



# PREVIEW NOTES

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

### DUBAI, UAE



FEB 18 – FEB 24, 2024 | WTA 1000 | \$3,211,715

**WTA Website:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/wta  
**Tournament Website:** [dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com](http://dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com)  
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## QATAR TOTALENERGIES OPEN – QUICK FACTS

**Main draw dates:** Sunday, February 18 – Saturday, February 24, 2024  
**Singles Final:** Saturday, February 24 – NB 7pm  
**Doubles Final:** Saturday, February 24  
**Venue:** Dubai Duty Free Tennis Stadium  
**Status:** WTA 1000  
**Staging:** Tournament's 24th year  
**Draw sizes:** 56 singles / 28 doubles teams / 32 singles qualifying  
**Surface:** Hard (Deco Turf II) / Outdoors  
**Tennis Ball:** Dunlop Australian Open  
**2023 Singles Final:** Barbora Krejčíková d. [1] Iga Świątek 6-4 6-2  
**2023 Doubles Final:** Kudrmetova/Samsonova d. H.Chan/L.Chan 6-4 6-7(4) 10-1

SINGLES \$	SINGLES RANK POINTS		DOUBLES \$	DOUBLES RANK POINTS
523,485	1000	<b>Winner</b>	154,160	1000
308,320	650	<b>Runner-Up</b>	86,710	650
158,944	390	<b>Semifinalist</b>	46,570	390
72,965	215	<b>Quarterfinalist</b>	24,090	215
36,454	120	<b>Round of 16</b>	13,650	120
20,650	65	<b>Round of 32</b>	9,100	10
14,800	10	<b>Round of 56</b>		

## MAIN DRAW QUICK-HITS

**Wildcards:** Ashlyn Krueger, Zhang Shuai, Lulu Sun, Dayana Yastremska  
**Youngest singles player:** Mira Andrejeva (16)  
**Oldest singles player:** Tatjana Maria (36)

## TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS

This will be the 24th edition of the women's singles at the Dubai Tennis Championships. There have been 16 different winners and only four players have won the singles title more than once: Justine Henin (4), Venus Williams (4), Simona Halep (2) and Elina Svitolina (2).

Since the women's singles event's inception in 2001, Caroline Wozniacki and Svetlana Kuznetsova hold the equal-most main draw wins in the women's singles at the Dubai Tennis Championships, with 22 victories each.



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Svetlana Kuznetsova (36) has appeared in the most women's singles matches at the Dubai Tennis Championships and is one of two players to have appeared in more than 30 matches at the event, along with Jelena Jankovic (33).

The top-two seeded players have faced each other only once in the women's singles final at the Dubai Tennis Championship, with Justine Henin (#1) defeating Amelie Mauresmo (#2) in straight sets in 2007.

At 20 years and 147 days, Martina Hingis (2001) is the youngest player to win women's singles at the Dubai Tennis Championships.

Venus Williams is the oldest women's singles title winner at the Dubai Tennis Championships, taking out the 2014 event at 33 years and 250 days. Williams is the only player to win the event past their 30th birthday.

The WTA World No.1 has won the Dubai Tennis Championships three times - Martina Hingis in 2001, Justine Henin in 2004 and Lindsay Davenport in 2005.

Ranked No.49 at the time, Belinda Bencic (2019) is the lowest-ranked player to win the women's singles at the Dubai Tennis Championships, while Barbora Krejckikova (#63, 2021) is the lowest-ranked finalist at the event since 2001.

Svetlana Kuznetsova lost three finals at the Dubai Tennis Championships (2004 v Justine Henin, 2008 v Elena Dementieva and 2011 v Caroline Wozniacki). Only Maria Sharapova has appeared in more finals at a WTA event this century without ever winning, losing on all five occasions in Miami.

Barbora Krejckikova could become the fourth female player to win back-to-back women's singles titles at the Dubai Tennis Championships, after Justine Henin (2003-2004 and 2006-2007), Venus Williams (2009-2010) and Elina Svitolina (2017-2018).

Last year, Barbora Krejckikova became the fifth player to defeat the WTA's #1, #2 and #3 in a single tournament in the last four decades after Aryna Sabalenka (WTA Finals 2022), Venus Williams (WTA Finals 2008), Serena Williams (Miami 2002) and Steffi Graf (Roland-Garros 1999).

The defending champion has lost three times in the opening round of the women's singles at the Dubai Tennis Championships - Petra Kvitova in 2014, Simona Halep in 2016 and Belinda Bencic in 2020.

