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FINAL – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

[1] Elena Rybakina (KAZ #1) vs. Leylah Fernandez (CAN #30)

Rybakina leads 3-2

Rybakina:

- Making 2nd Ningbo showing, and has returned as the defending champion (d. Alexandrova in last year's final) – she has a 7-0 career win-loss record at this event
- This is her 6th final of the year, and her 28th career Tour-level final overall – she is seeking her 15th career Tour-level title
- Since the start of 2025, she holds a 6-2 win-loss record in finals
- Has won 52 Tour-level matches this year, which leads all players (Andreeva and Pegula are tied for 2nd place, with 50 Tour-level match-wins each)
- Has won 3 titles this year (Australian Open, Stuttgart, US Open), tied with Sabalenka and Andreeva for the most Tour-level titles in 2026 – if she wins Ningbo for a 4th title this year, it would give her the outright lead
- Eight of her 14 Tour-level titles have been on hard court, including her 2 Grand Slam titles this year at Australian Open and US Open (d. Sabalenka in both of those finals)
- Six of her titles have been at WTA 500-level; her most recent WTA 500 title came on the clay of Stuttgart this year (d. Muchova in F)
- Reached World No.1 ranking for the first time on September 14, 2026, following her US Open title
- Has won her last two meetings vs. today's opponent Fernandez, at 2025 Tokyo on hard court and 2026 Stuttgart on clay

Fernandez:

- Making her tournament debut at Ningbo, as she seeks her 7th career Tour-level title
- This is her 10th career Tour-level final, and 2nd final of this year, following her Singapore title run on hard court last month (d. Gibson in F)
- She has won 13 of her last 16 matches, a hard court run which includes US Open 3r (l. eventual semifinalist Pegula), Singapore title, and Wuhan R16 (l. eventual semifinalist Ostapenko), in addition to this week's final
- Owns 9 wins in career over Top 10 players at Tour-level events, most recently No.5 Mirra Andreeva en route to 2026 Singapore title
- Has an 0-2 career record vs. reigning World No.1 players (l. No.1 Swiatek at 2023 Dubai; l. No.1 Sabalenka at 2025 US Open)
- Nine of her 10 Tour-level finals have been on hard court, including all of her 6 career Tour-level titles, as well as her one Grand Slam final at 2021 US Open (finished R-Up to qualifier Raducanu in all-teenage final)
- Two of her titles have been at WTA 500-level, at 2025 Washington DC (d. Kalinskaya in F) and Singapore last month
- She is the first player from Canada to advance to a Ningbo R16 and beyond
- Ranked No.30, she is attempting to become the lowest-ranked player to win this event (currently 2024 champion Kasatkina, who was ranked No.11 when she won this title)



MATCH NOTES

BNB NINGBO OPEN - NINGBO, CHN
2026-10-19 - 2026-10-25 | \$ 1,206,446



3
WIN

5
MATCHES
PLAYED

2
WIN



1

**ELENA
RYBAKINA (1)**
KAZAKHSTAN

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**
CANADA

30

1999-06-17	Date of Birth	2002-09-06
	Residence	Boynton Beach, Florida, USA
Right-handed (two-handed backhand)	Plays	Left-Handed (two-handed backhand)
6' 0" (1.84m)	Height	5' 6" (1.68m)
1	Career-High Ranking	13
\$35,354,162	Career Prize Money	\$8,987,480
\$10,915,445	Season Prize Money	\$1,684,341
3 / 14	Singles Titles YTD / Career	1 / 6
76-24 (Champion: 2026 US OPEN, AUSTRALIAN OPEN; 2022 WIMBLEDON)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	29-26 (Runner-Up: 2021 US OPEN)
3-0 / 7-0 (Champion: 2025)	YTD / Career NINGBO W-L (best)	4-0 / 4-0 (Finalist: 2026)
52-14 / 319-124	YTD / Career W-L	28-24 / 165-129



