

Roland Garros 2025

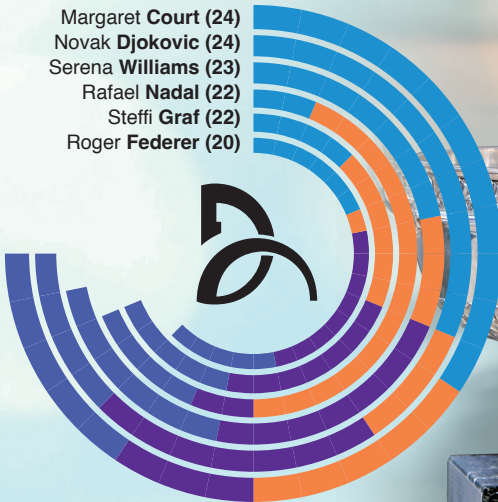
MAY 25 – JUNE 8

First staged in 1891 as the *Championnat de France*, the French Open, played on the iconic red clay of Roland Garros, enthral tennis fans with its breathtaking rallies and feats of physical endurance

SANDS OF TIME: Djokovic celebrates 38th birthday in preparation for tournament, with chances of surpassing Margaret Court's all-time record – for men or women – diminishing rapidly

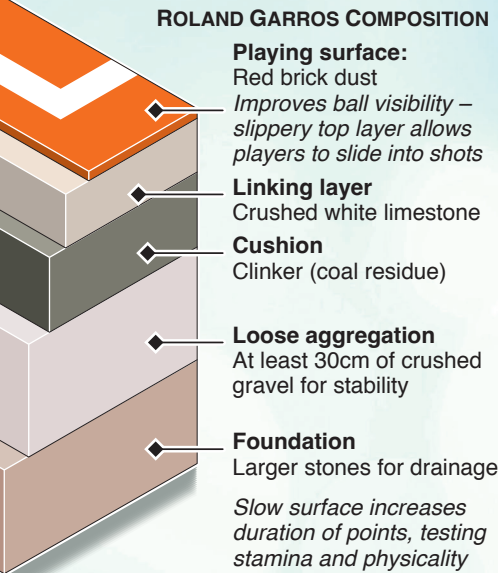
Most Grand Slam singles titles (All-time, men/women):

Australian Open Roland Garros Wimbledon U.S. Open



Surface

Clay court absorbs pace of ball, producing higher bounce with more spin, leading to longer, more tactical rallies



RESET BUTTON: Swiatek has won 35 of 37 singles matches in Paris, using natural agility and Nadal-esque top-spin forehand to gain advantage over opponents

Roland Garros titles (Open Era, women):

7	Chris Evert	USA	1974, 75, 79, 80, 83, 85, 86
6	Steffi Graf	GER	1987, 88, 93, 95, 96, 99
4	Iga Swiatek	POL	2020, 22, 23, 24
4	Justine Henin	BEL	2003, 05, 06, 07

Wins at Roland Garros (Open Era, women):

Steffi Graf	GER	Matches W/L: 84/10
Chris Evert	USA	72/6
Arantxa Sanchez	ESP	72/13
Serena Williams	USA	69/14
Conchita Martinez	ESP	62/18

Clay court queen Iga Swiatek

Fighting to salvage superiority to retain Coupe Suzanne Lenglen (right). Recent emotional defeats, and failed doping test for heart medication, have affected confidence and resilience

Sources: Roland Garros, BBC, ATP, WTA



Court Suzanne Lenglen

Court Philippe Chatrier
Capacity: 15,000
Retractable roof completed in 2020. Closes in 15 minutes, allowing all-weather play and night sessions

Roland Garros Village
Administration, reception areas and panoramic terraces

Grand Slam guru Novak Djokovic

Split with coach Andy Murray (inset) after just six months. Serb has endured difficult clay court season – suffering early exits in Monte-Carlo and Madrid events



Fonds des Princes
Sunken 2,200-seat court

Court Suzanne Lenglen
Capacity: 10,000
Retractable roof installed ahead of 2024 Paris Olympics

KING OF CLAY: Acclaimed Rafael Nadal (right) holds astonishing record at his beloved Roland Garros. Winning 14 singles titles from his debut in 2005 to final triumph in 2022 – record for most singles trophies at any individual major

Roland Garros titles (Open Era, men):