Marketa Vondrousova (2022) is one of three qualifiers to reach the women's singles semi-final at the Dubai Tennis Championships since 2001, along with Rachel McQuillan (2001) and Jennifer Brady (2020). A qualifier or lucky loser is yet to reach the final.

Venus Williams (2014) is the only wildcard to win the women's singles title at the Dubai Tennis Championships, eventually defeating Alize Cornet in the final.

Only two women have won Doha and Dubai in the same season after Martina Hingis (2001) and Justine Henin (2007).

In the event she wins her opening match at this year's Dubai Tennis Championships, Coco Gauff will surpass Nicole Pietrangeli for the third-most main draw victories at WTA events as a teenager this century. Both are currently on 153, while Maria Sharapova (204) has claimed the most such wins.

Victoria Azarenka's opening match at this year's Dubai Tennis Championships will be her 265th at WTA 1000 events, surpassing Caroline Wozniacki (264) for the outright second most of any player since the format's introduction in 2009



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## TOP 8 SEEDS – TOURNAMENT HISTORY\*

PLAYER	APPEARANCES	HIGHLIGHTS	W/L
[1] Iga Swiatek (POL)	4th	R-Up (1): 2023	5-3
[2] Aryna Sabalenka	7th	QF (3): 2020, 2021, 2023	8-6
[3] Coco Gauff (USA)	4th	SF (1): 2023 QF (1): 2021	5-3
[4] Elena Rybakina (KAZ)	4th	R-Up 1): 2023	7-2
[5] Ons Jabeur (TUN)	6th	QF (1): 2022	7-5
[6] Qinwen Zheng (CHN)	2nd	R32 (1): 2023	1-0
[7] Marketa Vondrousova (CZE)	5th	SF (1): 2022	5-3
[8] Maria Sakkari (GRE)	4th	R32 (2): 2020, 2023	3-3

*\*Main draw matches only*

### TOURNAMENT HISTORY - DUBAI

MOST MAIN DRAW WINS	W	L
WOZNIACKI, CAROLINE (DEN)	22	6
JANKOVIC, JELENA (SRB)	21	12
KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA	21	14
WILLIAMS, VENUS (USA)	19	4
MUGURUZA, GARBIÑE (ESP)	17	7
SVITOLINA, ELINA (UKR)	17	6
HENIN, JUSTINE (BEL)	17	1
HALEP, SIMONA (ROU)	15	5
KVITOVA, PETRA (CZE)	14	9
RADWANSKA, AGNIESZKA (POL)	13	9
PLISKOVA, KAROLINA (CZE)	13	8

### WTA 1000 LEVEL

MOST TITLES (SINCE 2009)	TITLES
WILLIAMS, SERENA USA	13
AZARENKA, VICTORIA	10
HALEP, SIMONA ROU	9
KVITOVA, PETRA CZE	9
SHARAPOVA, MARIA	8
<b>SWIATEK, IGA POL</b>	<b>7</b>
WOZNIACKI, CAROLINE DEN	6
SABALENKA, ARYNA	5
RADWANSKA, AGNIESZKA POL	5



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## COUNTRY & REGION BREAKDOWN

Not including qualifiers, a total of 21 countries and regions are represented in the main draw led by Czech Republic and the United States with five players:

<b>Belgium (1)</b>	Elise Mertens
<b>Brazil (1)</b>	Beatriz Haddad Maia
<b>Canada (1)</b>	Leylah Fernandez
<b>China (3)</b>	Qinwen Zheng, Xinyu Wang, Lin Zhu
<b>Croatia (2)</b>	Donna Vekic, Petra Martic
<b>Czech Republic (5)</b>	Marketa Vondrousova, Barbora Krejckova , Marie Bouzkova, Katerina Siniakova Karolina Pliskova
<b>France (2)</b>	Caroline Garcia, Varvara Gracheva
<b>Germany (2)</b>	Tatjana Maria, Angelique Kerber
<b>Greece (1)</b>	Maria Sakkari
<b>Italy (1)</b>	Jasmine Paolini
<b>Japan (1)</b>	Naomi Osaka (I believe she pulled out)
<b>Kazakhstan (1)</b>	Elena Rybakina
<b>Latvia (1)</b>	Jelena Ostapenko
<b>The Netherlands (1)</b>	Arantxa Rus
<b>Poland (2)</b>	Iga Swiatek, Magda Linette
<b>Romania (1)</b>	Sorana Cirstea
<b>Spain (1)</b>	Paula Badosa
<b>Tunisia (1)</b>	Ons Jabeur
<b>Ukraine (4)</b>	Elina Svitolina, Marta Kostyuk, Anhelina Kalinina, Lesia Tsurenko
<b>United States (5)</b>	Coco Gauff, Emma Navarro, Sloane Stephens, Caroline Dolehide, Sofia Kenin
<b>Other (8)</b>	Aryna Sabalenka, Daria Kasatkina, Liudmila Samsonova, Veronika Kudermetova Ekaterina Alexandrova, Victoria Azarenka, Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova Anastasia Potapova



