



PREVIEW NOTES

THE MEMPHIS CLASSIC

MEMPHIS, TN, USA



July 27-August 2, 2026 | WTA 250 | \$283,347

WTA Website: www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/wta
Tournament Website: www.memphisclassic.com
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Main draw dates: Mon. July 27 – Sun. August 2, 2026
Singles Final: Sunday, August 2
Doubles Final: Saturday August 1
Venue: Leftwich Tennis Center
Status: WTA 250
Staging: 1st edition
Draw sizes: 32 singles / 16 doubles teams / 24 singles qualifying
Surface: Archrytech, Hard Court - Outdoors
Tennis Ball: Wilson US Open Regular Duty

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	TOURNAMENT MAIN DRAW APPEARANCES	BEST TOURNAMENT RESULT
[1] Ekaterina Alexandrova	1st	Making her tournament debut
[2] McCartney Kessler	1st	Making her tournament debut
[3] Viktorija Golubic	1st	Making her tournament debut
[4] Zeynep Sonmez	1st	Making her tournament debut



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MAIN DRAW QUICK HITS

Main-draw wildcards: Cadence Brace, Reese Brantmeier, Whitney Osuigwe, Sloane Stephens

Youngest singles player: Maya Joint (20) | **Oldest singles player:** Tatjana Maria (38)

*(*does not include qualifiers)*

- Top seed Ekaterina Alexandrova returns to the Tour this week after reaching the third round at Wimbledon earlier this month. It is the second tournament this season where she is the top seed, having fallen in the opening round at 's-Hertogenbosch. Alexandrova has compiled an 11-17 record in 2026 (5-8 on hard court), with her best result coming at Abu Dhabi, where she advanced to the 14th Tour-level final of her career before finishing runner-up to qualifier Sara Bejlek. Since then, her best run has been a quarterfinal showing at Bad Homburg (l. eventual finalist Naomi Osaka). Alexandrova will face a qualifier in the first round this week.
- No.2 seed McCartney Kessler of the USA returns to competition this week after reaching the second round at Wimbledon (l. Sabalenka). Kessler is a three-time Tour-level singles champion, with two of those titles coming on hard court at Hobart in 2025 (d. Mertens in F) and Cleveland in 2024 (d. Haddad Maia in F). She has recorded 13 Tour-level main draw wins so far this season, with her best results being quarterfinal appearances across all three surfaces: Charleston on clay (l. Stearns), Abu Dhabi on hard court (l. Tauson) and Eastbourne on grass (l. eventual champion Keys). Kessler will face Mexico's Renata Zarazua in the first round here this week, who she owns a 4-0 head-to-head record against.
- Switzerland's Viktorija Golubic is the No.3 seed this week and arrives with a 9-8 Tour-level main draw record in 2026. Her best result of the season came on the grass at Nottingham, where she reached the semifinals before falling to Navarro. Golubic is a two-time Tour-level champion, lifting the titles at Gstaad in 2016 on clay (d. Bertens in F) and Jiujiang in 2024 on hard court (d. Sramkova in F). This marks the second Tour-level event this season at which she has been seeded, having been the No.5 seed in Ostrava. Golubic will face Katie Volynets in the first round this week, she owns a 1-1 head-to-head record against the American.
- Rounding out the Top 4 seeds is Turkey's Zeynep Sonmez, who arrives at The Memphis Classic with a 15-15 Tour-level main draw record in 2026. She enjoyed a strong grass court campaign, reaching the quarterfinals at both Eastbourne and 's-Hertogenbosch. Sonmez is a one-time Tour-level champion, capturing the hard court title at Merida in 2024 (d. Li in F). Her best hard court result this season is also a quarterfinal run in Merida, where she lost to eventual champion Bucsa. This marks just the second Tour-level event of her career at which she has been seeded, having previously been the No.1 seed in Chennai in 2025. Sonmez will face wild card Cadence Brace in the first round here, who she has beaten once before at 2026 Merida.
- All four wild cards have been awarded to American players, led by 2017 US Open champion Sloane Stephens. Stephens is making her ninth Tour-level main-draw appearance of the 2026 season and has recorded two Tour-level match wins this year. She opens her campaign against Ukraine's Yuliia Starodubtseva. Osuigwe is contesting her third Tour-level main draw of the season, having suffered a first round defeat at Auckland before reaching the second round at Austin. Brace makes her second Tour-level main draw appearance of 2026 after advancing through qualifying in Merida before falling in the opening round. Completing the wild card recipients is Reese Brantmeier, who is set to make her maiden Tour-level main-draw appearance this week.



