



ST. PETERSBURG OPEN - ATP MEDIA NOTES PREVIEW & DAY 1 - MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 2021

Sibur Arena | St. Petersburg, Russia | 25-31 October 2021

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ST. PETERSBURG OPEN TALKING POINTS

- The St. Petersburg Open has occurred each year since 1995 with the exception of 2014.
- Three of the top four Russians in the FedEx ATP Rankings headline the St. Petersburg Open with World No. 6 **Andrey Rublev** leading the way. Rublev, who won last year's title, is the top seed for the first time in his sixth appearance. He is one of five players who already have qualified for the Nitto ATP Finals in Turin next month.
- The No. 2 seed is Canadian **Denis Shapovalov**, a semi-finalist last year. No. 3 seed **Roberto Bautista Agut** is a four-time semi-finalist in St. Petersburg.
- Aslan Karatsev**, who won his second ATP Tour title of the season on Sunday in Moscow, is the No. 4 seed. The 28-year-old Russian is a career-high No. 19 in this week's FedEx ATP Rankings.
- No. 6 seed **Karen Khachanov**, a semi-finalist last week in Moscow, is the No. 4 Russian ranked No. 30. Khachanov was a silver medalist at the Tokyo Olympics (l. to Zverev).
- No. 8 **Sebastian Korda** is the only seed making his St. Petersburg debut. The 21-year-old American, who is the youngest player in the field, is ranked a career-high No. 38 this week. He is one of six players who already have qualified for the Intesa Sanpaolo Next Gen ATP Finals in Milan, which will be held 9-13 November.
- Besides Rublev, the other former St. Petersburg champion in the main draw is **Marin Cilic**, who captured the title in 2011. Cilic, who reached a career-high No. 3, is unseeded in this year's tournament.
- The top seeds in doubles are **Jamie Murray** and **Bruno Soares**, who are making their first appearance together in St. Petersburg. They were finalists at the US Open in September.

2021 ST. PETERSBURG OPEN SINGLES

SEED	PLAYER	2021 W-L (BEST FINISH)	EVENT W-L (BEST FINISH)
1	Andrey Rublev (RUS)	47-18 (Rotterdam Title)	8-4 (2020 Title)
2	Denis Shapovalov (CAN)	26-21 (Geneva Final)	5-2 (2020 SF)
3	Roberto Bautista Agut (ESP)	28-23 (Montpellier, Doha Finals)	13-6 (2015-18 SF)
4	Aslan Karatsev (RUS)	34-18 (Dubai, Moscow Titles)	1-2 (2020 2R)
5	Taylor Fritz (USA)	26-19 (Five Semi-finals)	0-1 (2020 1R)
6	Karen Khachanov (RUS)	33-22 (Tokyo Olympics Final)	3-5 (2020 QF)
7	Alexander Bublik (KAZ)	31-26 (Antalya, Singapore Finals)	1-3 (2020 2R)
8	Sebastian Korda (USA)	24-15 (Parma Title)	0-0 (Debut)

Singles Final

Sunday 31 October at 4:30 pm

Qualifiers (4)

To be determined on Monday

Wild Cards (3)

Yshai Oliel (ISR), Nino Serdarusic (CRO), Evgenii Tiurnev (RUS)

Protected Rankings (1)

Pablo Andujar (PR-57)

Oldest Player

Pablo Andujar (35)

#NextGenATP (2)

Sebastian Korda (21), Yshai Oliel (21)

Open Era Records

Most Wins - Mikhail Youzhny (35)

Most Titles - Thomas Johansson, Andy Murray and Marat Safin (2)

Youngest Champion - Alexander Zverev, 19, in 2016

Oldest Champion - Thomas Johansson, 30, in 2005

Highest-Ranked Champion: No. 3 Marat Safin in 2000

Lowest-Ranked Champion: No. 93 Sergiy Stakhovsky in 2009

COUNTRY BREAKDOWN (13) +

Russia (4)	Aslan Karatsev, Karen Khachanov, Andrey Rublev, Evgenii Tiurnev
Spain (4)	Pablo Andujar, Roberto Bautista Agut, Pedro Martinez, Albert Ramos-Vinolas
United States (4)	Taylor Fritz, Sebastian Korda, Mackenzie McDonald, Tommy Paul
Australia (2)	James Duckworth, John Millman
Croatia (2)	Marin Cilic, Nino Serdarcusic
Argentina (1)	Federico Delbonis
Belarus (1)	Ilya Ivashka
Canada (1)	Denis Shapovalov
France (1)	Adrian Mannarino
Germany (1)	Jan-Lennard Struff
Israel (1)	Yshai Oliel
Kazakhstan (1)	Alexander Bublik
Serbia (1)	Laslo Djere