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FERNANDEZ

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
2026	STUTTGART	CLAY	QF	Elena Rybakina	6-7(5) 6-4 7-6(6)	3h 0m
2025	TOKYO	HARD	2r	Elena Rybakina	6-4 6-3	1h 28m
2025	WASHINGTON DC	HARD	SF	Leylah Fernandez	6-7(2) 7-6(3) 7-6(3)	3h 12m
2024	CINCINNATI	HARD	2r	Leylah Fernandez	3-6 7-6(3) 6-4	2h 35m
2024	DOHA	HARD	QF	Elena Rybakina	6-4 6-2	1h 34m

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
1	-	2026	22	-
5	5	2025	22	22
3	6	2024	23	31
3	4	2023	32	35
12	22	2022	13	40
14	14	2021	24	24
17	19	2020	88	88
37	37	2019	209	209
182	191	2018	451	487
420	425	2017	727	728



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TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

2r: d. P. KUDERMETOVA (#105) 5-0 (30m)
QF: d. K. KAWA (#128) 6-1 3-6 6-1 (1h 45m)
SF: d. D. SHNAIDER (#13) 6-3 7-5 (1h 35m)

Total time on court: 3h 50m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 2nd appearance at Ningbo and returning as the defending champion (d. Alexandrova in last year's final)
- Holds a 7-0 career win-loss record at this tournament
- After 1r bye, defeated Polina Kudermetova (via ret.), Katarzyna Kawa and No.6 seed Diana Shnaider this week to reach her 6th final of the year, and 28th career Tour-level final overall
- She has a 14-13 career win-loss record in Tour-level finals (6-2 record in finals since the start of 2025)
- Faces No.30 Leylah Fernandez in today's final; Rybakina is 36-7 this year vs. players ranked outside the Top 20
- Owns 8-5 career Tour-level record against players from Canada (1-1 in 2026: l. eventual R-Up Mboko at Doha; d. today's opponent Fernandez en route to Stuttgart title)
- She has won 52 Tour-level matches this year, leading all players (Andreeva and Pegula are tied for 2nd place, with 50 Tour-level wins each)
- Has won 3 titles this year, tying her with Sabalenka and Andreeva for the most Tour-level titles this year - winning Ningbo for a 4th title this year would give her the outright lead
- 8 of her 14 Tour-level titles have been on hard court, including her 2 Grand Slam titles this year at Australian Open and US Open (d. Sabalenka in both finals)
- 6 of her titles have come at WTA 500-level; her most recent WTA 500 title came on the clay of Stuttgart this year (d. Muchova in F)
- 1 of 2 players from Kazakhstan in this week's main draw (Putintseva lost 1r to Shnaider)
- Is currently ranked World No.1, which she reached for the first time on September 14, 2026, following her US Open title; this time last year was ranked No.7
- This year's Tour leader in total aces (429)

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

1r: d. E. MERTENS (#15) 2-6 6-3 7-5 (2h 49m)
2r: d. A. SASNOVICH (#122) 7-5 6-7 6-3 (3h 3m)
QF: d. E. ALEXANDROVA (#33) 4-6 6-2 6-1 (2h 5m)
SF: d. M. BOUZKOVA (#26) 6-3 7-5 (1h 58m)

Total time on court: 9h 55m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making her tournament debut at Ningbo
- Defeated No.7 seed Elise Mertens, Aliaksandra Sasnovich, Ekaterina Alexandrova and Marie Bouzkova so far this week, reaching her 10th career Tour-level final
- This is her 2nd final of the year, following her Singapore title run last month (d. Gibson in F)
- Has won 13 of her last 16 matches
- Faces World No.1 Elena Rybakina in today's final; Fernandez owns 9 wins in career over Top 10 players at Tour-level events, most recently No.5 Mirra Andreeva en route to 2026 Singapore title
- Has an 0-2 career record vs. reigning World No.1 players (l. No.1 Swiatek at 2023 Dubai; l. No.1 Sabalenka at 2025 US Open)
- Owns 2-3 career Tour-level record against players from Kazakhstan - all her matches vs. today's opponent Rybakina
- All of her 6 career Tour-level titles have come on hard court, including 2026 Singapore (holds a 6-3 career record in Tour-level finals)
- 9 of her 10 Tour-level finals have been on hard court, including her best Grand Slam performance, finishing R-Up at 2021 US Open (l. qualifier Raducanu in all-teenage final)
- Two of her titles have been at WTA 500-level, at 2025 Washington DC (d. Kalinskaya in F) and Singapore last month
- Only player from Canada to contest this week's main draw; she is the first player from Canada to advance to a Ningbo R16 and beyond
- Is currently ranked No.30; this time last year was ranked No.22. Reached career-high ranking of No.13 in August 2022
- Attempting to become the lowest-ranked player to win this event (currently 2024 champion Kasatkina, who was ranked No.11)