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COUNTRY & REGION BREAKDOWN

Argentina (1)	Solana Sierra
Australia (3)	Kimberly Birrell, Talia Gibson, Maya Joint
China (1)	Wang Xiyu
Colombia (1)	Camila Osorio
Czech Republic (2)	Linda Fruhvirtova, Darja Vidmanova
Germany (1)	Tatjana Maria
Mexico (1)	Renata Zarazua
Spain (1)	Marina Bassols Ribera
Switzerland (1)	Viktorija Golubic
Turkey (1)	Zeynep Sonmez
Ukraine (1)	Yuliia Starodubtseva
USA (10)	Cadence Brace, Reese Brantmeier, Elvina Kalieva, McCartney Kessler, Caty McNally, Whitney Osuigwe, Katie Volynets, Peyton Stearns, Sloane Stephens, Mary Stoiana

Ekaterina Alexandrova, Anastasia Zakharova

*(*list does not include qualifiers)*

2026 WTA TOUR FINALS

END DATE	TOURNAMENT	LEVEL	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP	DOUBLES CHAMPION
Jan 11	United Cup	WTA 500	Poland	Switzerland	
Jan 11	Brisbane	WTA 500	[1] Aryna Sabalenka	[16] Marta Kostyuk	[1] Hsieh/Ostapenko
Jan 11	Auckland	WTA 250	[1] Elina Svitolina	[7] Wang Xinyu	[2] Guo/Mladenovic
Jan 17	Adelaide	WTA 500	[3] Mirra Andreeva	[8] Victoria Mboko	[2] Siniakova/Zheng
Jan 17	Hobart	WTA 250	[Q] Elisabetta Cocciaretto	[3] Iva Jovic	Piter/Tjen
Feb 1	Australian Open	Grand Slam	[5] Elena Rybakina	[1] Aryna Sabalenka	[4] Mertens/Z.Shuai
Feb 7	Abu Dhabi	WTA 500	[Q] Sara Bejlek	[2] Ekaterina Alexandrova	Alexandrova/Joint
Feb 7	Ostrava	WTA 250	Katie Boulter	Tamara Korpatsch	[4] Detiuc/Santamaria
Feb 7	Cluj-Napoca	WTA 250	[3] Sorana Cirstea	[1] Emma Raducanu	[3] Rakhimova/Sorribes Tormo
Feb 14	Doha	WTA 1000	[19] Karolina Muchova	[13] Victoria Mboko	[4] Danilina/Krunic
Feb 21	Dubai	WTA 1000	[5] Jessica Pegula	[9] Elina Svitolina	[5] Dabrowski/Stefani
Mar 1	Merida	WTA 500	Cristina Bucsa	Magdalena Frech	[2] Bucsa/Jiang
Mar 1	Austin	WTA 250	[4] Peyton Stearns	[WC] Taylor Townsend	[1] Hunter/Townsend
Mar 15	Indian Wells	WTA 1000	[1] Aryna Sabalenka	[3] Elena Rybakina	[3] Siniakova/Townsend
Mar 29	Miami	WTA 1000	[1] Aryna Sabalenka	[4] Coco Gauff	[2] Siniakova/Townsend
Apr 5	Charleston	WTA 500	[1] Jessica Pegula	Yulia Starodubtseva	Krawczyk/McNally
Apr 5	Bogota	WTA 250	[1] Marie Bouzkova	[8] Panna Udvardy	[1] Dolehide/Khromacheva
Apr 12	Linz	WTA 500	[1] Mirra Andreeva	Anastasia Potapova	[1] Cirstea/Zhang
Apr 19	Stuttgart	WTA 500	[1] Elena Rybakina	[7] Karolina Muchova	[4] Melichar-Martinez/Samsonova
Apr 19	Rouen	WTA 250	[1] Marta Kostyuk	[Q] Veronika Podrez	[4] Maleckova/Skoch