+ Does not include qualifiers (To be determined on Monday)

2021 ST. PETERSBURG OPEN DOUBLES

SEED	TEAM	2021 W-L (BEST FINISH)	EVENT W-L (BEST FINISH)
1	Jamie Murray (GBR) Bruno Soares (BRA)	21-17 (Melbourne-1 Title) 18-12 (Melbourne-1 Title)	0-2 (2011, 2020 1R) 0-0 (Debut)
2	Raven Klaasen (RSA) Ben McLachlan (JPN)	19-21 (Washington Title) 23-29 (Washington Title)	0-0 (Debut) 2-1 (2020 SF)
3	Marcelo Arevalo (ESA) Matwe Middelkoop (NED)	27-20 (Winston-Salem Title) 31-24 (Winston-Salem, Moscow Titles)	0-0 (Debut) 10-4 (2017 Title)
4	Andrey Golubev (KAZ) Hugo Nys (MON)	17-20 (Roland Garros Final) 21-18 (Estoril, Lyon Titles)	0-0 (Debut) 1-1 (2019 QF)

Doubles Final: Sunday 31 October at 2 pm

FEDEX ATP RANKING POINTS AND PRIZE MONEY

St. Petersburg Open	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32
Singles Ranking Points	250	150	90	45	20 *	0
Singles Prize Money (\$)	84,720	60,740	43,240	28,830	18,530	11,150
Doubles Ranking Points	500	300	180	90	0	--
Doubles Prize Money (\$)	31,640	22,650	14,930	9,700	5,680	--

* Players who receive a bye in R32 and lose in R16 earn 0 ranking points.

ST. PETERSBURG OPEN SINGLES FINALS (Since 2005)

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2020	Andrey Rublev (RUS)	Borna Coric (CRO)	7-6(5) 6-4
2019	Daniil Medvedev (RUS)	Borna Coric (CRO)	6-3 6-1
2018	Dominic Thiem (AUT)	Martin Klizan (SVK)	6-3 6-1
2017	Damir Dzumhur (BIH)	Fabio Fognini (ITA)	3-6 6-4 6-2
2016	Alexander Zverev (GER)	Stan Wawrinka (SUI)	6-2 3-6 7-5
2015	Milos Raonic (CAN)	Joao Sousa (POR)	6-3 3-6 6-3
2014	TOURNAMENT NOT HELD		
2013	Ernesto Gulbis (LAT)	Guillermo Garcia-Lopez (ESP)	3-6 6-4 6-0
2012	Martin Klizan (SVK)	Fabio Fognini (ITA)	6-2 6-3
2011	Marin Cilic (CRO)	Janko Tipsarevic (SRB)	6-3 3-6 6-2
2010	Mikhail Kukushkin (KAZ)	Mikhail Youzhny (RUS)	6-3 7-6(2)
2009	Sergiy Stakhovsky (UKR)	Horacio Zeballos (ARG)	2-6 7-6(8) 7-6(7)
2008	Andy Murray (GBR)	Andrey Golubev (KAZ)	6-1 6-1
2007	Andy Murray (GBR)	Fernando Verdasco (ESP)	6-2 6-3
2006	Mario Ancic (CRO)	Thomas Johansson (SWE)	7-5 7-6(2)
2005	Thomas Johansson (SWE)	Nicolas Kiefer (GER)	6-4 6-2

BOLD: Player in 2021 St. Petersburg Open singles draw

ST. PETERSBURG OPEN DOUBLES FINALS (Since 2005)

