French Open 2026 Draw: Sinner Eyes Career Slam, Djokovic Hunts 25th Major at Roland Garros

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The **French Open 2026 draw** was revealed in Paris on Thursday afternoon, and the paths to Roland Garros glory have never looked more compelling. With world No.1 Jannik Sinner riding a 29-match unbeaten streak, Novak Djokovic chasing a record-extending 25th Grand Slam, and defending champion Coco Gauff returning to defend her Coupe Suzanne-Lenglen, the claycourt fortnight that begins on 24 May promises to be a classic.

It is, as we previewed earlier this week, a tournament defined as much by who is absent as who is present. Carlos Alcaraz, the two-time Roland Garros champion and the man most likely to derail Sinnerâ??s career Grand Slam ambitions, will not be on the terre battue this year after a wrist injury ruled him out of the entire claycourt swing. For Singaporeâ??s legion of tennis fans who follow the sport on the LBRD Sports section, this is unmissable television.

Sinnerâ??s Career Grand Slam Quest Tops the French Open 2026 Draw Story Lines

The Italian world No.1 arrives at Roland Garros in the form of his life. Fresh from his record-breaking run through the Rome Masters, where he added yet another title to his ever-growing collection, Sinner has not lost a match since February. The 24-year-old has already won the Australian Open, US Open and Wimbledon â?? only the French Open eludes him to complete the career Grand Slam.

Sinner will be the top seed and a heavy favourite, but Roland Garros has a habit of throwing up surprises. The draw has presented him with a theoretically manageable section, though with the likes of Alexander Blockx, Hamad Medjedovic and Dino Prizmic lurking as unseeded dangers, nothing is guaranteed on clay. Second seed Alexander Zverev â?? who has shaken off a back problem just in time â?? is again the man most likely to meet Sinner in the final from the other half.

Source: Roland-Garros official website (rolandgarros.com)

Djokovicâ??s 25th Major Hunt and the Womenâ??s Draw at Roland Garros 2026

Third seed Novak Djokovic is the sentimental subplot that the Paris faithful will love. The 38-year-old Serbian, who won his first Roland Garros title exactly a decade ago and famously claimed Olympic gold on the same Philippe-Chatrier stage in 2024, arrived at the Stade Roland Garros on Tuesday to a heroâ??s welcome. His pursuit of a 25th major â?? one that would extend his own all-time record further into the stratosphere â?? drives him on with a hunger that never seems to fade.

Djokovic trained alongside Zverev on Court Philippe-Chatrier on Tuesday, and those watching were struck by the crispness and precision of his hitting from the very first ball. He looks sharp. He looks motivated. And on clay, at Roland Garros, he remains as dangerous as any man in the draw.

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Source: Roland-Garros official website (rolandgarros.com)

In the womenâ??s draw, Aryna Sabalenka takes the top billing as world No.1 after a dominant hard-court season. Elena Rybakina, the Australian Open champion, is seeded second and represents the most dangerous threat from the bottom half. Third seed Iga Swiatek â?? a four-time champion here â??

begins her Paris campaign under new coach Francisco Roig, the man who spent two decades in Rafael Nadalâ??s corner. If she has rediscovered her best form on red clay, she may prove the biggest obstacle of all.

Gauffâ??s Title Defence and the Road to 7 June

Defending champion Coco Gauff, seeded fourth, returned to Roland Garros this week and was immediately spotted posting a photo of herself lifting the Coupe Suzanne-Lenglen from the walls backstage â?? a simple â??backâ?• as her caption. It was exactly the kind of quiet confidence you would expect from a player who has won this title once before and believes she can do it again.

Gauff heads to Paris having narrowly lost the Rome final to Ukraineâ??s Elina Svitolina. She will be better for that match time, and the draw has given her a path that, while not straightforward, is manageable for a champion of her quality.

Also one to watch is Paris 2024 Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen, who was in sparkling form during Tuesdayâ??s practice sessions. Roland Garros remains a sacred place for the Chinese star, and her hitting on Court Simonne-Mathieu was vintage â?? explosive on both wings and clearly in excellent physical condition.

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The first round begins on 24 May, with the womenâ??s final on 6 June and the menâ??s final on 7 June. For all the clay court drama as it unfolds, keep following our LBRD Sports section.

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