. 2016 season highlighted by three titles, at Madrid, Bucharest and Montréal
- Between May 2013 and August 2014, improved ranking from No.64 to No.2, winning seven titles
- 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

## **Grand Slam History**

- Contested 39th Grand Slam main draw of her career at 2020 Australian Open
- Winner of two Grand Slam titles, lifting first at 2018 Roland Garros (d. Stephens in F) followed by an historic 2019 Wimbledon run (d. S.Williams in F)
- Became first Romanian to lift the singles title at the All England Club, defeating S.Williams in 56 minutes
- Posted three runner-up finishes in Paris in 2014 (l. Sharapova in 3s), 2017 (l. Ostapenko in 3s) and at Australian Open in 2018 (l. Wozniacki in 3s)
- Was the first Romanian woman to advance to final at Australian Open in 2018 (l. Wozniacki)
- Best result at US Open is SF run in 2015 (l. eventual champion Pennetta)

## **Personal**

- Reunited with long-time coach, Darren Cahill during offseason after taking a 12-month break

- Formerly coached by Wim Fissette and Victor Ionita
- Sponsorship portfolio includes deals with Mercedes, Unilever and is an Ambassador for Dubai Duty Free
- Sponsors a children's hockey team back in Romania through the Simona Halep Foundation

## **PAOLINI:**

### **Rome**

- Making second main draw appearance as a wildcard at Rome and third appearance overall
- Suffered 1r exit to Kenin last year and fell during qualifying in 2015
- One of five wildcards in this year's singles draw; best result by a wildcard here were SF showings from Pierce in 1995 and S.Williams in 2010
- Defeated No.46 Sevastova in 1r on Monday; now owns 3-13 career record against Top 50-ranked opponents, with other wins coming over No.15 Kasatkina at 2018 Prague and No.37 S.Zheng at 2019 Guangzhou
- Faces No.2 Halep today in her second career meeting vs. a Top 10 ranked player (l. No.5 Bertens at 2019 Palermo)
- In 2019, posted a 4-6 record on clay at Tour-level, highlighted by QF run at Palermo
- Enters this week's tournament ranked No.99, just six spots shy of her career-high ranking of No.93 achieved on March 2, 2020. Last year, entered Rome ranked No.210

### **Season**

- Coming off 2r showing at Istanbul (l. Hercog)
- Fell 1r at Prague (l. eventual R-Up Mertens) and during qualifying at Western & Southern Open
- Advanced to 2r at Palermo (d. Kasatkina, l. Sasnovich)
- Suffered 1r exit at Australian Open (l. Blinkova)
- Fell during qualifying at Shenzhen, Adelaide, Dubai and Monterrey

### **Grand Slam History**

- 2020 US Open marked her third Grand Slam main draw appearance
- Appeared in maiden Grand Slam main draw at 2019 Roland Garros (as qualifier, l. Kasatkina)
- Has fallen in qualifying on 11 occasions, most recently at 2019 US Open
- Contested Australian and US Opens as a junior

### **Career Highlights**

- Posted career-high ranking of No.93 on March 2, 2020
- 2019 season highlights include QF showings at Guangzhou and Palermo, a SF run at WTA 125K Series event at Karlsruhe, lifting seventh, eighth and ninth ITF Circuit title of her career, at \$60K Brescia-ITA, \$25K ITF/Curtiba-BRA and \$100K ITF/Tokyo-JPN, and qualifying for maiden Grand Slam main draw at Roland Garros (l. Kasatkina in 1r)
- Ended 2018 ranked No.180, with season highlight a maiden WTA singles QF at Prague (d. No.15 Kasatkina, l. Zhang)
- Also in 2018, made 2r at Bogota and fell 1r at Shenzhen, Acapulco and Bucharest

- Posted first Top 200 season in 2017, finishing at No.137. During campaign made WTA main draw debut at Bastad (I. Suarez Navarro in 1r) and also fell 1r at Guangzhou and in qualifying a further three times
- Posted career-high ranking of No.130 on June 19, 2017
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2015 Rome
- Part of Italy Fed Cup team 2017-19
- Owns nine singles and one doubles title on ITF Circuit
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in Italy in 2011

### **Personal**

- Currently coached by Renzo Furlan
- Father Ugo Paolini is Italian and mother Jacqueline Gardiner is of Ghanaian and Polish descent
- Favorite shot is her forehand and favorite surface is clay



# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## BARBORA STRYCOVA (CZE #37) vs. KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #4)

