

PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN UMAG – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 3 – TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024

ATP Stadion Goran Ivanisevic | Umag, Croatia | 21-27 July 2024

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LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: TUESDAY SINGLES MATCHES

GORAN IVANISEVIC STADION

1R: Luca Van Assche (FRA) vs Fabio Fognini (ITA)

Fognini Leads 1-0

24 Wimbledon (Great Britain)

Grass R128 Fabio Fognini

6-1 6-3 7-5

Luca Van Assche | Age: 20 | World No. 104 | Career-High No. 63 | 2024: 7-13 (Aus Open 3R) | Umag: 0-0 (Debut) > Former junior World No. 1 broke into Top 200 in November 2022, entered Top 100 in April 2023 and achieved

- career-high No. 63 in October 2023 before reaching 2023 Next Gen ATP Finals SF. > Earned 1st Grand Slam main draw win at 2023 Roland Garros over 2018 semi-finalist Cecchinato in 1R and defeated No. 28 Musetti for biggest win of career to reach 3R at 2024 Australian Open.
- > Advanced to ATP Tour QFs at 2023 Hamburg on clay and 2023 Metz on indoor hard court.
- > Saved 2 championship points to defeat Humbert at 2023 Pau in longest ATP Challenger final in history (3h56m).
- > Posted 29-19 Challenger record in 2022 (1-3 in finals), going on a 19-6 run from late September to December, reaching finals of Lisbon, Brest and Valencia before winning first title in Maia.
- > Defeated fellow countryman Fils to win the 2021 Roland Garros boys' singles title and ended junior career with a 79-27 record.

NOTE: Van Assche is on a 4-match losing streak, including a loss to Fognini at 2024 Wimbledon, seeking to earn his first win since defeating Bergs at 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid.

Fabio Fognini | Age: 37 | World No. 70 | Career-High No. 9 | 2024: 10-7 (2 QFs) | Umag: 20-11 (2016 Title) > As a 32-year-old in 2019, became oldest player to break into Top 10 for 1st time, as well as 1st Italian in Top 10 since Barazzutti in 1979.

- > Also became 1st Italian ATP Masters 1000 champion, beating Nadal for 3rd time on clay en route to 2019 Monte Carlo title.
- > Boasts most victories of any Italian man in Open Era (424), highlighted by biggest win of career over No. 1 Murray at 2017 Rome.
- > Owns 9 singles and 8 doubles titles, breaking through as a doubles player in 2015 by winning Australian Open, reaching 3 ATP Masters 1000 finals and qualifying for Nitto ATP Finals w/Bolelli.
- > Married to 2015 US Open women's singles champion Flavia Pennetta with 3 children Federico, Farah and Flaminia.

NOTE: Fognini owns the most Umag wins (20) among the 2024 field and is looking for first win at the event since defeating Kicker in 2017 (I. to eventual champion Rublev in QF). He is 7-0 in opening round matches this season.

2R: [1] Andrey Rublev vs Camilo Ugo Carabelli (ARG)

First Meeting

Andrey Rublev | Age: 26 | World No. 9 | Career-High No. 5 | 2024: 24-13 (2 Titles) | Umag: 7-3 (2017 Title) > Former World No. 1 junior broke into Top 20 in January 2020, Top 10 in October 2020 and Top 5 in September 2021.

- > Came back from a set down in both SF and final for the first time in his career at 2023 Monte Carlo to earn 1st ATP Masters 1000 title, then defeated double-defending champion No. 3 Alcaraz en route to 2nd title at 2024 Madrid.
- > Defeated No. 3 Nadal at 2021 Monte Carlo and No. 2 Medvedev at 2021 Cincinnati en route to ATP Masters 1000 finals, then beat No. 1 Djokovic for 11th of 16 ATP Tour titles at 2022 Belgrade.
- > Led tour with 5 titles in 2020, tied for tour-lead with 41 victories in 2020, and won 23 matches and 4 titles in a row at ATP 500 events from 2020-21.
- > Ten-time Grand Slam quarter-finalist reached 2022 Nitto ATP Finals SF and won gold medal in All-ROC mixed doubles final at 2020 Tokyo Olympics w/Pavlyuchenkova (held in 2021).
- > Went 9-1 in singles and 4-1 in doubles at team events during 2021 season, sweeping titles at ATP Cup, Laver Cup and Davis Cup.



