



## RIO OPEN PRESENTED BY CLARO – ATP MEDIA NOTES PREVIEW & DAY 1 – MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2022

Jockey Club Brasileiro | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil | 14-20 February 2022

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## RIO OPEN PRESENTED BY CLARO TALKING POINTS

- The **Rio Open presented by Claro** is the second ATP Tour 500 event of the 2022 season and is part of the four-week-long “Golden Swing” through Latin America. This year’s field includes four previous winners (**Cristian Garin**-2020, **Laslo Djere**-2019, **Diego Schwartzman**-2018, **Pablo Cuevas**-2016).
- Top seed **Matteo Berrettini** makes his Rio de Janeiro debut this week. The Italian has won three of his five tour-level titles on clay and will compete for the first time since reaching the semi-finals at the Australian Open (l. to eventual champion Rafael Nadal) in January. The World No. 6 will start his title bid against the winner Brazilian wild card **Thiago Monteiro** and Argentine qualifier **Sebastian Baez**.
- Last week’s Buenos Aires champion **Casper Ruud** is the No. 2 seed. His best result in Rio de Janeiro was a run to the semi-finals in 2017 and he will play **Francisco Cerundolo** or **Benoit Paire** in his opening match. The Norwegian defeated **Diego Schwartzman** in three sets last week’s Buenos Aires final. This week the Argentine is the No. 3 seed and the 29-year-old has fond memories in Rio de Janeiro, having captured his second tour-level crown at the ATP 500 event in 2018.
- **Pablo Carreno Busta** is the No. 4 seed and one of seven Spaniards in the main draw. The Olympic bronze medalist will take on the winner of **Fabio Fognini** and **Facundo Bagnis** in his opening match. No. 5 seeded Chilean **Cristian Garin** triumphed in Rio de Janeiro in 2020 capturing his first ATP 500 title against Gianluca Mager in the last match played at the Jockey Club Brasileiro before the break due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- #NextGenATP Spaniard **Carlos Alcaraz** is the youngest member of the Top 200 of the ATP Rankings and enjoyed a standout 2021 season, soaring from outside the Top 100 to No. 32 as he captured his maiden tour-level title in Umag. The 18-year-old further showcased his potential at the Australian Open in January, when he pushed Berrettini to a fifth-set tie-break. Rio de Janeiro holds special memories for Alcaraz as it was the city where he earned his maiden tour-level win against **Albert Ramos-Vinolas** in 2020. Alcaraz is the seventh seed and opens his campaign against **Jaume Munar**.
- The top three seeded pairs in doubles — top seeds **Marcel Granollers/Horacio Zeballos**, second seeds Juan **Sebastian Cabal/Robert Farah** and No. 3 seeds **Jamie Murray/Bruno Soares** — all competed in last year’s Nitto ATP Finals. Granollers and Zeballos were victorious in Rio de Janeiro in 2020 and Cabal and Farah lifted the trophy in 2014 and 2016. 39-year-old Brazilian Soares has played in all previous seven editions of the Rio Open presented by Claro since its 2014 inception and reached five straight semi-finals from 2014 to 2018.

## 2022 RIO OPEN PRESENTED BY CLARO SINGLES

SEED	PLAYER	2022 W-L (BEST FINISH)	RIO W-L (BEST FINISH)
1	Matteo Berrettini (ITA)	6-3 (Aus. Open SF)	0-0 (Debut)
2	Casper Ruud (NOR)	6-1 (Buenos Aires Title)	5-4 (2017 SF)
3	Diego Schwartzman (ARG)	8-4 (Buenos Aires Final)	8-4 (2018 Title)
4	Pablo Carreno Busta (ESP)	7-2 (Aus. Open 4R)	6-5 (2017 Final)
5	Cristian Garin (CHI)	3-4 (Aus. Open 3R)	6-1 (2020 Title)
6	Lorenzo Sonego (ITA)	7-4 (Buenos Aires SF)	2-2 (2020 QF)
7	Carlos Alcaraz (ESP)	2-1 (Aus. Open 3R)	1-1 (2020 2R)
8	Albert Ramos-Vinolas (ESP)	5-2 (Cordoba Title)	8-7 (2017 SF)

