



MATCH NOTES

AUSTRALIAN OPEN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

JANUARY 17-30, 2022 | GRAND SLAM | A\$75,000,000



Tournament Information: www.ausopen.com | @AustralianOpen | facebook.com/AustralianOpen

WTA Information: www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA

WTA Information : stats@wtatennis.com, kfischer@wtatennis.com, cwhitmore@wtatennis.com

DAY 8 MATCH-UPS

Head-to-Head

KAIA KANEPI (EST #115)

1-0

[2] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #2)

Kanepi: *Upset Sabalenka at last year's Gippsland Trophy, snapping her opponent's 15-match winning streak... At 36 years, 234 days old is the oldest player left in the draw and third oldest to reach the last 16 at the Australian Open since the tournament shifted to a 128-draw format in 1987... Australian Open is the only Slam where she is yet to reach QF... Owns 2-9 record against Top-2 ranked opponents, with wins over No.1 Halep (2018 US Open) and No.1 Wozniacki (2011 Tokyo)*

Sabalenka: *Recovered from a set down in each round so far – prior to this fortnight had only won two Slam matches after dropping the first set (2-13 record)... Is the third player since 2000 to reach the fourth round at the Australian Open after losing the opening set in first three rounds (also Dellacqua, 2008; Zheng Jie, 2010)... Can move to No.1 after the Australian Open by winning the title, as long as Barty does not reach the final*

Head-to-Head

[7] IGA SWIATEK (POL #9)

0-0

SORANA CIRSTEAN (ROU #38)

Swiatek: *Is through to the last 16 for the sixth Slam in a row... Owns a 28-2 record against opponents ranked outside the Top 30 at majors... Has won 22 of her 25 service games across the opening three rounds... Is yet to drop a set, one of three players with an unblemished record in bottom half of the draw, along with Halep and Mertens... Fell to a Romanian in fourth round of 2021 Australian Open, losing out to Halep*

Cirstea: *Grand Slam main-draw debut came at 2008 Australian Open... This fortnight is her 52nd appearance at a major and 14th at Melbourne Park... Bidding to advance to a second major QF, having previously reached that stage at 2009 Roland Garros... Joined in last 16 by Halep, ensuring Romania has two representatives at this stage for the first time since 2015... Owns only one Top-10 win since the start of 2018*

****Win-loss numbers are for main-draw matches at Grand Slams, Olympics and WTA 250, 500, 1000 tournaments****



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	Head-to-Head	
[14] SIMONA HALEP (ROU #15)	<u>1-3</u>	ALIZÉ CORNET (FRA #61)

Halep: Conceded only 12 games en route to the fourth round... Successfully progressed to the second week in Melbourne on each of her last four appearances... Owns 15-5 record in Grand Slam fourth-round matches and is an even more impressive 5-1 at Melbourne Park... Has won more titles (23) than any other player left in the draw... Beat Cornet en route to one of these titles, at 2013 Sofia

Cornet: Bidding to make Grand Slam QF debut on her 63rd main-draw appearance... Tanasugarn currently holds the record for most appearances before reaching a QF at this level, achieving the feat on her 45th at 2008 Wimbledon... Attempting to become the first Frenchwoman to reach an Australian Open QF since 2009... Recovered from 6-4 4-1 to beat Zidensek in the third round

	Head-to-Head	
[27] DANIELLE COLLINS (USA #30)	<u>1-1</u>	[19] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #26)

Collins: Made Grand Slam breakthrough here in 2019, advancing to the SF... Should she triumph today then the United States will have three women into the QF at Melbourne Park for second year in a row... Looking to score 30th win since the end of 2021 grass court season... Owns a 6-1 win-loss record against Belgian opponents, a record which includes a straight-sets triumph over Mertens at Chicago last year

Mertens: Has dropped only 18 games en route to round of 16... Has progressed to this stage at Melbourne Park for the fourth time in five visits... With 16 wins at the tournament and a SF in 2018, the Australian Open is the Belgian's happiest hunting ground at the majors... Has advanced to QF in doubles with Kudermetova and has an outside chance of reclaiming the No.1 ranking from Siniakova

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