Wimbledon 2026

JUNE 29 - JULY 12

A quintessentially British tradition, the Wimbledon Championships are the world's oldest and most prestigious tennis tournament – synonymous with pristine lawn courts, royal patronage, dazzling white attire and, of course, beloved strawberries and cream



AELTC Wimbledon Park Project

*Plans to expand tournament grounds received legal boost in March, with approval granted for proposals to build new **8,000-seat show court** and 38 additional tennis courts across 27 acres of acquired public parkland*

£300m

Projected economic boost to London, with creation of 250 jobs



Serena Williams

Seven-time Wimbledon champion, 44, is set for sensational return to Centre Court after accepting wildcard for both singles and doubles events, where she will partner sister, Venus

Williams: Grass court record

107 Wins *(123 matches)*

08 Titles *(Wimbledon 7, Olympics 1)*

221-47 Sets won / lost

U.S. icon has higher win ratio on grass (87%) than any other surface

ROLLING BACK THE YEARS

*Williams announced comeback at **Queen's Club** after 1,375 days away from the sport – poised to play first Grand Slam match since third-round defeat at 2022 **U.S. Open***

Serena: Wimbledon titles

2002	**V. Williams** *USA*	*7-6, 6-3*
2003	**V. Williams** *USA*	*4-6, 6-4, 6-2*
2009	**V. Williams** *USA*	*7-6, 6-2*
2010	**Vera Zvonareva** *RUS*	*6-3, 6-2*
2012	**A. Radwańska** *POL*	*6-1, 5-7, 6-2*
2015	**Garbiñe Muguruza** *ESP*	*6-4, 6-4*
2016	**Angelique Kerber** *GER*	*7-5, 6-3*



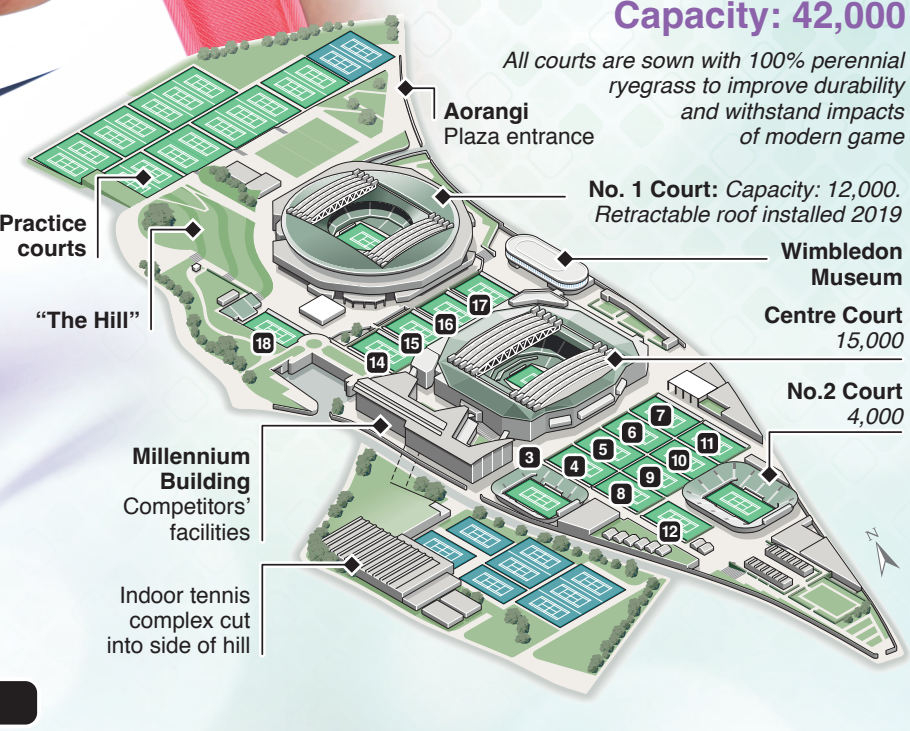
Venus Williams

Pictured at 2026 Met Gala in New York – six-time Wimbledon doubles champion, 46, and oldest woman to win singles match on WTA tour since Martina Navratilova (47)

GROUND LAYOUT

Capacity: 42,000

All courts are sown with 100% perennial ryegrass to improve durability and withstand impacts of modern game



QUEENS OF CENTRE COURT: *Sisters **Venus** and **Serena Williams** dominate early 2000s – winning 12 titles between them and playing each other in four finals*

Wins at Wimbledon (Open Era, women):

Martina Navratilova	*USA*	**Matches W/L: 120/14**
Serena Williams	***USA***	**98/14**
Chris Evert	*USA*	**96/15**
Venus Williams	***USA***	**90/19**
Steffi Graf	*GER*	**74/7**

REALITY CHECK: *Defending champion **Jannik Sinner** (below) aims to bounce back from shock early exit at Roland Garros, while **Alexander Zverev** arrives buoyed by maiden Grand Slam triumph in Paris*



