

Aug 30-Sep 12

Flushing Meadows

U.S. Open 2021: Women's preview

Naomi Osaka returns to Grand Slam action after a brief hiatus – the Japanese star has claimed four majors since 2018, including two U.S. Open titles

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Ashleigh Barty

Wimbledon champion warmed up for fresh title tilt with trophy in Cincinnati

Aryna Sabalenka

Reached first Slam semi-final at Wimbledon, and won U.S. Open doubles title in 2019

Naomi Osaka

Pressures of media attention could affect title chances – lost in third round at Tokyo Olympics

Karolina Pliskova

Returning to top form after reaching finals in Rome, Wimbledon and Montreal

PLAYER RECORD	Barty	Sabalenka	Osaka	Pliskova
2021 win-loss	40-7	38-14	17-5	30-16
2021 titles	5	2	1	0
Career titles (total)	13	10	7	16
Grand Slams	2	0	4	0

THRILLING FIELD

Eight different players have reached major finals this season, including maiden Slam champion **Barbora Krejickova** and Olympic gold medallist **Belinda Bencic** (right)

Major finals 2021

Australian Open Naomi Osaka

bt Jennifer Brady 6-4, 6-3

Roland Garros Barbora Krejickova

bt A. Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 2-6, 6-4

Wimbledon Ashleigh Barty

bt Karolina Pliskova 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

Tokyo Olympics Belinda Bencic

bt Marketa Vondrousova 7-5, 2-6, 6-3

