



5 October 2019

## THIEM BECOMES FIFTH PLAYER TO QUALIFY FOR NITTO ATP FINALS

LONDON – Dominic Thiem has become the fifth singles player to qualify for the 2019 Nitto ATP Finals, after beating Karen Khachanov in the semi-finals on Saturday at the China Open in Beijing. He joins Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal, Roger Federer and Daniil Medvedev at The O2 in London from 10-17 November.

The 26-year-old Thiem has secured his place at the season finale for the fourth consecutive year (2016-2019), matching the record of fellow Austrian and former World No. 1 Thomas Muster, who participated at the tournament in 1990, 1995-97.

"For me personally, it was one big goal when I started into the season," said Thiem. "I'm very, very happy that I made it again. But it's not because of today's win, it's because of all the season. It's a big honour for me to again be a part of [such a] big event in London. It also shows that I [have] played another very good and consistent season. I'm looking forward to it a lot."

Thiem, who has been a permanent fixture in the Top 10 of the ATP Rankings since 6 June 2016, captured the biggest title of his career in 2019 with his first ATP Masters 1000 crown at the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells (d. Federer) in March. He did not drop a set in also lifting clay-court silverware at the Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell, where he beat Nadal and Medvedev in the last two rounds, and at the Generali Open in Kitzbühel (d. Ramos-Vinolas), his first title on home soil. He has won at least three ATP Tour titles in four of the past five years (except 2017).

The Austrian went 23-7 on clay courts this year, which included a run to his fourth straight Roland Garros semi-final and his second successive final (I. to Nadal). He broke Djokovic's 26-match winning streak at Grand Slam championships with victory in the Paris semi-finals.

Stefanos Tsitsipas, the 2018 Next Gen ATP Finals champion, is currently in sixth position in the 2019 ATP Race To London, followed by Roberto Bautista Agut and defending champion Alexander Zverev. David Goffin, Matteo Berrettini, Kei Nishikori and Gael Monfils are also pushing hard with six weeks to go until the prestigious tournament.

The ATP's crown jewel event is to be held at The O2 in London through to 2020, where it has been staged to wide acclaim since 2009. The event has successfully established itself as one of the major annual sporting events worldwide, broadcast in more than 180 territories with global viewership figures reaching an average of 95 million each year.

## 2019 ATP RACE TO LONDON (as of 5 October 2019)

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Position	Player	Points	Scenario
1	Rafael Nadal (ESP)	9,225	
2	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	7,565	*Prior to Tokyo final
3	Roger Federer (SUI)	5,510	
4	Daniil Medvedev (RUS)	4,875	
5	Dominic Thiem (AUT)	4,145	*Prior to Beijing final
6	Stefanos Tsitsipas (GRE)	3,250	*Prior to Beijing SFs
7	Roberto Bautista Agut (ESP)	2,395	
8	Alexander Zverev (GER)	2,255	*Prior to Beijing SFs
9	David Goffin (BEL)	2,235	
10	Matteo Berrettini (ITA)	2,185	
11	Kei Nishikori (JPN)	2,180	
12	Gael Monfils (FRA)	2,125	

\*Players marked in **bold** have qualified.

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## About the Nitto ATP Finals

The Nitto ATP Finals is the year-end climax to the men's professional tennis season, featuring only the world's best eight qualified singles players and doubles teams as they battle it out for the last title of the season. Players compete for ATP Rankings points throughout the season in a bid to earn one of the eight coveted berths and a chance to win the biggest indoor tennis tournament in the world. Played using a round-robin format, each player plays three matches as they compete for a berth in the knockout semi-finals and beyond. The prestigious tournament has been contested in major cities around the world with a rich history dating back to the birth of The Masters in 1970 in Tokyo. Since 2000 the event has taken place in cities such as Lisbon, Sydney, and Shanghai. In 2009 the tournament was moved to London, where it will be played through to 2020 before moving to Turin in 2021. For more information, please visit <u>www.NittoATPFinals.com</u>.

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