

JAN 17-30  
Melbourne Park

AO

# Australian Open 2022: Women's preview

Home favourites, resurgent talent and rising stars head to Melbourne, all targeting the first major trophy of the season

## PLAYERS TO WATCH

### Ashleigh Barty

Could become first Australian woman to win home Slam since 1978, but suffered shock early exit in 2021

### Aryna Sabalenka

Doubles champion here last year but has endured crippling serving issues at recent warm-up events

### Garbine Muguruza

2020 finalist is back in top five after excellent season, crowned with maiden WTA Finals title

### Naomi Osaka (above)

Faces tough challenge to defend title after lengthy hiatus – rank down to 13th

PLAYER RECORD	Barty	Sabalenka	Muguruza	Osaka
2021 win-loss	42-8	45-18	42-17	19-6
2021 titles	5	2	3	1
Career titles (total)	14	10	10	7
Grand Slams	2	0	2	4

### GRAND SLAM GLORY

Four maiden major champions have been crowned since 2020, including surprise successes for **Barbora Krejickova** at Roland Garros and **Emma Raducanu** (right) at U.S. Open



	Australian Open	Roland Garros	Wimbledon	U.S. Open
2017	Williams	Ostapenko	Muguruza	Stephens
2018	Wozniacki	Halep	Kerber	Osaka
2019	Osaka	Barty	Halep	Andreescu
2020	Kenin	Swiatek	Cancelled	Osaka
2021	Osaka	Krejickova	Barty	Raducanu