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May 3	Madrid	WTA 1000	[26] Marta Kostyuk	[9] Mirra Andreeva	[2] Siniakova/Townsend
May 16	Rome	WTA 1000	[7] Elina Svitolina	[3] Coco Gauff	Andreeva/Shnaider
May 23	Strasbourg	WTA 500	Emma Navarro	[1] Victoria Mboko	[1] Dabrowski/Stefani
May 23	Rabat	WTA 250	[6] Petra Marcinko	Anhelina Kalinina	Chong/Kempen
June 7	Roland Garros	Grand Slam	[8] Mirra Andreeva	[Q] Maja Chwalinska	[1] Siniakova/Townsend
June 14	London	WTA 500	[LL] Donna Vekic	Emma Raducanu	Mihalikova/Nicholls
June 14	s'Hertogenbosch	WTA 250	[Q] Robin Montgomery	[8] Barbora Krejcikova	Aoyama/Liang
June 21	Berlin	WTA 500	[8] Linda Noskova	[3] Jessica Pegula	Alexandrova/Noskova
June 21	Nottingham	WTA 250	[4] Marie Bouzkova	[3] Emma Navarro	[WC] Dart/Lumsden
June 27	Bad Homburg	WTA 500	[4] Karolina Muchova	[6] Naomi Osaka	Sutjiadi/Zvonareva
June 27	Eastbourne	WTA 250	[2] Madison Keys	Tatjana Maria	[1] Dabrowski/Stefani
July 12	Wimbledon	Grand Slam	[9] Linda Noskova	[10] Karolina Muchova	[10] Guo/Mladenovic
July 19	Iasi	WTA 250	Mayar Sherif	Paula Badosa	[3] Detiuc/Khromacheva
July 19	Athens	WTA 250	[3] Barbora Krejcikova	[4] Maria Sakkari	[1] Chan/Kato
July 26	Hamburg	WTA 250	[4] Anna Bondar or [5] Tamara Korpatsch		TBD
July 26	Prague	WTA 250	[8] Daria Snigur or Lilli Tagger		TBD



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2026 SUMMARY

- Most Match Wins – Season: Mirra Andreeva (37-11), Aryna Sabalenka (36-6), Elina Svitolina (35-10), Jessica Pegula (35-9), Karolina Muchova (35-9)
- Most Singles Titles – Season: 3, Aryna Sabalenka (Brisbane, Indian Wells, Miami) and Mirra Andreeva (Roland Garros, Linz, Adelaide)
- Most Doubles Titles – Season:
5, Katerina Siniakova – Adelaide (w/Zhang); Indian Wells, Miami, Madrid, Roland Garros (each w/Townsend)
5, Taylor Townsend – Austin (w/Hunter); Indian Wells, Miami, Madrid, Roland Garros (each w/Siniakova)
- Singles / Doubles title sweep: Cristina Bucsa (Merida), Linda Noskova (Berlin)
- Most Aces: Elena Rybakina – 289
- PIF WTA World No.1 Ranking – Singles: Aryna Sabalenka, 93 consecutive weeks (since Oct 21, 2024, including week of July 27, 2026); Total Weeks at No.1 – 101 (including week of July 27, 2026)
- PIF WTA World No.1 Ranking – Doubles: Katerina Siniakova, 193 total (including week of July 27, 2026)
- Youngest titlist: Mirra Andreeva, Adelaide (18)
- Oldest titlist: Sorana Cirstea, Cluj-Napoca (35)
- Lowest ranked titlist: Robin Montgomery, 's-Hertogenbosch (No.484)
- PIF WTA Top 100 Debuts (12): Sinja Kraus (Feb 23), Victoria Jimenez Kasintseva (Mar 2), Talia Gibson (Mar 16), Nikola Bartunkova (Mar 30), Daria Snigur (Mar 30), Hanne Vandewinkel (Mar 30), Lilli Tagger (Apr 13); Lanlana Tararudee (May 4), Maja Chwalinska (June 8), Alina Korneeva (June 8), Darja Vidmanova (Jun 22), Kaitlin Quevedo (Jul 13)
- PIF WTA Top 50 Debuts (11): Cristina Bucsa (Jan 5), Janice Tjen (Feb 2), Tereza Valentova (Feb 2), Sara Bejlek (Feb 9), Maja Chwalinska (June 8), Petra Marcinko (June 8), Oleksandra Oliynykova (Jun 22), Nikola Bartunkova (Jun 22), Caty McNally (Jun 22), Zeynep Sonmez (Jul 13), Antonia Ruzic (Jul 13)
- PIF WTA Top 20 Debuts (2): Iva Jovic (Feb 2), Sorana Cirstea (May 18)
- PIF WTA Top 10 Debuts (2): Victoria Mboko (Feb 16), Linda Noskova (Jun 22)
 - On Feb 16, Mboko (19 years old) joined Mirra Andreeva (18 years old) in the PIF WTA Rankings Top 10. This became the first time two teenagers were ranked in the Top 10 since the week of July 27, 2009 – No.8 Azarenka (19) and No.9 Wozniacki (19)
- First-Time Title Winners: Sara Bejlek (Abu Dhabi), Cristina Bucsa (Merida), Petra Marcinko (Rabat), Robin Montgomery ('s-Hertogenbosch)