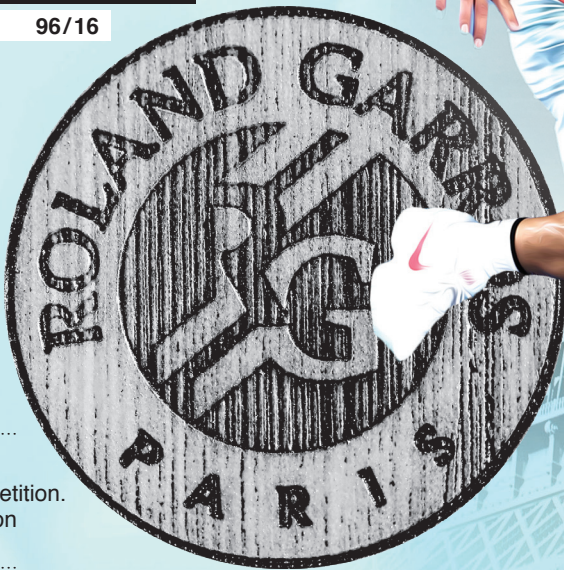
14	Rafael Nadal	ESP	2005-08, 2010-14, 2017-20, 2022
6	Bjorn Borg	SWE	1974, 75, 78, 79, 80, 81
3	Mats Wilander	SWE	1982, 85, 88
3	Ivan Lendl	CZE	1984, 86, 87
3	Gustavo Kuerten	BRA	1997, 2000, 01
3	Novak Djokovic	SRB	2016, 21, 23

Wins at Roland Garros

Rafael Nadal	ESP	Matches W/L: 112/3
Novak Djokovic	SRB	96/16
Roger Federer	SUI	73/17
Guillermo Vilas	ARG	57/17
Ivan Lendl	CZE	53/12

Timeline

- 1891:** Inaugural *French Clay-Court Championships*, reserved exclusively for members of French tennis clubs. Tournament alternates between three venues in early years
- 1925:** *French Open* born when tournament opens to international competition. French stars, including six-time champion **Suzanne Lenglen** still dominate
- 1928:** Court complex opens in Paris. Name honours **Roland Garros**, pioneer aviator killed in World War I
- 1932:** Four “Mousquetaires” – **René Lacoste**, **Jean Borotra**, **Henri Cochet**, and **Jacques Brugnon** – bow out after sharing 10 titles in decade of dominance
- 1968:** Hosts first Grand Slam of *Open Era* – **Ken Rosewall** (AUS) and **Nancy Richey** (USA) are champions
- 1973:** **Margaret Court** wins then record 13th Paris title, comprising five singles and eight doubles
- 1974-86:** Tennis legends **Björn Borg** and **Chris Evert** establish new era of clay court superiority
- 1979:** Five new courts bring total to 10 – further expansions follow in 1986 and 1994
- 2000:** **Mary Pierce** (left) is most recent French singles champion
- 2018-20:** Major expansion includes complete demolition and rebuild of 90-year-old **Court Philippe Chatrier** to accommodate retractable roof



PARIS 2024



2024: Hosts tennis tournament and boxing finals at **Paris Olympics**. Nadal bids emotional final au revoir, playing doubles with **Carlos Alcaraz**

Chris Evert
Seven-time champion at Roland Garros. First two trophies won during 125-match winning streak on clay (1973-79), Open Era record on single surface for any player, male or female



ROLAND GARROS 2025: TOP 10

ATP / WTA rankings as of May 19

1	Jannik Sinner	ITA	1	Aryna Sabalenka	–
2	Carlos Alcaraz	ESP	2	Coco Gauff	USA
3	Alexander Zverev	GER	3	Jessica Pegula	USA
4	Taylor Fritz	USA	4	Jasmine Paolini	ITA
5	Jack Draper	GBR	5	Iga Świątek	POL
6	Novak Djokovic	SRB	6	Mirra Andrejeva	–
7	Casper Ruud	NOR	7	Madison Keys	USA
8	Lorenzo Musetti	ITA	8	Qinwen Zheng	CHN
9	Alex de Minaur	AUS	9	Emma Navarro	USA
10	Holger Rune	DEN	10	Paula Badosa	ESP

Pictures: Getty Images, Pexels

© GRAPHIC NEWS