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RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

2025	Result	Rank: 9	Seed: 3
F	W	E. ALEXANDROVA (#10) 3-6 6-0 6-2	
SF	W	J. PAOLINI (#8) 6-3 6-2	
QF	W	A. TOMLJANOVIC (#104) 6-2 6-0	
2r	W	D. YASTREMSKA (#30) 6-4 6-7(6) 6-3	

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles



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SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Contested 2r at Beijing (after 1r bye, l. Charaeva)
- Won her first US Open title (d. Sabalenka in F)
- Reached QF at Cincinnati (l. Swiatek, via retirement)
- Made R-Up at Toronto (l. Swiatek in F)
- Reached 3r at Wimbledon (l. Mertens)
- Played 2r at Berlin (l. WC Eala)
- Reached QF at London (l. Boulter)
- Made 2r at Roland Garros (l. Starodubtseva)
- Reached QF at Rome (l. eventual champion Svitolina)
- Made 4r at Madrid (l. Potapova)
- Won the title at Stuttgart (d. Muchova in F)
- Reached SF at Miami (l. eventual champion Sabalenka)
- R-Up finish at Indian Wells (l. Sabalenka in F)
- Made 3r at Dubai (l. Ruzic, retired)
- Reached QF at Doha (l. eventual R-Up Mboko)
- Champion finish at Australian Open (d. Sabalenka in F)
- Made QF at Brisbane (l. Muchova)

- Made 3r at Wuhan (l. Ostapenko)
- Contested 2r at Beijing (after 1r bye, l. Rakhimova)
- Won the title at Singapore (d. Gibson in F)
- Reached 3r at US Open (l. Pegula)
- Played 2r at Cincinnati (l. Wang Xiyu)
- Reached 4r at Toronto (l. Osaka)
- Made 2r at Washington DC (l. Eala)
- Played 1r at Wimbledon (l. Tjen)
- Made 2r at Bad Homburg (l. Wang Xinyu)
- Played 1r at London (l. Boulter) and Nottingham (l. qualifier Sonmez)
- Fell 1r at Roland Garros (l. Parks)
- Reached QF at Strasbourg (l. Mboko)
- Fell 2r at Rome (l. Masarova)
- Made QF at Madrid (l. M.Andreeva)
- Reached QF at Stuttgart (l. eventual champion Rybakina)
- Made 3r at Charleston (l. Shnaider)
- Reached 3r at Miami (l. Pegula)
- Played 2r at Indian Wells (l. Siniakova)
- Made 2r at Dubai (l. Tjen)
- Fell in 1r at Doha (l. Li)
- Made 2r at Abu Dhabi (l. Kessler)
- Played 1r at Adelaide (l. Shnaider) and Australian Open (l. Tjen)
- Made 2r at Brisbane (l. Yastremska)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
429	1	Aces	139	37
57.2%	81	First serve %	62.5%	41
74.0%	2	First Serve points won %	65.5%	40
51.2%	3	Second serve points won %	47.1%	31
64.3%	2	Overall service points won %	58.6%	29
82.2%	1	Service games won %	71.2%	25
64.6%	1	Break points saved %	63.3%	4
34.2%	76	First serve return points won %	35.3%	63
54.8%	46	Second serve return points won %	53.3%	70
43.8%	61	Break points converted %	46.0%	34
32.7%	59	Return games won %	33.6%	55
42.5%	59	Return points won %	42.3%	61

