



# PREVIEW NOTES

## HOBART INTERNATIONAL

### HOBART, AUSTRALIA



January 12 – January 17, 2026 | WTA 250 | \$283,347

WTA Website: [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/wta  
Tournament Website: <https://www.tennis.com.au/hobart-international?page=1>  
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WTA Media Information: [wtastats@wtatennis.com](mailto:wtastats@wtatennis.com)

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**Main draw dates:** Mon, Jan. 12 – Sat, Jan. 17, 2026  
**Singles Final:** Saturday, Jan. 17  
**Doubles Final:** Saturday, Jan. 17  
**Venue:** Domain Tennis Centre  
**Status:** WTA 250  
**Staging:** 31st edition  
**Draw sizes:** 32 singles / 16 doubles teams / 24 singles qualifying  
**Surface:** Greenset / Hard courts - Outdoors  
**Tennis Ball:** Dunlop – Australian Open  
**2025 Singles Final:** McCartney Kessler def. [2] Elise Mertens, 6-4, 3-6, 6-0  
**2025 Doubles Final:** [4] Jiang/Wu def. Niculescu/Stollar, 6-1, 7-6

SINGLES	\$	RANK POINTS
Winner	\$37,390	250
Runner-Up	\$22,125	163
Semifinalist	\$12,331	98
Quarterfinalist	\$7,025	54
Round of 16	\$4,285	30
Round of 32	\$3,065	1

DOUBLES	\$	RANK POINTS
Winner	\$13,600	250
Runner-Up	\$7,650	163
Semifinalist	\$4,390	98
Quarterfinalist	\$2,620	54
Round of 16	\$2,020	1

## TOP 4 SEEDS – TOURNAMENT HISTORY

PLAYER	MAIN-DRAW APPEARANCES	TOURNAMENT HISTORY
[1] Emma Raducanu	1 <sup>st</sup>	Making tournament debut
[2] McCartney Kessler	2 <sup>nd</sup>	WON (1): 2025
[3] Iva Jovic	1 <sup>st</sup>	Making tournament debut
[4] Ann Li	2 <sup>nd</sup>	R16 (1): 2025



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## MAIN DRAW QUICK HITS

**Wildcards:** Talia Gibson (AUS), Camila Osorio (COL), Taylah Preston (AUS), Venus Williams (USA)

**Youngest singles player:** Iva Jovic (18) | **Oldest singles player:** Venus Williams (45)

*(\*not including qualifiers)*

- This year's Hobart International main draw is led by No.1 and 2021 US Open champion Emma Raducanu is making her Hobart International main draw debut, coming off the back of competing for Great Britain at United Cup 2026. This is the sixth time Raducanu has been amongst the Top 2 seeds at a WTA event, and the first time since September 2022 at Portoroz. Her 2025 season saw her reach the semifinals at Washington DC, quarterfinals at London, and a first WTA 1000 quarterfinal at Miami. She finished the season ranked inside the Top 30 for a second year after 2021.
- No.2 seed McCartney Kessler returns this week as the defending champion after winning the title here last year on her first appearance, defeating Elise Mertens in the final. Prior to Hobart 2026, she played the Brisbane International where she fell in the 2r to fellow American and current Australian Open champion Madison Keys. Kessler owns three WTA Tour-level titles; here at Hobart in 2025, as well as titles at Nottingham 2025 and Cleveland 2024. Along with two titles, some of her other 2025 highlights included a runner-up run at Austin, and reaching a career-high ranking of No.30 in June following her title run at Nottingham.
- 18-year-old Iva Jovic is the No.3 seed at this year's event and is making her Hobart International tournament debut as the youngest player in this year's field. Jovic's 2026 campaign got off to a flying start at Auckland last week, where she reached the semifinals. The young American had a breakthrough 2025 season where she won her first Tour-level title aged 17 at WTA 500 Guadalajara, rising from World No.73 to No.36 following her triumph in Mexico. This week in Hobart is the second time Jovic has been within the Top 5 seeds at a WTA event, after last week's ASB Classic where she was also the 3rd seed.
- Rounding off the Top 4 seeds is Ann Li, who is making her second appearance at Hobart after reaching the R16 in 2025 (l. No.1 seed Yastremska). The American owns two WTA Tour-level titles, winning her second title in 2025 at Guangzhou (after Tenerife 2021). Other highlights of 2025 included reaching the finals at Singapore (l. Mertens in F) and Cleveland (l. Cirstea in F), and making the 4r at a Grand Slam for the first time at US Open (l. Pegula). Li reached a peak ranking of No.33 in October before finishing the 2025 season ranked inside the Top 40 for the first time (No.38). This is the fourth time in her career that she has been among the Top 4 seeds at a WTA Tour-level event after Rabar, Iasi and Guangzhou in 2025.
- Also in the field as a wild card is seven-time Grand Slam singles champion Venus Williams, who is making her Hobart International debut at 45-years-old. Williams also received a wild card at Auckland last week, where she lost a tight 3-set battle to 5<sup>th</sup> seed Magda Linette in the first round.
- Other wild cards include young Australians Talia Gibson and Taylah Preston; Gibson is making her second appearance at Hobart after receiving a wild card in 2023, and she registered her first career Tour-level win as a wildcard at last year's Australian Open (d. Sonmez in 1r). Preston is making her Hobart International tournament debut; this is her first WTA Tour-level main draw event since Hua Hin 2024. Camila Osorio of Colombia has been awarded the fourth and final wild card and is making her third appearance at Hobart; her best result here is reaching R16 in 2025.



