

## [3] ALISON RISKE (USE #38) VS. JASMINE PAOLINI (ITA #87)

Head-to-head: First meeting

RISKE		PAOLINI	
Career Prize Money	\$5,427,230	Career Prize Money	\$1,142,127
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Jul. 3, 1990 (31)	Date of Birth (Age)	Jan. 4, 1996 (25)
Singles Titles	2	Singles Titles	0
YTD / Career W-L	7-11 / 380-206	YTD / Career W-L	12-16 / 264-191
Coach	Billy Heiser	Coach	Renzo Ferlan

### RISKE:

#### Portoroz

- Making tournament debut
- Beat wildcard Lovric in 1r and Kuzmova in 2r to register back-to-back wins for the first time since R16 run at 2020 Australian Open
- Saw off Mladenovic in straight sets on Friday to advance to first SF since R-Up finish at 2019 Wuhan
- Defeated Juvan in SF to reach tenth career WTA final
- Faces Paolini today in search of third career title
- Holds 2-7 career record in finals, winning titles at 2014 Tianjin and 2019 s'-Hertogenbosch
- Six of her nine career finals have come on hard courts, most recently a R-Up finish at Wuhan in 2019
- Coming off 1r exit at US Open (I. Pavlyuchenkova). Best results this season were 3r at Nottingham (after 1r bye, I. Davis) and 2r showings at Eastbourne (I. Sabalenka), San Jose (I. Konjuh) and Cincinnati (I. Azarenka)

#### Career Milestones

- Best results of 2020 came in the opening month with a QF showing at Brisbane (QF) and R16 run at Australian Open
- Ended 2019 at career-high ranking of No.18, posted on November 4, 2019 – up from No.63 in 2018
- In a breakout 2019 campaign, achieved best Slam result by advancing to QF at Wimbledon, ousting World No.1 Barty to notch biggest win of her career before being halted by eventual R-Up S.Williams
- Additionally, lifted second career WTA singles title at 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Bertens in F after saving 5mp) and finished runner-up at Shenzhen (I. Sabalenka) and Wuhan (I. Sabalenka)
- Highlights in 2018 include reaching 3r at 2018 Miami, her best result at a Premier Mandatory tournament (I. Y.Wang on third set tiebreak), and advancing to QF at Hobart (I. Buzarnescu), 's-Hertogenbosch (I. Vandeweghe), Mallorca (I. Stosur) and Tokyo [PPO] (I. Ka.Pliskova). Also won eighth ITF Circuit singles title at Surbiton (d. Perrin in F)
- In 2017, finished R-Up at Shenzhen (d. No.3 A.Radwanska, I. Siniakova). Also part of Fed Cup winning USA team and reached QF at Nürnberg and 3r at Australian Open and Wimbledon

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- Won maiden WTA singles title at 2014 Tianjin without dropping a set (d. Bencic in F)
- Made Top 100 debut on July 22, 2013 (No.96)
- Reached first WTA SF at 2010 Birmingham (as qualifier, l. Sharapova)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2010 Charleston
- Winner of nine singles and one doubles title on ITF Women's Circuit

**PAOLINI:****Portoroz**

- Contesting the inaugural Zavarovalnica Sava Portoroz on a career high of No.87 (first achieved on June 14, 2021)
- Opened her Portoroz campaign with a straight sets victory over the No.6 seed Yastremska after the Ukrainian retired due to a lower back injury
- Saw off Kalinskaya in 2r and then upset No.4 seed Cirstea in QF
- Shocked No.2 seed and world No. 44 Putintseva in maiden Tour-level SF to reach first career WTA final
- Faces No.38 Riske today looking for first WTA title of her career
- Now owns three Top-50 wins this season also over No.34 Q.Wang at Gippsland Trophy and No.40 Cirstea in previous round
- Coming off 2r showing at US Open (d. Shvedova, l. Azarenka)
- Reached 2r at Chicago 250 (l. Cornet) after a 1r exit at Cincinnati (as qualifier, l. Kudermetova)
- Represented Italy at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, falling to Kvitova in the opening round
- During summer clay court swing, fell 1r at Hamburg (l. Konjuh) and 2r at Lausanne (l. Vikhlyantseva)
- Lifted first WTA doubles title at Hamburg (w/Teichmann, d. Sharma/Van Der Hoek in F)
- Fell 1r at Wimbledon (l. Petkovic) after lifting first WTA 125 title at Bol (d. Rus in F)
- During clay court swing, highlights include reaching final at Saint-Malo 125 (l. Golubic) and 2r at Roland-Garros (l. Sakkari) and Bogota (l. Arruabarrena)
- Fell 1r at Parma (l. Anisimova) and in Madrid qualifying
- Reached 2r at Monterrey (l. Schmiedlova) and fell in Miami qualifying
- Made 1r exit at Australian Open (l. Ka. Pliskova) and Adelaide (as qualifier, l. Gauff)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Abu Dhabi (l. Fernandez) before a 3r run at Gippsland Trophy (Melbourne) where she fell to Muchova in 3s

**Career Milestones**

- Last season reached 2r four times at WTA tournaments, including Roland Garros (d. Bolsova, l. Kvitova)
- Highlights of 2019 included 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)



## ZAVAROVALNICA SAVA PORTOROZ- WOMEN'S MATCH NOTES

PORTOROZ, SLOVENIA – SEP. 13 – 19, 2021 – WTA 250

- Ended 2018 ranked No.180, with season highlight a maiden WTA singles QF at Prague (d. No.15 Kasatkina, I. Zhang)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2017 Bastad (l. Suarez Navarro in 1r) and also fell 1r at Guangzhou and in qualifying a further three times
- Part of Italy's Billie Jean King Cup team 2017-19
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2015 Rome
- Owns nine singles and one doubles title on ITF Circuit
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in Italy in 2011