

Roland Garros 2026 Quarterfinals: Fonseca, Zverev And Sabalenka Hunt Glory Without Sinner Or Djokovic

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The **Roland Garros 2026 quarterfinals** are here, and for the first time in years, Paris heads into the final eight without either Jannik Sinner or Novak Djokovic. Two titans have fallen, the draw has been blown wide open, and the stage is set for one of the most compelling finales in recent French Open memory â?? starting today on the courts of the Bois de Boulogne.

Roland Garros 2026 Quarterfinals: Fonseca vs MenÅ¡Ãk And Zverev vs JÃ³dar Today

The story of this fortnight belongs entirely to JoÃ£o Fonseca. Just 19 years old, the Brazilian sensation backed up his extraordinary five-hour triumph over Djokovic in the third round with yet another barnburner in the fourth â?? defeating two-time Paris finalist Casper Ruud 7-5, 7-6(8), 5-7, 6-2 on Monday night, with three-time Roland Garros champion Gustavo Kuerten watching from the stands as his young countryman made history.

The nearly four-hour match was a test of grit, clay-court craft and nerve. Fonseca saved seven of the nine break points he faced and won the tight moments with the poise of a veteran far beyond his years. â??He knows how to play here â?? he has two finals,â?• Fonseca said of Ruud. â??It was tough in the beginning, but I played really good in important moments in the first and second set.â?• Tonight on Court Philippe-Chatrier, Fonseca faces Czech 20-year-old Jakub MenÅ¡Ãk â?? a quarterfinal that carries the feel of a generational rivalry in its infancy.

In the afternoon session, Rafael JÃ³dar â?? the fearless teenage Spaniard who dispatched Pablo CarreÃ±o Busta in the fourth round â?? takes on the tournamentâ??s top remaining seed, world No. 2 Alexander Zverev. The German has been in his usual commanding form throughout the fortnight and enters as the heavy favourite. But on clay, in the heat of a Grand Slam quarterfinal, form lines blur quickly.



Source: Roland-Garros official website (rolandgarros.com) Â©AndrÃ© Ferreira / FFT

Womenâ??s Quarterfinals: Sabalenka, Kostyuk And A Remarkable Ukrainian Derby

The womenâ??s draw has delivered drama of its own in bucketloads. World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka is in imperious form after defeating Naomi Osaka in a glittering night-time showdown on Monday â?? the worldâ??s best player looked ready to erase the painful memory of last yearâ??s Paris final defeat and claim a first Roland Garros crown. In the womenâ??s opposite half, Marta Kostyukâ??s stunning fourth-round defeat of four-time champion Iga Swiatek â?? Swiatekâ??s earliest exit since 2019 â?? has sent shockwaves through the draw. Kostyuk now faces compatriot Elina Svitolina in todayâ??s all-Ukrainian quarterfinal, which the tournament has billed as its Day 10 match of the day.

Both women have spoken openly about the personal significance of competing amid the ongoing conflict in their homeland. Whatever the scoreline, todayâ??s match carries weight that goes far beyond clay and rackets. First-time Roland Garros quarterfinalist Anna Kalinskaya and the talented young Russian Mirra Andreeva are also in the mix on the other side of the womenâ??s draw, bringing youth and ambition to what promises to be a spectacular second week.

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A Wide-Open Draw: Who Will Claim The 2026 French Open Title?

The departures of Sinner in a heat-stricken shock loss and Djokovicâ??s stunning defeat to Fonseca have turned this tournament on its head. For much of the past three years, the conversation at Roland Garros began and ended with Sinner and Djokovic. Now they are watching from home, and an entirely new cast is auditioning for the title.

Zverev, if he can get past JÃ³dar today, will be the experienced hand most likely to navigate a path to the menâ??s final. But Fonseca â?? whose tennis belongs to a different register entirely â?? has already beaten the worldâ??s former best twice in this draw and shows no signs of letting the moment overwhelm him. In the womenâ??s event, Sabalenka is the deserving favourite, but Kostyukâ??s form and fighting spirit make her a genuine dark horse.

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Roland-Garros 2026 runs until 7 June. This is Paris at its unpredictable, brilliant finest. Keep up with all the latest sports news and French Open updates right here on Little Big Red Dot.

Date Created
02/06/2026

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