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TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (14)

2026 - US OPEN, STUTTGART, AUSTRALIAN OPEN

2025 - WTA FINALS, NINGBO, STRASBOURG

2024 - STUTTGART, ABU DHABI, BRISBANE

2023 - ROME, INDIAN WELLS

2022 - WIMBLEDON

2020 - HOBART

2019 - BUCHAREST

Runner-Up (13)

2026 - TORONTO, INDIAN WELLS

2024 - MIAMI, DOHA

2023 - MIAMI, AUSTRALIAN OPEN

2022 - PORTOROZ, ADELAIDE 500

2020 - STRASBOURG, DUBAI, ST. PETERSBURG, SHENZHEN

2019 - NANCHANG

DOUBLES FINALS

Runner-Up (2)

2023 - ADELAIDE #2 (w/Pavlyuchenkova)

2021 - INDIAN WELLS (w/Kudermetova)

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (6)

2026 - SINGAPORE

2025 - OSAKA, WASHINGTON DC

2023 - HONG KONG

2022 - MONTERREY

2021 - MONTERREY

Runner-Up (3)

2024 - EASTBOURNE

2021 - US OPEN

2020 - ACAPULCO

DOUBLES FINALS

Runner-Up (5)

2026 - QUEENS (w/Siegemund)

2024 - CINCINNATI (w/Putintseva)

2023 - ROLAND GARROS (w/Townsend), MIAMI (w/Townsend), AUCKLAND (w/Mattek-sands)

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
WON	2r	3r	WON	2026	1r	1r	1r	3r
4r	4r	3r	4r	2025	3r	1r	2r	3r
2r	QF	SF	2r	2024	2r	3r	2r	1r
RUP	3r	QF	3r	2023	2r	2r	2r	1r
2r	3r	WON	1r	2022	1r	QF		2r
2r	QF	4r	3r	2021	1r	2r	1r	RUP
3r	2r		2r	2020	1r	3r		2r
	1r		1r	2019				