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## A SNAPSHOT OF 2024 SO FAR

END DATE	TOURNAMENT	LEVEL	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP
Jan 7	United Cup	WTA 500	Germany	Poland
Jan 7	Brisbane	WTA 500	Elena Rybakina	Aryna Sabalenka
Jan 7	Auckland	WTA 250	Coco Gauff	Elina Svitolina
Jan 13	Adelaide	WTA 500	Jelena Ostapenko	Daria Kasatkina
Jan 13	Hobart	WTA 250	Emma Navarro	Elise Mertens
Jan 28	Australian Open	Grand Slam	Aryna Sabalenka	Zheng Qinwen
Feb 4	Linz	WTA 500	Jelena Ostapenko	Ekaterina Alexandrova
Feb 4	Hua Hin	WTA 250	Diana Shnaider	Zhu Lin
Feb 11	Abu Dabi	WTA 500	Elena Rybakina	Daria Kasatkina
Feb 11	Cluj-Napoca	WTA 250	Karolina Pliskova	Ana Bogdan
Feb 17	Doha	WTA 1000	Iga Swiatek	Elena Rybakina

- Jelena Ostapenko became the first two-time title winner in 2024 capturing titles at Adelaide and Linz. She has been joined by Elena Rybakina (Brisbane, Abu Dhabi).
- Iga Swiatek continues her reign atop the WTA Rankings. The week of the Dubai tournament marks 91st week as WTA World No.1, the 10th most in WTA history. Next on the all-time list is Lindsay Davenport (98 weeks).
- Four times this year the No.1 seed and No.2 seed met head-to-head in a tournament final. During the entire 2023 season the No.1 seed and No.2 seed met in four finals. The last time the No.1 seed and No.2 seed met more than four times in tournament finals in a season was 2013 (9 times).
- Qinwen Zheng made her Top 10 debut after the Australian Open (on Monday, January 29). She is the first Chinese woman to crack the Top 10 since Li Na (February 1, 2010).
- Four players have made their Top 100 debut this year – Renata Zarazua (Jan 8), Maria Timofeeva (Jan 29), Brenda Fruhvirtova (Jan 29) and Arina Rodionova (AUS).



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## TOURNAMENT HONOR ROLL

YEAR	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP	LEVEL
2001	HINGIS, MARTINA SUI	TAUZIAT, NATHALIE FRA	II
2002	MAURESMO, AMÉLIE FRA	TESTUD, SANDRINE FRA	II
2003	HENIN, JUSTINE BEL	SELES, MONICA USA	II
2004	HENIN, JUSTINE BEL	KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA RUS	II
2005	DAVENPORT, LINDSAY USA	JANKOVIC, JELENA SRB	II
2006	HENIN, JUSTINE BEL	SHARAPOVA, MARIA RUS	II
2007	HENIN, JUSTINE BEL	MAURESMO, AMÉLIE FRA	II
2008	DEMENTIEVA, ELENA RUS	KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA RUS	II
2011	WILLIAMS, VENUS USA	RAZZANO, VIRGINIE FRA	WTA 1000
2012	WILLIAMS, VENUS USA	AZARENKA, VICTORIA BLR	WTA 1000
2013	WOZNIACKI, CAROLINE DEN	KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA RUS	WTA 1000
2014	RADWANSKA, AGNIESZKA POL	GOERGES, JULIA GER	WTA 500
2015	KVITOVA, PETRA CZE	ERRANI, SARA ITA	WTA 500
2016	WILLIAMS, VENUS USA	CORNET, ALIZÉ FRA	WTA 500
2017	HALEP, SIMONA ROU	PLISKOVA, KAROLINA CZE	WTA 1000
2018	ERRANI, SARA ITA	STRYCOVA, BARBORA CZE	WTA 500
2019	SVITOLINA, ELINA UKR	WOZNIACKI, CAROLINE DEN	WTA 1000
2020	SVITOLINA, ELINA UKR	KASATKINA, DARIA RUS	WTA 500
2021	BENCIC, BELINDA SUI	KVITOVA, PETRA CZE	WTA 1000
2022	HALEP, SIMONA ROU	RYBAKINA, ELENA KAZ	WTA 500
2023	MUGURUZA, GARBIÑE ESP	KREJCIKOVA, BARBORA CZE	WTA 1000