

SINGLES FINAL – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE FINALISTS

FINALIST	RANK	WUHAN W-L	YTD W-L	CAREER W-L	YTD TITLES	CAREER TITLES	2026 PRIZE \$	CAREER PRIZE \$
[16] Maja Chwalinska	22	5-0	17-9	21-15	0	0	\$2,239,389	\$2,988,921
Sonay Kartal	170	5-0	14-6	36-27	0	1	\$333,323	\$2,042,961

WTA 1000 TOURNAMENTS – ROUND BY ROUND RESULTS

FINALIST	R128	R64	R32	R16	QF	SF	R-UP	WON	APPEARANCES*
[16] Maja Chwalinska	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	4*
Sonay Kartal	1	3	1	2	1	-	-	-	9*

WUHAN - ROUND BY ROUND RESULTS

FINALIST	R128	R64	R32	R16	QF	SF	R-UP	WON	APPEARANCES*
[16] Maja Chwalinska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*
Sonay Kartal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*

*Includes 2026 Wuhan

SINGLES FINAL QUICK HITS

- This is the first career meeting between Maja Chwalinska and Sonay Kartal
- Chwalinska and Kartal are each competing at Wuhan for the first time in their careers, and they are both appearing in their first career WTA 1000 final
- Both players are the first from their respective nations (Poland for Chwalinska; Great Britain for Kartal) to make the Wuhan final
- This marks the first Wuhan final between two players ranked outside of the Top 20
- Players ranked outside the Top 50 have reached finals at consecutive WTA 1000 events (No.54 Zheng Qinwen at Beijing last week and No.170 Kartal here) for the first time since No.71 Camila Giorgi (Montreal champion) and No.76 Jil Teichmann (Cincinnati R-Up) in 2021
- Today's champion will receive \$665,000 (USD) and 1000 PIF WTA Ranking points; the runner-up will take home \$385,001 and 650 points

[16] Maja Chwalinska (POL #22) vs. Sonay Kartal (GBR #170)

First meeting

Chwalinska:

- Making her tournament debut at Wuhan
- Contesting just her 4th career main draw at a WTA 1000 event (all in 2026: Wuhan, Beijing, Cincinnati and Toronto) - this is her first time advancing beyond R32 at a WTA 1000 event
- This is her 2nd career Tour-level final, following her 2026 Roland Garros R-Up, where she became the 2nd qualifier to reach a Grand Slam final in the Open Era (joining 2021 US Open champion Raducanu)
- Has become the third Polish player to make a WTA 1000 final, joining Agnieszka Radwanska (5 WTA 1000 titles and 3 R-Ups) and Iga Swiatek (12 WTA 1000 titles and 2 R-Ups)
- Has won 17 Tour-level matches so far in 2026, with 11 of those victories coming on hard court; prior to this year, she had a total of four career Tour-level wins
- Her previous career-best Tour-level result on hard court was her SF run at 2026 Singapore just last month (l. eventual champion Fernandez)
- She is the first left-handed player to reach a WTA 1000 final since Petra Kvitova won the 2023 Miami title (d. Rybakina in F)
- Attempting to become the 4th player to win her maiden Tour-level title at a WTA 1000 event (since the WTA 1000 format introduction in 2009), joining Osaka (2018 Indian Wells), Andreescu (2019 Indian Wells) and Mboko (2025 Montreal)
- She is projected to make her Top 20 debut following this event - No.12 with runner-up, or No.11 with title (4th Top 20 debut of the year after Jovic, Cirstea and Eala)

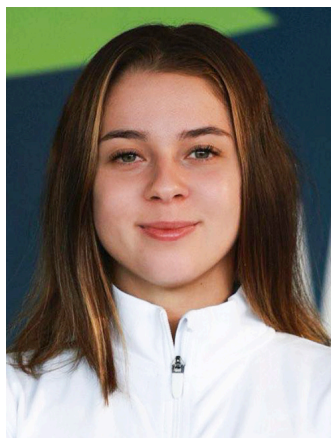
Kartal:

- Making her tournament debut at Wuhan
- This is just her 2nd Tour-level event since Indian Wells this March (made Beijing 3r earlier this month)
- Contesting just her 9th career WTA 1000 main draw, and is into a WTA 1000 SF and final for the first time
- Her prior career-best WTA 1000 result also occurred in China, making QF at 2025 Beijing (l. eventual R-Up Noskova)
- Ranked No.170, she has become the lowest-ranked WTA 1000 finalist since the format's introduction in 2009 - record was previously held by No.153 Svetlana Kuznetsova as R-Up at 2019 Cincinnati (l. Keys in F)
- This is her 2nd career Tour-level final, and she is 1-0 in WTA finals, having won the title at WTA 250 Monastir in 2024 on hard court (d. Sramkova in F)
- Bidding to become the third-lowest-ranked player to win a Tour-level title this year, ranked higher than only No.484 Robin Montgomery at 's-Hertogenbosch and No.229 Kristina Liutova at Memphis
- She has become the second British player to reach a WTA 1000 final, joining Johanna Konta, who won one WTA 1000 title at 2017 Miami (d. Wozniacki in F) and was also a 2-time WTA 1000 R-Up
- She is also the first player from the United Kingdom to make a Wuhan SF and final, surpassing Konta's back-to-back QF finishes in 2015 (l. eventual champion V.Williams) and 2016 (l. eventual champion Kvitova)
- Has become the 2nd player to defeat 5 former WTA 1000 finalists (Kalinina, Bencic, Paolini, Svitolina and Ostapenko) en route to a WTA 1000 final (the first was Naomi Osaka at 2025 Montreal)
- If she wins the title, she is projected to reach the Top 40 of the WTA Rankings for the first time



MATCH NOTES

DONGFENG · VOYAH WUHAN OPEN - WUHAN, CHN
2026-10-12 - 2026-10-18 | \$ 4,088,211



22

**MAJA
CHWALINSKA (16)**
POLAND

**SONAY
KARTAL** 170
UNITED KINGDOM

2001-10-11	Date of Birth	2001-10-28
Bielsko-Biala, Poland	Residence	Brighton, Great Britain
Left-Handed	Plays	Right-handed (two-handed backhand)
5' 5" (1.64 m)	Height	5'4" (163cm)
21	Career-High Ranking	44
\$2,988,921	Career Prize Money	\$2,042,961
\$2,239,389	Season Prize Money	\$333,323
0 / 0	Singles Titles YTD / Career	0 / 1
7-5 (Runner-Up: 2026 ROLAND GARROS)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	6-8 (Round of 16: 2025 WIMBLEDON)
5-0 / 5-0 (Finalist: 2026)	YTD / Career WUHAN W-L (best)	5-0 / 5-0 (Finalist: 2026)
17-9 / 21-15	YTD / Career W-L	14-6 / 36-27

MAJA
CHWALINSKA

SONAY
KARTAL

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
First career meeting						

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
21	-	2026	50	-
121	133	2025	44	71
152	165	2024	88	89
156	349	2023	195	235
149	154	2022	198	198
213	343	2021	985	993
212	220	2020	-	-
192	220	2019	-	-
329	336	2018	-	-
578	588	2017	-	-



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TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

1r: d. M. SHERIF (#52) 6-3 6-2 (1h 20m)
2r: d. M. BOUZKOVA (#28) 1-6 6-1 6-1 (1h 56m)
3r: d. I. JOVIC (#11) 6-4 6-1 (1h 49m)
QF: d. M. SAKKARI (#35) 6-0 3-6 7-5 (2h 35m)
SF: d. I. SWIATEK (#9) 7-5 6-1 (2h 8m)