Head to Head: KAROLINA PLISKOVA leads 4-1

2018	EASTBOURNE	GRASS O	R16	KAROLINA PLISKOVA	6-3 6-4	83 mins
2018	AUSTRALIAN OPEN	HARD O	R16	KAROLINA PLISKOVA	6-7(5) 6-3 6-2	161 mins
2017	MIAMI	HARD O	R16	KAROLINA PLISKOVA	6-1 6-4	71 mins
2016	BIRMINGHAM	GRASS O	R1	BARBORA STRYCOVA	6-4 7-6(7)	122 mins
2015	DUBAI	HARD O	R2	KAROLINA PLISKOVA	6-4 6-2	86 mins

BARBORA STRYCOVA	WTA RANKING	KAROLINA PLISKOVA
37	PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD	4
115	DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)	18
28-03-1986 (34)	YTD PRIZE MONEY	21-03-1992 (28)
\$451,557	CAREER PRIZE MONEY	\$599,371
\$11,785,003	SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	\$20,111,889
0 / 2	DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	1 / 16
3 / 30	ROME W-L (MD) *	0 / 5
5-6	YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *	7-4
4-6 / 293-293	YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *	9-5 / 318-164
3-0 / 98-76	YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *	3-1 / 103-59
1-3 / 65-75	YTD / CAREER CLAY W-L (MD) *	2-6 / 64-70
1-1 / 77-84	YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *	0-0 / 53-36
0-1 / 27-34	YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) *	1-0 / 31-20
0-0 / 7-31	YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) *	1-0 / 18-19
0-0 / 10-58	YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) *	1-0 / 32-39
2-2 / 31-94		3-1 / 62-72

\* Updated entering 2020 Rome 2r

### ROAD TO THE SECOND ROUND

#### BARBORA STRYCOVA (CZE #37)

R64: d. VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA (RUS #42) 6-3,6-3 (1h31)

Total games: 18  
 Won/lost: 12-6  
 Sets won/lost: 2-0  
 Total time on court: 1h31  
 Average time on court: 1h31  
 Average rank of opponent: 42

#### KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #4)

R64: BYE

Total games: 0  
 Won/lost: 0-0  
 Sets won/lost: 0-0  
 Total time on court: 0h00  
 Average time on court: 0h00  
 Average rank of opponent: 0





# MATCH NOTES

ROME - ITALY | Sep 14 - Sep 21, 2020 | \$2,399,040 | PREMIER 5

## ROME Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

### BARBORA STRYCOVA

2019			
R1	L - MARKETA VONDROUSOVA (CZE #44)	1-6	6-4 7-6(4)
2018			
R1	L - SLOANE STEPHENS (USA #10)	6-7(4)	6-3 6-1
2017			
R2	L - TIMEA BACSINSZKY (SUI #34)	6-4	6-2
2016			
QF	L - MADISON KEYS (USA #24)	6-4	4-6 6-3
2015			
R1	L - CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #65)	7-6(5)	6-1
2011			
R1	L - LOURDES DOMÍNGUEZ LINO (ESP #46)	6-1	0-6 7-6(4)

### KAROLINA PLISKOVA

2019			
F	W - JOHANNA KONTA (GBR #42)	6-3	6-4
2018			
R2	L - MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #42)	3-6	6-3 7-5
2017			
QF	L - ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #11)	6-2	7-6(9)
2016			
R1	L - DARIA KASATKINA (RUS #33)	6-4	6-4
2015			
R1	L - TIMEA BACSINSZKY (SUI #24)	6-4	6-0

## STRYCOVA:

### Dubai

- Making seventh main draw appearance at the Internazionali BNL d'Italia
- Deepest run was making QF in 2016 (I. Keys)
- Has fallen 1r here on four occasions (2011, 2015, 2018 and 2019) and 2r in 2017
- Eased past Kudrmetova in opening round action
- Squares off against No.4 Ka.Pliskova in 2r today. Looking to record eighth Top 5 win of her career with most recent scalp coming against No.4 Bertens at 2019 Wimbledon
- Looking to record back-to-back match wins for the first time since SF run at 2019 Wimbledon
- One of five Czech players to contest main draw, also today's opponent Ka.Pliskova, and Bouzkova, Siniakova and Vondrousova

### Season

- First event back following the hiatus was at Prague – lost 1r to Sorribes Tormo
- Prior to the hiatus, advanced to 2r at Dubai (I. Martic) and Doha (d. No.14 Martic, I. Ostapenko)
- In doubles, lifted her first trophy of the season with partner Hsieh Su-Wei at Brisbane (d. Barty/Bertens in F) before going on to make the final round at the Australian Open (I. Babos/Mladenovic in F). Then, lifted back-to-back doubles titles with Hsieh at Dubai (d. Krejckikova/S.Zheng in F) and Doha (d. Dabrowski/Ostapenko in F)
- Made 1r exits at Adelaide (I. Pera) and Australian Open (I. Cirstea)
- Began 2020 campaign by recording thirtieth Top 20 scalp of her career against No.12 Konta at Brisbane before falling to Riske in R16

