

# **PREVIEW NOTES**

Mérida Open Akron

Mérida, Mexico



Mon 24 Feb – Sun 2 Mar, 2025 | WTA 500 | \$1,064,510

WTA Website: **Tournament Website: Communications:** 

www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/wta www.wtameridaopen.com Laura Brown (lbrown@wtatennis.com)

#### Mérida Open Akron – Quick Facts

Main draw dates:	Monday, Feb 24 – Sunday, Mar 2, 2025
Singles Final:	Sunday, Mar 2, 2.30pm
Doubles Final:	Sunday, Mar 2, 5pm
Venue:	Yucatan Country Club
Status:	WTA 500
Staging:	3 <sup>rd</sup> edition, first year as a WTA 500 event
Draw sizes:	28 singles / 16 doubles teams / 24 singles qualifying
Surface:	Outdoors, Hardcourt (Solflex)
Tennis Ball:	Wilson US Open Regular Duty

SINGLES	\$	RANK POINTS	
Winner	164,000	500	
Runner-Up	101,000	) 325	
Semifinalist	59,000	195	
Quarterfinalist	28,695	108	
Round of 16	15,700	60	
Round of 32	11,300 1		

DOUBLES	\$	RANK POINTS	
Winner	54,300	500	
Runner-Up	33,000	325	
Semifinalist	19,160	195	
Quarterfinalist	9,840	108	
Round of 16	6,000	1	

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

PLAYER	TOURNAMENT HISTORY			
[1] Emma Navarro (USA)	Making tournament debut			
[2] Paula Badosa (ESP)	Making tournament debut			
[3] Beatriz Haddad Maia (BRA)	Making tournament debut			
[4] Anna Kalinskaya	Making tournament debut			
*Main draw matches only				

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Merida Open⊗ *Akron*.

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#### **TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS**

Wildcards: Anna Kalinskaya, Renata Jamrichova (SVK), Zeynep Sonmez (TUR), Sloane Stephens (USA) Youngest singles player: Renata Jamrichova (17) Oldest singles player: Magda Linette (32)

- Tournament's first edition as a WTA 500 event; took place in 2023-2024 as a WTA 250 event
- The field is led by two Top 10 players world No.9 Emma Navarro and world No.10 Paula Badosa
- Two other Top 20 players, No. 16 Beatriz Haddad Maia and No. 19 Anna Kalinskaya rounds out Top 4 seeds
- All the Top 4 seeds are making tournament debut, looking for their first wins at Merida after first round Byes
- Defending champion Zeynep Sonmez returns as a wild card, facing No.8 seed Maria Sakkari in first round
- 2017 US Open champion **Sloane Stephens**, playing the tournament with a wild card, is making second appearance at Merida. Having reached QF at Merida 2023 (I. eventual champion Giorgi), Sloane Stephens will face a qualifier in opening round.
- As the youngest player in main draw (17 years old), Renata Jamrichova from Slovakia is making tournament debut with a wildcard, looking to her first main draw win at WTA tour-level events. She's facing Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro in opening match

#### **COUNTRY & REGION BREAKDOWN**

Excluding qualifiers, a total of 16 countries and regions are represented in the main draw:

Armenia (1)	Elina Avanesyan
Austria (1)	Julia Grabher
Brazil (1)	Beatriz Haddad Maia
Colombia (1)	Camila Osorio
Croatia (1)	Donna Vekic
Egypt (1)	Mayar Sherif
Greece (1)	Maria Sakkari
Italy (1)	Elisabetta Cocciaretto
New Zealand (1)	Lulu Sun
Poland (2)	Magdalena Frech, Magda Linette
Romania (1)	Jaqueline Cristian
Slovakia (2)	Renata Jamrichova, Rebecca Sramkova
Spain (2)	Paula Badosa, Jessica Bouzas Maneiro
Turkey (1)	Zeynep Sonmez
Ukraine (2)	Anhelina Kalinina, Marta Kostyuk
USA (2)	Emma Navarro, Sloane Stephens

Anna Kalinskaya



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### **2025 WTA TOUR FINALS**

END DATE	TOURNAMENT	LEVEL	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP
Jan 5	United Cup	WTA 500	USA	Poland
Jan 5	Brisbane	WTA 500	[1] Aryna Sabalenka	Polina Kudermetova
Jan 5	Auckland	WTA 250	[5] Clara Tauson	[7] Naomi Osaka
Jan 11	Adelaide	WTA 500	Madison Keys	[1] Jessica Pegula
Jan 11	Hobart	WTA 250	McCartney Kessler	[2] Elise Mertens
Jan 26	Australian Open	Grand Slam	[19] Madison Keys	[1] Aryna Sabalenka
Feb 2	Linz	WTA 500	[4] Ekaterina Alexandrova	[5] Dayana Yastremska
Feb 2	Singapore	WTA 250	[2] Elise Mertens	Ann Li
Feb 9	Abu Dhabi	WTA 500	[WC] Belinda Bencic	Ashlyn Krueger
Feb 9	Cluj-Napoca	WTA 250	[1] Anastasia Potapova	Lucia Bronzetti
Feb 15	Doha	WTA 1000	Amanda Anisimova	Jelena Ostapenko
Feb 22	Dubai	WTA 1000	[12] Mirra Andreeva	Clara Tauson

### 2025 SUMMARY

- Most Aces Season: Clara Tauson (136), Elena Rybakina (104), Linda Noskova (96), Madison Keys (88), Alycia Parks (81)
- Most Match Wins Season: Clara Tauson (15-3), Madison Keys (14-1), Iga Swiatek (14-4), Elise Mertens (13-4), Elena Rybakina (13-6)
- Most Aces in a Match Season: Clara Tauson (26)
- Most Singles Titles Season: Madison Keys, 2 (Adelaide, Australian Open)
- **PIF WTA World No.1 Ranking Singles:** Aryna Sabalenka, 16 consecutive weeks (since Oct 21, 2024); Total Weeks at No.1 26
- PIF WTA World No.1 Ranking Doubles: Katerina Siniakova, 24 consecutive weeks (since Sep 9, 2024); Total weeks at No.1 – 139 (tied for 4th most all-time)
- PIF WTA Top 100 Debuts: Polina Kudermetova (Jan 6), Eva Lys (Jan 27)
- PIF WTA Top 50 Debuts: McCartney Kessler (Jan 13), Ashlyn Krueger (Jan 27), Olga Danilovic (Jan 27)
- PIF WTA Top 10 Debut: Mirra Andreeva (Feb 24)