<b>Tournament History</b>	2014-2022 (8th Edition – not held in 2021)
<b>Singles Final</b>	Sunday 20 February at 5:30 pm
<b>Wild Cards (3)</b>	Felipe Meligeni Rodrigues Alves (BRA), Thiago Monteiro (BRA), Juncheng Shang (CHN)
<b>Qualifiers (4)</b>	Sebastian Baez (ARG), Daniel Elahi Galan (COL), Miomir Kecmanovic (SRB), Juan Ignacio Londero (ARG)
<b>Special Exempts (1)</b>	Francisco Cerundolo (ARG)
<b>Oldest Player</b>	Fernando Verdasco (38)
<b>#NextGenATP (2)</b>	Juncheng Shang (17), Carlos Alcaraz (18)
<b>Tournament Records</b>	<u>Most Wins</u> – Pablo Cuevas (13) <u>Youngest Champion</u> – Dominic Thiem, 23, in 2017 <u>Oldest Champion</u> – David Ferrer, 32, in 2015 <u>Lowest-Ranked Champion</u> – No. 90 Laslo Djere in 2019

## COUNTRY BREAKDOWN (11)

<b>Argentina (7)</b>	Sebastian Baez, Facundo Bagnis, Francisco Cerundolo, Federico Coria, Federico Delbonis, Juan Ignacio Londero, Diego Schwartzman
<b>Spain (7)</b>	Carlos Alcaraz, Pablo Andujar, Pablo Carreno Busta, Pedro Martinez, Jaume Munar, Albert Ramos-Vinolas, Fernando Verdasco
<b>Italy (3)</b>	Matteo Berrettini, Fabio Fognini, Lorenzo Sonego
<b>Serbia (3)</b>	Laslo Djere, Miomir Kecmanovic, Dusan Lajovic
<b>Brazil (2)</b>	Felipe Meligeni Rodrigues Alves, Thiago Monteiro
<b>Chile (1)</b>	Cristian Garin
<b>China (1)</b>	Juncheng Shang
<b>Colombia (1)</b>	Daniel Elahi Galan
<b>France (1)</b>	Benoit Paire
<b>Norway (1)</b>	Casper Ruud
<b>Uruguay (1)</b>	Pablo Cuevas

## ATP RANKINGS POINTS AND PRIZE MONEY

Rio Open Presented by Claro	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32
Singles Ranking Points	500	300	180	90	45	0
Singles Prize Money (\$)	317,400	169,985	90,650	48,570	25,900	13,760
Doubles Ranking Points	500	300	180	90	--	--
Doubles Prize Money (\$)	102,210	54,390	27,520	13,760	6,960	

## 2022 RIO OPEN PRESENTED BY CLARO DOUBLES

SEED	PLAYER	TEAM (BEST FINISH)	2022 (BEST FINISH)	EVENT (BEST FINISH)
1	Marcel Granollers (ESP) Horacio Zeballos (ARG)	67-27 (2 Titles in 2021)	4-1 (Aus. Open SF) 7-2 (Buenos Aires Final)	5-1 (2020 Title) 10-4 (2020 Title)
2	Juan Sebastian Cabal (COL) Robert Farah (COL)	315-181 (3 Titles in 2021)	2-2 (Sydney QF) 2-2 (Sydney QF)	15-5 (2014, 2016 Title) 15-5 (2014, 2016 Title)
3	Jamie Murray (GBR) Bruno Soares (BRA)	170-86 (2 Titles in 2021)	4-3 (Aus. Open 3R) 2-2 (Aus. Open 3R)	4-2 (2017-18 SF) 12-7 (2014-18 SF)
4	Ariel Behar (URU) Gonzalo Escobar (ECU)	48-39 (2 Titles in 2021)	9-4 (Adelaide-2 Final) 9-4 (Adelaide-2 Final)	0-1 (2020 1R) 0-1 (2020 1R)

**Doubles Final:** Saturday 19 February – third match from 5:00 pm

## RIO OPEN PRESENTED BY CLARO SINGLES FINALS

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2021	<i>not held</i>		
2020	<b>Cristian Garin (CHI)</b>	Gianluca Mager (ITA)	7-6(3) 7-5
2019	<b>Laslo Djere (SRB)</b>	Felix Auger-Aliassime (CAN)	6-3 7-5
2018	<b>Diego Schwartzman (ARG)</b>	<b>Fernando Verdasco (ESP)</b>	6-2 6-3
2017	Dominic Thiem (AUT)	<b>Pablo Carreno Busta (ESP)</b>	7-5 6-4
2016	<b>Pablo Cuevas (URU)</b>	Guido Pella (ARG)	6-4 6-7(5) 6-4
2015	David Ferrer (ESP)	<b>Fabio Fognini (ITA)</b>	6-2 6-3
2014	Rafael Nadal (ESP)	Alexandr Dolgoplov (UKR)	6-3 7-6(3)