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CAREER MILESTONES

- In 2025, won her first WTA Finals title, where she posted a perfect round robin record before topping World No.1 Sabalenka in the final; by going undefeated (5-0) at 2025 WTA Finals Riyadh, she earned \$5.235m, the biggest prize money payout in women's sporting history
- Overall, won three titles in 2025, adding Strasbourg and Ningbo crowns to her Riyadh triumph; finished at No.5 in the rankings and as the year's Tour leader in total aces (516)
- Won three titles from five finals in 2024, tasting success at Brisbane, Abu Dhabi and Stuttgart and finishing R-Up at Doha and Miami. Qualified for her second WTA Finals and defeated WTA World No.1 Sabalenka in the group stage
- Reached second Grand Slam final at 2023 Australian Open (l. Sabalenka in 3s); made Top-10 debut following tournament (January 30, 2023). Also in 2023 won first two WTA 1000 titles at Indian Wells and Rome and finished R-Up at Miami. Qualified for first WTA Finals, going 1-2 in group stage.
- Lifted maiden Grand Slam title at 2022 Wimbledon (d. Jabeur in F); also finished R-Up at Adelaide (l. Barty) and Portoroz (l. Siniakova)
- Best results of 2021 were SFs at Eastbourne, Olympics and Chicago [500], and QFs at Abu Dhabi, Roland Garros, San Jose and Ostrava
- Opened 2020 by reaching the championship match at four of her first five tournaments, including a title run at Hobart (d. Zhang in F), and made Top 20 debut at No.19 on February 17, after reaching St. Petersburg final. First Top-5 win came over No.3 Ka. Pliskova during R-Up finish at 2020 Dubai
- Won maiden WTA singles title at 2019 Bucharest (d. Tig in F), breaking into Top 100 for the first time in the following week's rankings at No.65 (July 22). Went on to make Top 50 debut on September 16 after reaching second career Tour final at Nanchang (l. Peterson)
- Highlights of 2018 included reaching maiden WTA QF at St. Petersburg (l. Goerges) and clinching title at \$15K ITF/Kazan. First Top 10 win came over No.7 Garcia at 2018 St. Petersburg
- Made WTA qualifying and main draw debut at 2017 Moscow (as qualifier, l. Begu in 1r)
- Professional debut came at \$10k ITF/Antalya-TUR in 2014
- In 2025, won multiple Tour titles in a calendar year for the first time, finishing as champion at WTA 250 Osaka and WTA 500 Washington DC (her first title above WTA 250 level); also partnered Venus Williams to make US Open doubles QF as a wild card team
- 2024 season highlights were reaching first final on grass finishing R-Up at Eastbourne (l. Kasatkina) and as part of title defense made SF at Hong Kong. Also reached final of Cincinnati in doubles w/Putintseva
- In 2023, earned third career title at Hong Kong (d. Siniakova); prevented from a consecutive title run by Siniakova who defeated her in Nanchang SF. Also defeated Paolini at Billie Jean King Cup Finals to lift title with Canada
- Broke into the Top 20 in doubles in 2023, after reaching final at Roland Garros, Miami (both w/Townsend) and Auckland (w/Mattek-Sands) as well as QF at US Open (w/Townsend)
- In 2022 won her second title at Monterrey (d. Osorio in F; saved 5MP), and reached the QF at Roland Garros (l. Trevisan); missed grass-court season due to grade three stress fracture in her right foot suffered during match vs. Trevisan in Paris
- Enjoyed a memorable 2021 campaign, lifting first career title in Monterrey and advancing to maiden Grand Slam final, at US Open (l. Raducanu)
- En route to the final at Flushing Meadows in 2021, upset defending champion and No. 3 Osaka in 3r, 2016 winner Kerber in R16, No.5 Svitolina in QF and No. 2 Sabalenka in SF, becoming the youngest woman to beat multiple Top-5 opponents at the same major since S. Williams at 1999 US Open
- Breakout year in 2020 saw her crack Top 100 for the first time on September 14 and finish campaign by reaching 3r at Roland Garros. Earned first career Grand Slam win at 2020 US Open (d. Zvonareva, l. Kenin in 2r) and made Grand Slam debut at 2020 Australian Open as qualifier (l. Davis in 1r)
- Reached first career WTA final and notched first tour-level back-to-back wins at 2020 Acapulco as qualifier (l. Watson in F); at 17y, 177d, she was the youngest Canadian to reach a WTA singles final in 34 years (since Helen Kelesi at 1986 Tokyo [Japan Open] won at 16y, 338d)
- Owns one singles title and two doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Won 2019 Roland Garros junior singles title (d. Navarro) becoming first Canadian to win a junior

- Grand Slam since Bouchard in 2012
- Played first WTA main draw and earned first main draw win of career at 2018 Quebec City defeating countrywoman Dabrowski in 1r (L. Watson in 2r)
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in USA in 2016

OTHER INFORMATION

- Coached by Stefano Vukov
- Trained at Spartak Club in Moscow as a junior; previous coaches included Andrei Cheshnokov (Elena Vesnina's former coach) and Evgenia Kulikovskaya
- Nominated for 2019 WTA Newcomer of the Year Award
- Started playing tennis aged five and favorite surface is hard

- Coached by Jorge Fernandez
- Born in Montréal, and resides and trains in Miami, FL with mother, Irene, father, Jorge and younger sister, Bianca Jolie who also plays tennis. Older sister, Jodeci and husband Jacques live in Ohio
- Current sponsors are: lululemon, Easy Post, Morgan Stanley, Google Canada, Gatorade Canada, Babolat and Youth Athletes United
- Trilingual: French, Spanish and English
- Hobbies include: taking dancing lessons, currently learning Salsa with her younger sister; loves to solve puzzles and Rubiks Cubes during match rain delays or in her free time at the hotel
- Loves dessert but specifically enjoys molten lava chocolate cake