## **Career Milestones**

- Finished 2019 ranked No.33, her sixth consecutive Top 50 finish
- Season highlight was Grand Slam breakthrough at Wimbledon, reaching SF (l. S.Williams) on what was her 53rd major appearance
- During SW19 run, upset three seeds to become the oldest first-time Grand Slam semifinalist in the Open Era
- Enjoyed stellar season in doubles, winning first Grand Slam doubles title at Wimbledon w/Hsieh (d. Dabrowski/Xu in F) and rose to World No.1 ranking following the tournament (July 15, 2019).
- Wimbledon title was one of four doubles crowns from five finals, also winning Dubai, Madrid, Birmingham (all w/Hsieh)
- Team finished as R-Up at WTA Finals, ensuring Strycova finished the year as the WTA Year No.1 Doubles player presented by Dubai Duty Free
- In 2018, reached R16 at Roland Garros – her best result in Paris to date (l. Putintseva). Was also part of Czech Republic team that beat USA 3-0 in Fed Cup final (d. Kenin in day 1 singles rubber)
- Clinched second tour-level singles title at 2017 Linz (d. No.1 seed Rybarikova in F). Holds a 2-6 record in singles finals, with other title coming at 2011 Québec City (d. Erakovic in F)
- Posted career-high singles ranking of No.16 on January 16, 2017
- Owns seven career Top 5 wins, having defeated No.2 Li (2014 Wimbledon), No.3 Sharapova (2015 Wuhan), No.3 Muguruza (2016 Australian Open), No.3 Kerber (2016 Madrid) and No.1 Muguruza (2017 Beijing), No.3 Muguruza (2018 Birmingham) and No.4 Bertens (2019 Wimbledon)
- Won doubles bronze medal at 2016 Rio Olympics (w/Safarova)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in Czech Republic in 2000. Won nine singles and 10 doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Crowned ITF Junior World Champion in 2002

## **Grand Slam History**

- Contested 56th Grand Slam main draw at 2020 Australian Open. One of six active players who've contested more than 50 Slams, behind V.Williams, S.Williams, Kuznetsova, Stosur and Cornet
- Breakthrough Slam result was SF run at 2019 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams)
- Before this, best result at Slam was QF run at 2014 Wimbledon (d. Li Na in the last match of the Chinese star's career, as well as Wozniacki en route, l. eventual champion Kvitova). Occasion marked first time in Open Era that three Czech women advanced to QF at a Slam (also Safarova, Kvitova)
- Advanced to R16 at Australian Open in 2016 (l. Azarenka), 2017 (l. S.Williams) and 2018 (l. Ka.Pliskova) and Roland Garros in 2018 (l. Putintseva)
- Reached 3r at US Open in 2014 (l. Bouchard), 2015 (l. Lisicki) and 2018 (l. Mertens)
- At 2010 Australian Open played what was then the longest Grand Slam match (d. Kulikova in four hours and 19 minutes – since surpassed by Kuznetsova-Schiavone at 2011 Australian Open)
- In doubles, won 2019 Wimbledon w/Hsieh (d. Dabrowski/Xu in F). Reached the final at 2020 Australian Open (w/Hsieh) and is a five-time semifinalist, at 2014 US Open (w/Date), 2015 Australian Open (w/Krajicek), 2017 US Open (w/Safarova), 2018 Roland Garros (w/Sestini Hlavackova) and 2019 Australian Open (w/Vondrousova)
- In successful junior career, won back-to-back Australian Open girls' singles titles in 2002 (d. Sharapova in F) and 2003 (d. Kutuzova in F) and was R-Up at the 2002 US Open (l. Kirilenko). Also won three junior Slams in doubles: 2001 Australian Open (w/Cetkovska), 2002 Roland Garros (w/Groenefeld) and 2002 Wimbledon (w/E.Clijsters)

## **Personal**

- Previously coached by David Kotyza (former coach of Petra Kvitová and Karolína Plíšková)
- Parents are Jindřich and Ilona; sister, Ivona, studied law and lives in US
- Started playing tennis at age 5
- Born in Plzeň, Czech Republic – same hometown as frequent doubles partner Andrea Sestini Hlaváčková

## **KA.PLÍŠKOVÁ:**

### **Rome**

- Making sixth consecutive appearance at Internazionali BNL d'Italia
- Enters this week's tournament as defending champion, having defeated Konta in last year's final to lift the crown
- Second best run was advancing to QF in 2017 (l. Svitolina)
- Faces Strycová in 2r today following 1r bye - career record in matches following byes stands at 41-8
- Owns three career clay court titles at 2015 Prague, 2018 Stuttgart and 2019 Rome
- One of five Czech players to contest main draw, also today's opponent Strycová, and Bouzková, Siniaková and Vondroušová
- During the hiatus, contested the Mutua Madrid Open Virtual competition, undertook charity work by supporting key workers with free coffee, kept fit with bike rides (her first in 15 years), held her Foundation's first junior tournament as well as played several exhibition events in the Czech Republic