**BOLD:** Player in 2022 Rio Open presented by Claro singles draw

## RIO OPEN PRESENTED BY CLARO DOUBLES FINALS

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2021	<i>not held</i>		
2020	<b>Marcel Granollers/Horacio Zeballos</b>	Salvatore Caruso/Federico Gaio	6-4 5-7 [10-7]
2019	<b>Maximo Gonzalez/Nicolas Jarry</b>	Thomaz Bellucci/ <b>Rogério Dutra Silva</b>	6-7(3) 6-3 [10-7]
2018	David Marrero/Fernando Verdasco	Nikola Pietrangeli/Alexander Peya	5-7 7-5 [10-8]
2017	<b>Pablo Carreno Busta/Pablo Cuevas</b>	<b>Juan Sebastian Cabal/Robert Farah</b>	6-4 5-7 [10-8]
2016	<b>Juan Sebastian Cabal/Robert Farah</b>	<b>Pablo Carreno Busta/David Marrero</b>	7-6(5) 6-1
2015	Martin Klizan/Philipp Oswald	<b>Pablo Andujar/Oliver Marach</b>	7-6(3) 6-4
2014	<b>Juan Sebastian Cabal/Robert Farah</b>	David Marrero/ <b>Marcelo Melo</b>	6-4 6-2

**BOLD:** Player in 2022 Rio Open presented by Claro doubles draw

## ATP HEAD2HEAD: MONDAY FIRST-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

### QUADRA GUGA KUERTEN

#### [PR] Pablo Cuevas (URU) vs [PR] Pablo Andujar (ESP) Cuevas Leads 3-1

10 Estoril (Portugal)	Clay	R32	Pablo Cuevas	1-6 7-5 6-0
10 Bucharest (Romania)	Clay	QF	Pablo Andujar	6-4 6-4
11 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells (U.S.A.)	Hard	R128	Pablo Cuevas	7-5 6-3
21 Melbourne 1 (Australia)	Hard	R64	Pablo Cuevas	6-4 6-2
<b>Other Meetings</b>				
07 San Marino CH (San Marino)	Clay	R16	Pablo Andujar	6-2 6-2
09 Napoli CH (Italy)	Clay	SF	Pablo Cuevas	6-3 6-2

**Pablo Cuevas** | Age: 36 | World No. 104 | Career-High No. 19 | 2022: 0-1 (Buenos Aires 1R) | Rio: 13-6 (2016 Title)  
 > Top Uruguayan in history achieved career-high No. 19 in 2016 and owns 6-4 record in ATP Tour singles finals (6-3 on clay).

- > Defeated Nadal and became 1st player to beat only lefties en route to an ATP Tour title at 2016 Rio de Janeiro.
- > Advanced to 1st ATP Masters 1000 SF at 2017 Madrid after reaching QFs at Indian Wells and Monte Carlo earlier in 2017.
- > Captured 2008 Roland Garros doubles title w/Horna in tour-level team debut, becoming 1st South American team to win a Grand Slam in Open Era.
- > Underwent right knee surgery in 2011, did not play for 2 years and was unranked for 10+ months.

**NOTE:** Cuevas has played at all previous seven editions since the 2014 inception of the Rio Open presented by Claro

**Pablo Andujar** | Age: 36 | World No. 74 | Career-High No. 32 | 2022: 3-2 (Aus. Open 3R) | Rio: 5-5 (2014 SF)

- > Achieved career-high No. 32 in 2015 and broke back into Top 100 in 2018 following right elbow surgeries in March 2016, November 2016 and April 2017.
- > Owns 4-5 record in finals with all 9 finals on clay and 3 of 4 titles in Morocco.
- > Won most recent title at 2018 Marrakech as No. 355, becoming 2nd-lowest-ranked champion since ATP Tour was established in 1990 (No. 550 Hewitt at 1998 Adelaide).
- > In 2021, upset Federer in Geneva 2R, rallied from 2 sets down for biggest career win vs. No. 4 Thiem in Roland Garros 1R and reached 1st Grand Slam doubles SF at Roland Garros with countryman Martinez.
- > Peaked at No. 5 in junior rankings after winning 2004 Roland Garros boys' doubles title with countryman Granollers.

**NOTE:** In the first edition of the Rio tournament in 2014, Andujar lost a third-set tie-break 12-10 to Nadal in the semi-finals having had 2 match points. He won 2 more points than the Spaniard in that match.

