

# PREVIEW NOTES

#### LINZ, AUSTRIA

Jan 29 - FEB 4, 2024 | WTA 500 | €802,237



WTA Website: www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/wta

Tournament Website : <a href="https://ladieslinz.at/en/">https://ladieslinz.at/en/</a>

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### **Upper Austria Ladies Linz – Quick Facts**

Main draw dates: Monday, Jan 29 – Sunday, Feb 4, 2024

Singles Final: Sunday, Feb 4, 2pm

Doubles Final: Followed by Singles Final

Venue: Design Center Linz

Status: WTA 500 Staging: 33rd Edition

**Draw sizes:** 30 singles / 16 doubles teams / 24 singles qualifying

Surface: Hard (Reboundace - AV Syntec Europa) / Indoor

Tennis Ball: Dunlop Fort All Court Tournament Select

SINGLES	\$	RANK POINTS
Winner	142,000	500
Runner-Up	87,655	325
Semifinalist	51,205	195
Quarterfinalist	24,200	108
Round of 16	13,170	60
Round of 32	8,860	32

DOUBLES	\$	RANK POINTS	
Winner	47,390	500	
Runner-Up	28,720	325	
Semifinalist	16,430	195	
Quarterfinalist	8,510	108	
Round of 16	5,140	1	

## **TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS**

Wildcards: Jelena Ostapenko (LAT), Angelique Kerber (GER), Sinja Kraus (AUT), Dayana Yastremska (UKR)

Youngest singles player: Sinja Kraus (21) Oldest singles players: Angelique Kerber (35)

- The WTA Hologic Tour returns to Linz for the third WTA 500 tournament of the year in the week following the Australian Open
- This is officially the 33<sup>rd</sup> edition of the event, this year staged as a WTA 500
- The reigning 2023 champion Anatasia Potapova returns to action in the main draw, alongside former champions Angelique Kerber, Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, and Camila Giorgi
- Former runner-ups Jelena Ostapenko and Elise Mertens also return to Linz this year as the No.1 and No.4 seeds
- 2 Top 20 players are in action this week, in the form of Jelena Ostapenko and Ekaterina Alexandrova; 2 grand slam singles champions are in the main draw, in the form of Jelena Ostapenko and Angelique Kerber
- 2023 Australian Open semifinalist Dayana Yastremska has received a wildcard into the main draw and faces a
  qualifier in the first round

## **TOP 4 SEEDS' TOURNAMENT HISTORY\***



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PLAYER	TOURNAMENT HISTORY	W/L
[1] Jelena Ostapenko (LAT)	R-Up (2019), 1r (2016)	4-2
[2] Ekaterina Alexandrova	1r (2023), 1r (2024), SF (2020), SF (2019), R-Up (2018)	12-5
[3] Donna Vekic (CRO)	QF (2023), 2r (2019), 1r (2018), 1r (2014), 1r (2013),	3-5
[4] Elise Mertens (BEL)	R-Up (2020)	4-1

<sup>\*</sup>Main draw matches only

### **COUNTRY & REGION BREAKDOWN**

Excluding qualifiers, a total of 11 countries and regions are represented in the main draw led by Italy with 4 players:

Austria (1) Sinja Kraus
Argentina (1) Nadia Podoroska
Belgium (1) Elise Mertens

Croatia (2) Donna Vekic, Petra Martic

Czech Republic (1) Katerina Siniakova

France (2) Clara Burel, Varvara Gracheva

Germany (1) Angelique Kerber Great Britian (1) Katie Boulter

Italy (4) Camila Giorgi, Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Martina Trevisan, Jasmine Paolini

Latvia (1) Jelena Ostapenko
Ukraine (1) Dayana Yastremska

Ekaterina Alexandrova, Anastasia Potapova, Anna Blinkova, Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova

### A SNAPSHOT OF 2023

- Thirty-seven different players won a WTA singles title in 2023
- **Iga Swiatek** led the way in terms of singles titles won in 2023, with six to her name (Doha, Stuttgart, Roland-Garros, Warsaw, Beijing, WTA Finals), followed by **Coco Gauff** with four (US Open, Cincinnati, Washington DC, Auckland) and **Aryna Sabalenka** with three (Adelaide 1, Australian Open, Madrid).
- In 2023, Aryna Sabalenka became the eighth WTA No.1 in both singles and doubles after Martina Navratilova, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, Serena and Venus Williams, Martina Hingis, Lindsay Davenport and Kim Clijsters
- Via Marketa Vondrousova, Karolina Muchova and Barbora Krejcikova, this is the first time since the WTA rankings were published where three Czech players have ended a calendar year in the WTA Top 10
- The WTA has crowned 11 first-time title winners in 2023: Katie Boulter (Nottingham), Lucia Bronzetti (Rabat), Elisabetta Cocciaretto (Lausanne), Marta Kostyuk (Austin), Ashlyn Krueger (Osaka), Alycia Parks (Lyon), Arantxa Rus (Hamburg), Maria Timofeeva (Budapest), Wang Xiyu (Guangzhou), Zheng Qinwen (Palermo), and Zhu Lin (Hua Hin)
- Two players in 2023 completed a singles-doubles title sweep at the same event **Nao Hibino** at Prague (partnering Oksana Kalashnikova) and **Barbora Krejcikova** at San Diego (partnering Katerina Siniakova)



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- The youngest title winner last season was Coco Gauff at Auckland (18) and the oldest was Tatjana Maria at Bogotá (35); Tatjana Maria was also the oldest title winner in 2022 when she won Bogotá at the age of 34
- Four qualifiers (or Lucky Losers) have won a WTA title in 2023: **Lauren Davis** (Auckland), **Maria Timofeeva** (Budapest), **Nao Hibino** (Prague) and **Sara Sorribes Tormo** (Cleveland)
- The No.1 seed has prevailed at eight events in 2023, while a title has been won by an unseeded player 18 times
- In the longest match in terms of time spent on court, **Beatriz Haddad Maia** took 3 hours and 51 minutes to defeat **Sara Sorribes Tormo** in R16 at Roland Garros
- Seventeen singles championship matches were decided in three-sets in 2023
- **Barbora Krejcikova** claimed the most doubles titles with four (Australian Open, Indian Wells, San Diego all w/Siniakova, Birmingham w/Kostyuk)
- **Iga Swiatek** led the Tour with match wins in 2023 (68-11), followed by Jessica Pegula (59-18) and Aryna Sabalenka (55-14)
- Four players made their Top-10 debuts in 2023: Elena Rybakina (January 30); Beatriz Haddad Maia (June 12); Marketa Vondrousova (July 17); Karolina Muchova (Aug 21)
- Lowest ranked player to win a title was No. 508 Elina Svitolina at Strasbourg