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2020	Jurgen Melzer/ Edouard Roger-Vasselin	Marcelo Demoliner/Matwe Middelkoop +	6-2 7-6(4)
2019	Divij Sharan / Igor Zelenay	Matteo Berrettini / Simone Bolelli	6-3 3-6 [10-8]
2018	Matteo Berrettini / Fabio Fognini	Roman Jebavy / Matwe Middelkoop	7-6(6) 7-6(4)
2017	Roman Jebavy / Matwe Middelkoop	Julio Peralta / Horacio Zeballos	6-4 6-4
2016	Dominic Inglot / Henri Kontinen	Andre Begemann / Leander Paes	4-6 6-3 [12-10]
2015	Treat Huey / Henri Kontinen	Julian Knowle / Alexander Peya	7-5 6-3
2014	TOURNAMENT NOT HELD		
2013	David Marrero / Fernando Verdasco	Dominic Inglot / Denis Istomin	7-6(6) 6-3
2012	Rajeev Ram / Nenad Zimonjic	Lukas Lacko / Igor Zelenay	6-2 4-6 [10-6]
2011	Colin Fleming / Ross Hutchins	Mikhail Elgin / Alexander Kudryavtsev	6-3 6-7(5) [10-8]
2010	Daniele Bracciali / Potito Starace	Rohan Bopanna / Aisam-Ul-Haq Qureshi	7-6(6) 7-6(5)
2009	Colin Fleming / Ken Skupski	Jeremy Chardy / Richard Gasquet	2-6 7-5 [10-4]
2008	Travis Parrott / Filip Polasek	Rohan Bopanna / Max Mirnyi	3-6 7-6(4) [10-8]
2007	Daniel Nestor / Nenad Zimonjic	Jurgen Melzer / Todd Perry	6-1 7-6(3)
2006	Simon Aspin / Todd Perry	Julian Knowle / Jurgen Melzer	6-1 7-6(3)
2005	Julian Knowle / Jurgen Melzer	Jonas Bjorkman / Max Mirnyi	4-6 7-5 7-5

BOLD: Player in 2021 St. Petersburg Open doubles draw + Not playing together this week

ATP HEAD2HEAD: MONDAY FIRST-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

CENTRE COURT

Jan-Lennard Struff (GER) vs James Duckworth (AUS)

First Meeting

Jan-Lennard Struff | Age: 31 | World No. 53 | Career-High No. 29 | 2021: 21-26 (Munich Final) | St. Pete: 4-3 (2017 SF)
 > Achieved career-high No. 29 after reaching 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2020 Cincinnati.
 > On home soil, advanced to 1st ATP Tour singles final at 2021 Munich and earned biggest win of career over No. 2 Medvedev in 2021 Halle 1R.
 > Posted personal-best 35 victories in 2019, highlighted by 1st Grand Slam 4R appearance at Roland Garros.
 > In 2018, became 1st player in Open Era to rally from 2 sets down in Wimbledon 1R and 2R (d. L. Mayer and Karlovic).
 > Lost in qualifying at 20 tour-level events before qualifying for 1st time at 2013 Roland Garros and earning 1st tour-level win at 2013 Wimbledon as Q (d. Kavcic).

Note: No. 2 German (behind Zverev) is trying to finish in Top 50 of FedEx ATP Rankings for the third straight year.

James Duckworth | Age: 29 | World No. 51 | Career-High No. 51 | 2021: 19-17 (Nur-Sultan Final) | St. Pete: 0-1 (2020 1R)
 > Achieved career-high No. 51 and earned personal-best 19 tour-level wins in 2021, advancing to 1st ATP Tour final in Nur-Sultan (l. to Kwon), Grand Slam 3R at Wimbledon and 1st ATP Masters 1000 3Rs at Miami and Toronto.
 > Saved 1 MP vs. Daniel en route to 1st ATP Tour SF at 2020 Pune.
 > Went 0-3 on ATP Tour and 49-18 at Challengers in 2019 with 4 titles in 6 finals: Bangkok, Baotou, Playford and Pune.
 > Underwent surgeries on right elbow in late-2012, early-2014 and February 2018; as well as on right foot in February 2017, August 2017 and January 2018; and right shoulder in March 2017 and March 2020.
 > Grandmother, Beryl Penrose, swept singles and doubles titles at 1955 Australian Championships.

Note: Comes in as the No. 2 Aussie (behind No. 32 de Minaur) and looking to finish in Top 50 for first time in career.