#### Jaume Munar (ESP) vs [7] Carlos Alcaraz (ESP) Munar Leads 1-0

21 Marbella (Spain)	Clay	SF	Jaume Munar	7-6(4) 6-4
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**Jaume Munar** | Age: 24 | World No. 89 | Career-High No. 52 | 2022: 5-5 (Melbourne ATP 250 QF) | Rio: 3-2 (2019 QF)

- > Former World No. 3 junior achieved new career-high ranking 7 times in 2019, peaking at No. 52.
- > Defeated countryman Alcaraz before falling to countryman Carreno Busta in 1st ATP Tour final at 2021 Marbella.
- > Qualified for 2018 Intesa Sanpaolo Next Gen ATP Finals, then upset World No. 3 A. Zverev for biggest win of career at 2019 Marrakech.
- > Went 19-7 in 2020 and 20-6 in 2021 at Challengers, highlighted by titles at 2020 Lisbon and 2021 Antalya-1.
- > Reached 2014 Roland Garros boys' singles final and won boys' doubles title in 2015 with countryman Lopez San Martin.

**NOTE:** Munar is making his third straight appearance in Rio de Janeiro.

**Carlos Alcaraz** | Age: 18 | World No. 29 | Career-High No. 29 | 2022: 2-1 (Aus. Open 3R) | Rio: 1-1 (2020 2R)  
> Ended 2021 season by winning Intesa Sanpaolo Next Gen ATP Finals title and achieved career-high No. 29 in January 2022.  
> Upset No. 3 Tsitsipas in 5th-set TB en route to 2021 US Open QF at age 18, becoming youngest quarter-finalist at US Open in Open Era and at a Grand Slam since Chang, 18, at 1990 Roland Garros.  
> Captured 2021 Umag title to become youngest ATP Tour champion since Nishikori, 18, at 2008 Delray Beach and Spanish champion since Nadal, 18, was 8 days younger at 2004 Sopot.  
> Posted 32-17 record in 2021, becoming youngest player to earn more than 30 wins in a season since A. Medvedev, 18, went 32-11 in 1992.  
> Defeated Ramos-Vinolas in ATP Tour debut at 2020 Rio de Janeiro as 16-year-old, becoming youngest match winner since Garin, 16, at 2013 Vina del Mar.

**NOTE:** Alcaraz is currently enjoying a career-high ranking of 29, having broken into the Top 30 on January 31, 2022.

### **[WC] Felipe Meligeni Rodrigues Alves (BRA) vs [Q] Miomir Kecmanovic (SRB) First Meeting**

**Felipe Meligeni Rodrigues Alves** | Age: 23 | World No. 224 | Career-High No. 178 | 2022: 0-0 | Rio: 0-1 (2020 1R)  
> Achieved career-high No. 178 in singles and No. 78 in doubles on same day: 15 November 2021.  
> Made ATP Tour breakthrough in doubles, capturing 2021 Cordoba title with countryman Matos.  
> Won 1st Challenger singles title at 2020 Sao Paulo – same city where uncle, Fernando, captured his 1st Challenger singles title in 1993.  
> Ended junior career by winning 2016 US Open boys' doubles title w/Aguilar and achieving career-high No. 31.  
> Uncle, Fernando, is a former World No. 25 on ATP Tour; older sister, Carolina, plays on WTA Tour.

**NOTE:** In 2020 Meligeni Rodrigues Alves took 2017 Rio champion Dominic Thiem (ranked No. 4 at the time) to 3 sets in the Brazilian's sole previous match at the Rio Open presented by Claro.

**Miomir Kecmanovic** | Age: 22 | World No. 70 | Career-High No. 38 | 2022: 5-3 (Aus. Open 4R) | Rio: 0-0 (Debut)  
> Broke into Top 40 after winning 1st ATP Tour title at 2020 Kitzbuhel and achieved career-high No. 38 in 2021.  
> Advanced to 2022 Australian Open 4R after beginning career with 0-7 record in Grand Slam 2R matches.  
> Earned 1st 24 tour-level victories during 2019 season, highlighted by run to ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells QF as LL and win over No. 6 A. Zverev at ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati.  
> Beat Ruud and Davidovich Fokina to reach 2019 Intesa Sanpaolo Next Gen ATP Finals SF (l. to eventual champion Sinner).  
> Defeated Tsitsipas in 3rd-set TB to win 2015 Orange Bowl junior title, then ended 2016 as World No. 1 junior ahead of No. 2 Tsitsipas.

**NOTE:** Defeated fellow Serbian Djere last week in Buenos Aires 1R before falling to Francisco Cerundulo in 2R.

### **QUADRA 1**

**[WC] Juncheng Shang (CHN) vs Pedro Martinez (ESP)**

**First Meeting**