Total time on court: 9h 48m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making her tournament debut at Wuhan
- Contesting just her 4th career main draw at a WTA 1000 event (all in 2026), and this is her first time advancing beyond R32 at a WTA 1000 event
- Defeated Mayar Sherif, Marie Bouzkova, No.10 seed Iva Jovic, Maria Sakkari and No.7 seed Iga Swiatek so far this week, reaching her 2nd career Tour-level final
- Her only prior Tour-level final was a R-Up finish at 2026 Roland Garros on clay (l. M.Andreeva in F), where she became the 2nd qualifier to reach a Grand Slam final in the Open Era (joining 2021 US Open champion Raducanu)
- Her victory over Swiatek in yesterday's SF was her first career Top 10 win
- Faces No.170 Sonay Kartal in today's final; Chwalinska is 2-2 in Tour-level matches this year vs. players ranked outside the Top 100 (including a loss to No.111 Yastremska at her previous event in Beijing)
- Owns 0-1 career Tour-level record against players from United Kingdom (l. Raducanu at 2026 Cluj-Napoca, which was Chwalinska's first career Tour-level QF)
- Her previous career-best result on hard court was her SF run at 2026 Singapore (l. eventual champion Fernandez)
- Is the 3rd Polish player to make a WTA 1000 final, joining multiple-time WTA 1000 champions Radwanska and Swiatek
- First player from Poland to make the Wuhan final in tournament history (since 2014)
- Is currently ranked No.22; this time last year was ranked No.126. Reached career-high ranking of No.21 after Roland Garros run in June 2026
- Has won 17 Tour-level matches so far in 2026, with 11 of the victories coming on hard court; prior to this year, she had a total of 4 career Tour-level wins
- Is the first left-handed player to make a WTA 1000 final since Petra Kvitova's title run at 2023 Miami (d. Rybakina in F)

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

1r: d. A. KALININA (#48) 7-5 6-3 (1h 31m)
2r: d. B. BENCIC (#12) 6-0 7-5 (1h 37m)
3r: d. J. PAOLINI (#33) 6-2 6-0 (1h 3m)
QF: d. E. SVITOLINA (#6) 6-2 2-6 6-4 (2h 3m)
SF: d. J. OSTAPENKO (#34) 7-6 7-6 (2h 12m)

Total time on court: 8h 26m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making her tournament debut at Wuhan
- Contesting just her 9th career WTA 1000 main draw, and is into a WTA 1000 final for the first time
- Her previous career-best WTA 1000 result also occurred in China, making QF at 2025 Beijing (l. eventual R-Up Noskova)
- This is just her 2nd Tour-level event since Indian Wells this March (made Beijing 3r earlier this month)
- Defeated Anhelina Kalinina, No.9 seed Belinda Bencic, No.15 seed Jasmine Paolini, No.5 seed Elina Svitolina and Jelena Ostapenko to reach her 2nd career Tour-level final
- Her one prior Tour-level final was her title run at 2024 Monastir on hard court (d. Sramkova in F)
- Faces No.22 Maja Chwalinska in today's final; Kartal has a 4-2 record vs. Top 25 players this year (including wins over Bencic and Svitolina this week)
- Owns 0-2 career Tour-level record against players from Poland (l. Frech at 2023 Nottingham; l. Linette at 2026 Doha)
- She is the first British player to make a Wuhan SF and final, surpassing Johanna Konta's back-to-back QF finishes in 2015 (l. eventual champion V.Williams) and 2016 (l. eventual champion Kvitova)
- Is the 2nd British player to reach a WTA 1000 final since the format's introduction in 2009, joining Konta (who won 1 WTA 1000 title and was a 2-time WTA 1000 R-Up)
- Is currently ranked No.170; this time last year was ranked No.58. Reached career-high ranking of No.44 in July 2025
- Has become the lowest-ranked WTA 1000 finalist since the format's introduction in 2009 - that record was previously held by No.153 Svetlana Kuznetsova when she was R-Up at 2019 Cincinnati (l. Keys in F)