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## COUNTRY & REGION BREAKDOWN

Excluding qualifiers, a total of 16 countries and regions are represented in the main draw, led by the United States of America with six players:

Argentina (1)	Solana Sierra
Australia (2)	Talia Gibson, Taylah Preston
China (1)	Wang Xinyu
Colombia (2)	Emiliana Arango, Camila Osorio
Croatia (1)	Antonia Ruzic
Czech Republic (1)	Barbora Krejčíková
France (2)	Varvara Gracheva, Elsa Jacquemot
Germany (1)	Tatjana Maria
Great Britain (1)	Emma Raducanu
Hungary (1)	Anna Bondar
Indonesia (1)	Janice Tjen
Poland (2)	Magdalena Frech, Magda Linette
Serbia (1)	Olga Danilovic
Slovakia (1)	Rebecca Sramkova
Spain (1)	Jessica Bouzas Maneiro
United States (6)	Hailey Baptiste, Iva Jovic, McCartney Kessler, Ann Li, Peyton Stearns, Venus Williams

*(\*list does not include qualifiers)*

## 2025 SUMMARY

- **Most Match Wins – Season:** Aryna Sabalenka (63-12), Iga Swiatek (62-17), Elena Rybakina (56-19), Jessica Pegula (51-22)
- **Most Singles Titles – Season:** Aryna Sabalenka, 4 (Brisbane, Miami, Madrid, US Open)
- **Most Aces in a Match – Season:** Clara Tauson (26)
- **PIF WTA World No.1 Ranking – Singles:** Aryna Sabalenka, 64 consecutive weeks (since Oct 21, 2024); Total Weeks at No.1 – 72 (including week of Jan 5, 2026)
- **PIF WTA World No.1 Ranking – Doubles:** Katerina Siniakova, returned to No.1 on September 22; week of January 5, 2026 marks Siniakova's 177th career week at No.1
- **PIF WTA Top 10 Debuts (3)** – Mirra Andreeva (Feb 24); Amanda Anisimova (July 14); Ekaterina Alexandrova (Oct 13)
- **Youngest titlist** – Iva Jovic, Guadalajara 500 (17 years, 283 days old)
- **Oldest titlist** – Tatjana Maria, Queen's Club (37 years, 312 days old)
- **Lowest-ranked titlist** – Tiantsoa Rakotomanga Rajaonah, Sao Paulo (No. 214)



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## 2026 WTA TOUR SINGLES FINALS

END DATE	TOURNAMENT	LEVEL	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP
Jan 11	United Cup	WTA 500	<i>Final: Switzerland vs. Poland</i>	
Jan 11	Brisbane	WTA 500	<i>Final: (1) Aryna Sabalenka vs. (16) Marta Kostyuk</i>	
Jan 11	Auckland	WTA 250	<i>Final: (1) Elina Svitolina vs. (7) Wang Xinyu</i>	