[WC] Nino Serdarusic (CRO) vs [8] Sebastian Korda (USA)

First Meeting

Nino Serdarusic | Age: 24 | World No. 248 | Career-High No. 192 | 2021: 0-1 (21-26 Challenger) | St. Pete: 0-1 (2020 1R)
> Has a 1-5 career record on ATP Tour, including 1-4 on home soil in Umag. Earned his first main draw win in 2019 Umag (d. Trungelliti, l. to Bagnis). Reached career-high No. 192 on 6 August 2018
> Last year qualified in St. Petersburg and lost to Opelka in three sets in 1R.
> This season has a 21-26 record on ATP Challenger Tour (21-23 on clay) with back-to-back finals in Verona, ITA (l. to Rune) and Warsaw, POL (l. to Ugo Carabelli). Also SF in Perugia, ITA and QF in Rome-2 as a qualifier.
> In lone ATP Tour main draw in Umag, lost to Taberner in 1R.
> Has a 64-89 career Challenger record (0-3 in finals) and 49-59 on clay, 15-29 on hard. Also 186-98 in career Futures events (8-11 in finals) and 179-82 on clay with 8 titles.

Note: No. 38 Korda is the second-highest ranked opponent he's faced in his career. Last year in St. Petersburg lost to No. 36 Opelka in three sets in 1R.

Sebastian Korda | Age: 21 | World No. 38 | Career-High No. 38 | 2021: 24-15 (Parma Title) | St. Pete: 0-0 (Debut)
> Did not drop a set en route to 2021 Parma championship, breaking into Top 50 and joining Petr Korda as 3rd father-son duo to win a title in Open Era (Phil & Taylor Dent; Ramanathan & Ramesh Krishnan). Reached career-high No. 38 on 18 October 2021.
> Also in 2021, upset No. 1 American Isner en route to 1st ATP Tour final at Delray Beach and earned biggest win of career over No. 9 Schwartzman to reach ATP Masters 1000 Miami QF.
> Advanced to 2020 Roland Garros 4R as Q and 2021 Wimbledon 4R, becoming 3rd player in Open Era to reach 4R in debut at both events (Borg in 1973, Pernfors in 1986).
> Became World No. 1 junior by winning 2018 Australian Open boys' singles title 20 years after his father won Australian Open men's singles title.
> Father, Petr, peaked at No. 2 on ATP Tour; mother, Regina, peaked at No. 26 in WTA; sister, Nelly, became World No. 1 women's golfer in 2021; sister, Jessica, reached career-high No. 8 in women's golf.

Note: Has made the third-biggest jump in the Top 50 FedEx ATP Rankings from end of last year, climbing 80 spots from No. 118 to No. 38. Has qualified for Intesa Sanpaolo Next Gen ATP Finals in Milan to be held 9-13 November.

[7] Alexander Bublik (KAZ) vs [WC] Evgenii Tiurnev (RUS)

First Meeting

Alexander Bublik | Age: 24 | World No. 34 | Career-High No. 34 | 2021: 31-26 (Two Finals) | St. Pete: 1-3 (2020 2R)
> Achieved career-high No. 34 and earned personal-best 31 victories in 2021, including biggest win of career over No. 7 A. Zverev at Rotterdam.
> Reached ATP Tour finals at 2019 Newport, 2019 Chengdu, 2021 Antalya and 2021 Singapore.
> Advanced to ATP Masters 1000 QFs at 2021 Miami and 2021 Madrid.
> Owns 6-0 career record in Challenger finals with titles in 2019 at Budapest, Pau and Monterrey.
> In doubles, advanced to 2021 Roland Garros final w/Golubev and 2020 Australian Open SF w/Kukushkin.

Note: No. 1 player from Kazakhstan is on course to finish in the Top 50 FedEx ATP Rankings for the second straight year (No. 50 in 2020).

Evgenii Tiurnev | Age: 24 | World No. 304 | Career-High No. 293 | 2021: 7-6 (Challengers) | St. Pete: 0-1 (2017 1R)
> The Russian wild card is playing in his second career ATP Tour main draw. His previous appearance came in 2017 St. Petersburg as a WC (l. to Kohlschreiber in 1R).
> This season has compiled a 7-6 record on ATP Challenger Tour, winning his first career title in St. Petersburg-2 in March (d. Zuk).
> One month earlier won St. Petersburg Futures title.
> Has an 11-22 career Challenger record and 204-105 record in Futures (13-8 in finals).

Note: Since winning St. Petersburg-2 Challenger title in March, has a 6-12 record (Futures, Challengers) with best result QFs at two Futures tournaments.