### **Season**

- Coming off 2r loss at US Open (l. Garcia)
- First event back following the hiatus was the Western & Southern Open – as No.1 seed, fell 2r (after 1r bye, l. Kudrmetová)
- Prior to this, last event was in Doha, reaching the 3r (l. Jabeur)
- Fell to eventual finalist Rybakina in QF of Dubai
- Advanced to 3r at Australian Open (l. Pavlyuchenkova)
- Began 2020 by winning 16th career title at Brisbane International (d. Keys in F), defending her title from 2019 – has now won at least one WTA title for eight consecutive seasons. Was also first time successfully defending one of her previous 15 titles
- Brisbane marked first event working with new coach Daniel Vallverdu

### **Grand Slam History**

- Advanced to career first Grand Slam final at 2016 US Open (l. Kerber), simultaneously making debuts in R16, QF, SF and title match at the majors. Became first Czech to reach US Open final since Helena Suková in 1993 (l. Graf in F)
- At Australian Open, best result was SF run in 2019 (l. Osaka), also reached last four at 2017 Roland Garros (l. Halep)
- Reached R16 at Wimbledon in 2018 (l. Bertens) and 2019 (l. Muchová)
- Made Grand Slam main draw debut at 2012 Roland Garros (as qualifier, l. Bartoli in 1r)

### **Career Milestones**

- Finished 2019 ranked No.2 for career-best year-end finish
- Lifted a Tour-leading four title across the season (tied with Barty), taking tally to 15 – triumphed at Brisbane, Rome, Eastbourne and Zhengzhou
- Dropped 19 games across five matches during Eastbourne title win (d. Kerber in F) – most economic title run in 2019
- Also reached first Premier Mandatory final at Miami, losing to Barty in straight sets

- Produced best Australian Open performance of career, reaching SF (l. eventual champion Osaka in 3s); saved four match points to beat S.Williams in QF
- Lost to twin sister Kr.Pliskova in R16 at Birmingham, in what was their first career main draw encounter
- Made fourth straight appearance at the WTA Finals in 2019, reaching SF for the third year in a row
- Won two titles in 2018 from three finals contested, triumphing at Stuttgart (d. Vandeweghe in F) and Tokyo [PPO] (d. Osaka in F). Posted R-Up finish in Tianjin (l. Garcia in F)
- At Grand Slam level in 2018 season, made QF run at Australian Open (l. eventual R-Up Halep), reached 3r at Roland Garros (l. Sharapova), made R16 for first time at Wimbledon (l. Bertens) and had QF showing at US Open (d. No.17 Barty in R16, l. S.Williams)
- Also in 2018, made the SF at Brisbane (as defending champion, l. eventual champion Svitolina), Madrid (l. eventual champion Kvitova) and WTA Finals (l. Stephens). Enjoyed QF runs at four other tournaments
- Claimed No.1 ranking on July 17, 2017 despite making 2r exit at Wimbledon (l. Rybarikova). Was the first Czech woman to achieve the No.1 ranking since the computer rankings were introduced in 1975 (Martina Navratilova became No.1 on July 10, 1978 while representing USA)
- Won three titles in 2017, at Brisbane (d. Cornet in F), Doha (d. Wozniacki in F) and Eastbourne (d. Wozniacki in F)
- Owns 15-12 record in singles finals, having won having titles on all three surfaces
- Captured fifth WTA doubles title of career at 2016 Birmingham (w/Strycova). Is now 5-2 in doubles finals. At 2013 Linz, with sister Kristyna, became first set of twins to ever win a tour-level doubles title
- Made Top 10 debut after 2015 Stanford R-Up finish; was first time in WTA history that three Czech women ranked inside Top 10 at the same time (also Kvitova and Safarova)
- Won first career WTA title at 2013 Kuala Lumpur (d. Mattek-Sands) and followed it up with two more in 2014 Seoul (d. Lepchenko) and 2014 Linz (d. Giorgi)
- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2006

### **Personal**

- Born in Louny, north of Prague, but now trains at Sparta Praha tennis club
- Has a twin sister – Kristyna. In 2013, became the first set of twins to capture a WTA doubles title
- Married Michal Hrdlicka after 2018 Wimbledon
- Currently coached by Daniel Vallverdu and Olga Savchuk, and previously coached by Conchita Martínez, Rennae Stubbs, Tomas Krupa and David Kotyza
- Away from the court, enjoys fresh-water fishing, as well as contributing to her foundation which benefits various causes, including pediatric oncology and children battling cancer in her native Czech Republic