

Roland Garros 2026 Menâ??s Final: Zverev vs Cobolli â?? A New Grand Slam Champion Is Born Sunday

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On Sunday 7 June, Court Philippe-Chatrier will host a **Roland Garros 2026 menâ??s final** unlike any other in recent memory â?? a match guaranteed to produce a first-time Grand Slam champion. Alexander Zverev, the world No.2 who has lived with the weight of expectation for the better part of a decade, faces Flavio Cobolli, the effervescent Italian 10th seed who has lit up Paris with his skill and personality. One of them will lift the Coupe des Mousquetaires on Sunday afternoon (10pm SGT) â?? and neither has done it before.

Zverevâ??s Long Road To The Roland Garros 2026 Menâ??s Final

Alexander Zverev has been here before â?? three previous Grand Slam finals, all lost. The Australian Open 2021 was the closest he came; US Open 2020 came down to the final set. Then, in the 2022 Roland-Garros semifinal against Rafael Nadal, catastrophe struck â?? a badly rolled ankle in the second-set tie-break that left him stretchered off and out of the tournament. The memory of that moment on this very clay has never left him.



Alexander Zverev and Jakub Mensik during the Roland-Garros 2026 menâ??s singles semifinal. Source: Roland-Garros official website (rolandgarros.com) â?? Â©ClÃ©ment Mahoudeau / FFT

Four years on, Zverev is back on the same court, healthier and, by his own admission, more settled than at any point in his career. His semifinal win over Czech rising star Jakub Mensik â?? 7-5, 6-2, 3-6,

6-3 â?? was textbook Zverev: powerful serving, decisive inside-out forehands, and the mental fortitude to close it out when it mattered. â??I have been working for this my whole life,â?• the German said after reaching his fourth major final. â??I know what I need to do.â?•

Cobolli: The Italian Who Dared To Dream

Flavio Cobolliâ??s journey to the final is a story of sheer belief and clay-court artistry. The 24-year-old Roman beat No.4 seed Felix Auger-Aliassime in a pulsating quarterfinal, coming from behind in blustery conditions to win 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. He then found himself in the final via walkover when compatriot Matteo Arnaldi withdrew due to illness â?? a lucky break, yes, but one that rewards the work Cobolli put in to get to the last four.

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Flavio Cobolli during his Roland-Garros 2026 quarterfinal. Source: Roland-Garros official website (rolandgarros.com) â?? Â©Jean-Baptiste Autissier / FFT

Crucially, Cobolli has already beaten Zverev on clay this season â?? a fact that will give him enormous confidence heading into Sundayâ??s decider. He is unafraid of the big stage, feeds on the energy of

the crowd, and plays the kind of explosive, attacking clay-court tennis that can trouble even the very best. â??I just said to myself to fight because I felt like this is the chance of my life,â?• he said after his quarterfinal. He means it.

The Tactical Battle

This final sets up as a clash of contrasting styles within the same broad clay-court tradition. Zverevâ??s greatest weapon is his serve â?? among the best in the menâ??s game â?? and his ability to dictate with the forehand from deep in the court. On clay, his heavy topspin groundstrokes keep opponents pinned behind the baseline.

Cobolli, meanwhile, uses speed and angles to stretch his opponents, constructing points with patient ball-striking before finding the decisive shot. His recent win over Zverev suggests he knows exactly how to disrupt the Germanâ??s rhythm. The key question: can Cobolli maintain that level for five sets, or will Zverevâ??s serve and experience prove decisive over a long match?

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The Context: A Wide-Open Draw

This final exists partly because the fieldâ??s biggest names were eliminated early. World No.1 Jannik Sinner was sensationally knocked out in the third round by heat exhaustion, while 24-time major winner Novak Djokovic fell to a stunning defeat. Carlos Alcaraz was absent through injury. The path was opened â?? and Zverev and Cobolli seized it.

The Roland Garros 2026 menâ??s final starts at 3pm Paris time on Sunday 7 June â?? **10pm Singapore time**. It is a match that promises drama, emotion, and a history-making conclusion. Follow the full Roland Garros 2026 journey and all the tennis news at Little Big Red Dot Sports, and check our coverage of the Roland Garros 2026 semifinals for the full build-up.

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