Jannik Sinner *(ITA)*	**Alexander Zverev** *(GER)*
GRAND SLAM BEST	
2024, 2025 Aus. Open	Final
Final Roland Garros	2026
2025 Wimbledon	R4
2024 U.S. Open	Final
29 ATP titles	**25**
HEAD-TO-HEAD	
Sinner leads 10-4	

GRASS COURT MASTERS: ***Novak Djokovic** will overhaul **Roger Federer's** superb legacy of 105 victories at Wimbledon by reaching quarter-finals at SW19*

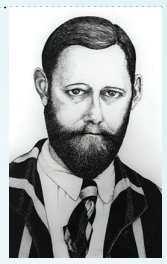
Wins at Wimbledon (Open Era, men):

Roger Federer	***SUI***	**Matches W / L: 105 / 14**
Novak Djokovic	***SRB***	**102 / 13**
Jimmy Connors	*USA*	**84/18**
Boris Becker	*GER*	**71/12**
Pete Sampras	*USA*	**63/7**

Timeline of a British Institution

1868: ***All England Croquet Club*** is founded

1877 Inaugural championships at ***Worlpe Road*** attract field of 22 men. ***Spencer Gore*** *(GBR, right)* is first winner



1884: Ladies' singles and men's doubles introduced. ***Maud Watson*** *(GBR)* is first female champion



1900s ***May Sutton*** *(USA, 1905)* and ***Norman Brookes*** *(AUS, 1907)* are first foreign winners

1922 Defending Ladies' champion ***Suzanne Lenglen*** *(FRA, right)* and ***Gerald Patterson*** *(AUS)* claim first titles on new Centre Court at ***Church Road*** grounds



1924-29: France's "Four Musketeers" – ***René Lacoste, Jean Borotra, Henri Cochet*** and ***Jacques Brugnon*** – dominate court

1934-36 ***Fred Perry*** *(GBR, left)* wins three consecutive singles titles

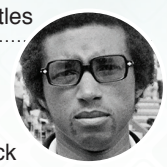
1937: First television coverage by BBC

1940: Centre Court is bombed during World War II – damage not repaired until 1947

1950s: Teenager ***Maureen Connolly*** *(USA)* wins three successive trophies. ***Althea Gibson*** *(USA)* becomes first black champion

1968: Open Era begins as professional players return. ***Rod Laver*** *(AUS)* and ***Billie Jean King*** take titles

1975 ***Arthur Ashe*** *(USA, right)* becomes first black player to win men's singles



1976-80 Heartthrob ***Bjorn Borg*** wins five consecutive titles. ***Virginia Wade*** *(GBR)* triumphs in 1977, Queen's Silver Jubilee year

1980s Fan favourites ***John McEnroe, Boris Becker*** and ***Martina Navratilova*** are centre stage



1990s ***Pete Sampras*** and ***Steffi Graf*** *(left)* dominate proceedings

2003: ***Roger Federer*** wins first of eight trophies

2008: ***Rafael Nadal*** *(ESP)* beats ***Federer*** in arguably greatest Wimbledon final

2009: Retractable roof used for first time

2012 Centre Court hosts ***Olympic Games,*** with ***Andy Murray*** *(GBR)* and ***Serena Williams*** winning singles gold medals

2013 Crowd erupts as ***Murray*** *(left)* becomes first British Wimbledon men's champion for 77 years



2019: ***Novak Djokovic*** beats ***Federer*** in longest Wimbledon final – 4 hours, 57 minutes

2022: Championships mark centenary of Centre Court, with play on ***Middle Sunday*** for first time

2026: Amid player dispute demanding greater share of Grand Slam revenue as prize money, AELTC announces record ***£64.2m*** fund – 20% increase from 2025



Venus Rosewater Dish *First presented to champion of challenge round in 1886*

Gentlemen's Singles Trophy *First presented in 1887*

Roll call of champions

MOST CHAMPIONSHIPS (OPEN ERA)

1978, 79, 82-87, 90	Martina **Navratilova** *USA*	**9**	**8**	Roger **Federer** *SUI*	*2003-07, 09, 12, 17*
1988, 89, 91-93, 95, 96	Steffi **Graf** *GER*	**7**	**7**	Novak **Djokovic** *SRB*	*2011, 14, 15, 2018-22**
2002, 03, 09, 10, 12, 15, 16	Serena **Williams** *USA*	**7**	**7**	Pete **Sampras** *USA*	*1993-95, 1997-2000*
2000, 01, 05, 07, 08	Venus **Williams** *USA*	**5**	**5**	Bjorn **Borg** *SWE*	*1976-80*
1968, 72, 73, 75	Billie Jean **King** *USA*	**4**	**3**	John **McEnroe** *USA*	*1981, 83, 84*
1974, 76, 81	Chris **Evert** *USA*	**3**	**3**	Boris **Becker** *GER*	*1985, 86, 89*

Aryna Sabalenka

World No.1 seeking Wimbledon crown amid erratic form



Novak Djokovic



Sources: Wimbledon, ATP, WTA Pictures: Getty Images *2020 tournament cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic © GRAPHIC NEWS