MAJA
CHWALINSKA

SONAY
KARTAL

SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Contested 2r at Beijing (after 1r bye, l. Yastremska)
 - Reached SF at Singapore (l. eventual champion Fernandez)
 - Fell 1r at US Open (l. Townsend)
 - Played 2r at Monterrey (after 1r bye, l. Parks)
 - Made 3r at Cincinnati (l. Shnaider)
 - Played 2r at Toronto (1r bye, l. Gibson)
 - Played 1r at Wimbledon (as WC, l. Sawangkaew)
 - Made first Grand Slam final at Roland Garros (l. M.Andreeva in F) - 2nd qualifier to make Grand Slam final in Open Era
 - Won WTA 125 clay-court title at Oeiras in April (d. Kraus in F)
 - Opened 2026 season with QF at Cluj-Napoca (as qualifier, l. eventual R-Up Raducanu)
- Played 3r at Beijing (l. Charaeva)
 - Reached 4r at Indian Wells (l. eventual R-Up Rybakina, retired due to low back injury)
 - Played 1r at Doha (as qualifier, l. Linette)
 - Made QF at Abu Dhabi (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Bejlek)
 - Fell in 1r at Australian Open (l. Kalinskaya)
 - Reached QF at Auckland (l. eventual champion Svitolina)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
25	121	Aces	36	100
71.6%	4	First serve %	63.7%	0
61.6%	66	First Serve points won %	66.2%	0
50.8%	4	Second serve points won %	51.2%	0
58.6%	33	Overall service points won %	60.7%	0
69.8%	32	Service games won %	72.2%	0
57.8%	28	Break points saved %	50.8%	0
40.8%	4	First serve return points won %	37.8%	0
55.7%	32	Second serve return points won %	56.5%	0
54.5%	1	Break points converted %	49.7%	0
42.3%	6	Return games won %	37.9%	0
46.0%	9	Return points won %	44.6%	0



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TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

SINGLES FINALS

Runner-Up (1)

2026 - ROLAND GARROS

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (1)

2024 - MONASTIR

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
	RUP	1r	1r	2026	1r			
1r				2025	1r	2r	4r	1r
				2024			3r	
				2023			1r	
		2r		2022			1r	



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CAREER MILESTONES

- 2025 highlights include second career WTA 125 singles title at Montreux (d. Semenistaja in F) and Australian Open main draw debut (as qualifier, l. Niemeier in 1r), hitting career-high No.121 on March 31; also won WTA 125 doubles title at Antalya #1 (w/Detiuc)
- In 2024, reached 2r at Merida (l. Zarazua), made semifinal at WTA 125 Warsaw and claimed her first WTA 125 title at Florianopolis to take her ranking to a career high of No.128 by December
- In 2023, reached semifinal at WTA 125 Kozerki
- Made Top 200 debut on August 12, 2019 at No.192
- Has won seven career ITF singles titles and 14 career ITF doubles titles
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2016 Katowice
- Had a successful junior career, including reaching the 2017 Australian Open junior doubles final with future World No.1 Iga Swiatek (l. Andreescu/Branstine)
- In 2025, made first career Grand Slam R16 at home major of Wimbledon (l. Pavlyuchenkova). Also reached Indian Wells R16 in first career WTA 1000 main draw appearance (as LL, l. Sabalenka), eventually following up with first WTA 1000 QF at Beijing (l. Noskova); peaked at career-high ranking of No.44 on July 14
- Breakthrough year in 2024 saw her win first title at Monastir and reach 3r at Wimbledon as a qualifier. Her ranking entered the Top 100 for the first time and peaked at No.85 by year-end
- In 2023 reached main draw at Nottingham as a qualifier
- Played first WTA main draw matches in 2022 on grass at Nottingham and Wimbledon
- Began on the ITF circuit in 2019 and won her first ITF titles in 2021 at W15 Antalya and W15 Monastir

OTHER INFORMATION

- Coached by Jaroslav Machovsky
- Started playing tennis at age 7
- Has been very open about her battle with depression, which kept her out of competition
- Coached by Julie Hobbs and Ben Reeves
- Started playing tennis at the age of six at Pavillion & Avenue Tennis Club, where she still trains to this day
- Her first memory of tennis was when she was first brought on court to meet her current coach, Julie Hobbs, falling over and being too scared to come back. But after much persuasion, Hobbs managed to convince her to come back and the two have been inseparable ever since
- Favorite Tournament: Wimbledon
- Nickname: Karts
- Likes: Music, Animals, Shoes
- Tennis Idols: Kim Clijsters, Roger Federer, Andy Murray