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NOTE: Rublev won his first ATP Tour title at 2017 Umag and now returns to the event for the first time since 2019 (l. to eventual champion Lajovic in 2R). He seeks to break a 4-match losing streak and earn his first win since defeating Martinez at 2024 Roland Garros.

Camilo Ugo Carabelli | Age: 25 | World No. 96 (Career-High) | 2024: 2-2 (2 times in 2R) | Umag: 1-0 (2024 2R)

- > Broke into Top 200 in January 2022 and Top 100 in August 2022, achieving career-high No. 96.
- > Did not drop a set to qualify for 2022 Roland Garros, then won 5th-set TB vs. No. 41 Karatsev in tour-level debut.
- > Owns 132-80 Challenger record (6-7 in finals), winning titles at 2021 Warsaw, 2022 Buenos Aires-2, 2022 Lima, 2023 Antofagasta, 2024 Piracicaba and 2024 Santa Cruz de la Sierra.
- > Boasts 120-66 ITF record (4-6 in finals), winning most recent title at 2020 Cordoba.
- > Peaked at No. 70 on ITF Junior Circuit, winning 2 boys' singles and 4 boys' doubles titles.

NOTE: Ugo Carabelli seeks first ATP Tour QF and back-to-back wins for the first time in his career. He is looking to earn his biggest win of career in his third match vs. Top 10 opponent against No. 9 Rublev.

1R: [5] Luciano Darderi (ITA) vs [SE] Duje Ajdukovic (CRO) First Meeting

Luciano Darderi | Age: 22 | World No. 33 (Career-High) | 2024: 21-13 (Cordoba Title) | Umag: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Former Top 10 junior started 2024 season as No. 128, then broke into Top 100 in February and Top 50 in May, reaching career-high No. 34 in June after recording 1st Grand Slam match win at Roland Garros.
- > Captured his 1st ATP Tour title in Cordoba in the third final between two qualifiers since the ATP Tour was established in 1990 (d. Bagnis) in his third ATP Tour event of career.
- > Also advanced to ATP Tour SFs at 2024 Houston and 2024 Lyon & QF at 2024 Santiago and 2024 Hamburg.
- > Owns an 86-58 Challenger record (3-2 in finals), winning titles at 2023 Todi, 2023 Lima-2 and 2024 Perugia.
- > Peaked at No. 8 in junior rankings in February 2020 after earning 3 singles and 3 doubles titles to start the season.
- > Born in Argentina, started playing tennis at age 4 with his father Luciano Enrique, a former tennis player and current coach.

NOTE: Darderi is 9-1 in opening rounds on clay in 2024 with a sole loss to Navone at Bucharest. He is 10-1 vs. players ranked outside Top 100 in tour-level with a sole loss to No. 126 Shapovalov at 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Miami.

Duje Ajdukovic | Age: 23 | World No. 110 (Career-High) | 2024: 4-4 (Bastad SF) | Umag: 1-3 (2021 2R)

- > Broke into Top 200 in September 2023 soon after capturing 1st Challenger title in 2023 Luedenscheid as Q (d. Dellien in final) then achieved career-high No. 115 in April 2024.
- > Made ATP Tour debut at 2021 Umag as WC, defeating Collarini for first win and recorded second win at 2024 Davis Cup vs. Belgium, defeating De Loore in front of home crowd in Croatia.
- > Owns 77-64 Challenger record (2-2 in finals) with titles at 2023 Luedenschied and 2023 Kobe.
- > Defeated No. 60 Kotov for biggest win of career en route to 1st ATP Tour SF at 2024 Bastad
- > Left Croatia to train in Italy at age 16 and says that Italians Riccardo Piatti and Andrea Volpini taught him the most about tennis, but countryman Dino Marcan had the biggest impact on his game overall.

NOTE: Ajdukovic made his first ATP Tour QF and SF last week in Bastad (I. to Nadal) after earning biggest win of career against No. 60 Kotov in 2R. He is making his 4th appearance in Umag, looking for first win at the event since defeating Collarini in 2021 (I. to Ramos-Vinolas in 2R).

STUDENAC ARENA

2R: Fabian Marozsan (HUN) vs Thiago Monteiro (BRA) First Meeting