



PORSCHE

## Press Release

24 March 2021

Taycan Cross Turismo: Combined consumption 29.4-28.1 kWh/100 km; combined CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 0 g/km

Seven Top 10 players and eight grand slam winners in the Porsche Arena

### **The world's elite coming to the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix**

**Stuttgart.** The 44<sup>th</sup> Porsche Tennis Grand Prix features one of the strongest main draw fields in its history. Headed by Ashleigh Barty, the world No. 1, a total of seven Top 10 players will be appearing in the Porsche Arena from 17 to 25 April. They are joined by eight grand slam winners on the entry list published by the WTA for the long-standing Stuttgart tournament. This year's main prize for the winner is a Porsche Taycan Cross Turismo.

For Ashleigh Barty, it is her first participation at the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix. "I've heard lots of positive things about the tournament and I'm really looking forward to taking part for the first time," said the Australian. As the winner of Porsche Race to Shenzhen, she won the prestigious WTA Finals in addition to the French Open in 2019. The other Top 10 stars are Simona Halep (Romania/3), Sofia Kenin (USA/4), Elina Svitolina (Ukraine/5), Karolina Pliskova (Czech Republic/6), the Stuttgart winner in 2018, Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus/8) as well as the title-holder Petra Kvitova (Czech Republic/10). Other top players on the list are Iga Swiatek (Poland), the winner of the 2020 French Open, the Australian Open runner-up, Jennifer Brady (USA), Belinda Bencic (Switzerland) as well as the former world No. 1 Victoria Azarenka (Belarus).

### **Wildcards for Laura Siegemund and Andrea Petkovic**

The depth of the quality is also underlined by the fact that 14 Top 20 players will also be in the line-up at the tournament. Three Germans are also in the main draw. In addition to the Porsche Brand Ambassador Angelique Kerber, who won in Stuttgart in

2015 and 2016, Laura Siegemund (2017 winner) and Andrea Petkovic will take part. They have both received wildcards. The eight grand slam winners in the Porsche Arena are Ashleigh Barty (Paris 2019), Simona Halep (Paris 2018, Wimbledon 2019), Sofia Kenin (Melbourne 2020), Petra Kvitova (Wimbledon 2011, 2014), Iga Swiatek (Paris 2020), Victoria Azarenka (Melbourne 2013), Jelena Ostapenko (Paris 2017) as well as Angelique Kerber (Melbourne, New York 2016, Wimbledon 2018). The originally entered Naomi Osaka (Japan) will now begin the European clay court season a little later in May.

### **“Huge proof of the confidence the players have in us”**

“It’s a unique field for a tournament in our category. I know of no other comparable event on the WTA Tour with so many top stars,” says Tournament Director Markus Günthardt. “The fact that these players are also coming here in these difficult times is huge proof of the confidence they have in us and speaks for the popularity of our tournament. It shows they trust us to provide safe conditions and to also ensure a certain feelgood factor despite all the restrictions. The efforts we’ve made together with Porsche and all the partners to hold the tournament even in these difficult times have all definitely been worthwhile.”

Talents from the German Tennis Association’s junior teams have also been given the opportunity to get a taste of the big WTA atmosphere in the Porsche Arena. The Porsche Talent Team’s Nastasja Schunk and Alexandra Vecic have received a qualifying wildcard as has the reigning German champion Noma Noha Akugue, who is supported in the Porsche Junior Team.

### **Porsche Taycan Cross Turismo as the winner’s trophy**

The winner of the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix traditionally receives a Porsche sports car as the main prize. “The nicest winner’s trophy on the WTA Tour” as Angelique Kerber once put will have a purely electric drivetrain for the first time. With the recently premiered Porsche Taycan Cross Turismo as the main prize, the stars can look forward

to a quite special winner's car. The first derivative of the all-electric Taycan is a real all-rounder among electric sports cars.

As visitors are not allowed into the Porsche Arena due to the uncertain development of the pandemic after consulting with the local authorities and the WTA, the range of multi-media services for tennis fans will be significantly expanded. This means for the first time, all the singles matches will be streamed live – with professional commentators – on [www.porsche-tennis.com](http://www.porsche-tennis.com). The long-time TV partners SWR, Eurosport and DAZN have also extended their live coverage of the most important matches in the Porsche Arena. A daily highlights show can be viewed on the n-tv news channel. Internationally, the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix will be televised in over 100 countries. Tennis fans can also experience the tournament emotionally and interactively on Internet and in doing so see the 2011 winner in a new role. The Porsche Brand Ambassador Julia Görges will provide an interesting insight in the players' world on the tournament's social media channels.

### **Porsche in tennis**

Porsche has been sponsoring the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix ever since 1978 and has also been the organiser since 2002. The tournament in Stuttgart's Porsche Arena was voted by the players as their favourite event in its category once again in 2019. Within the scope of its global partnership with the Women's Tennis Association (WTA), Porsche is also the title partner of the "Porsche Race to Shenzhen", the official qualifying ranking for the Shiseido WTA Finals. The Stuttgart-based sports car manufacturer is also the exclusive automotive partner of the WTA as well as the WTA Finals, and this year the WTA tournaments in Lyon and St. Petersburg. As a premium partner of the "Deutsche Tennis Bund" (DTB – German Tennis Association), the company supports Porsche Team Germany in the Billie Jean King Cup (formerly the Fed Cup) and fosters up-and-coming players in the Porsche Talent Team and the Porsche Junior Team. Angelique Kerber, Julia Görges and Maria Sharapova give Porsche a face in tennis as Brand Ambassadors.

## **Porsche Tennis on the Internet**

[www.porsche-tennis.com](http://www.porsche-tennis.com)

[www.facebook.com/porschetennis](https://www.facebook.com/porschetennis)

[www.twitter.com/porschetennis](https://www.twitter.com/porschetennis)

[www.instagram.com/porschetennis](https://www.instagram.com/porschetennis)

[www.youtube.com/porschetennis](https://www.youtube.com/porschetennis)

**44<sup>th</sup> Porsche Tennis Grand Prix: the entry list**

	<i>WTA Ranking</i>	<i>Porsche Race to Shenzhen</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Nation</i>
1	1	9	Barty, Ashleigh	AUS
2	3	20	Halep, Simona	ROU
3	4	44	Kenin, Sofia	USA
4	5	19	Svitolina, Elina	UKR
5	6	29	Pliskova, Karolina	CZE
6	8	8	Sabalenka, Aryna	BLR
7	10	16	Kvitova, Petra	CZE
8	11	-	Bertens, Kiki	NED
9	12	18	Bencic, Belinda	SUI
10	14	3	Brady, Jennifer	USA
11	15	40	Azarenka, Victoria	BLR
12	16	11	Swiatek, Iga	POL
13	18	122	Konta, Johanna	GBR
14	20	24	Vondrousova, Marketa	CZE
15	22	7	Muchova, Karolina	CZE
16	23	54	Rybakina, Elena	KAZ
17	24	14	Kontaveit, Anett	EST
18	25	25	Sakkari, Maria	GRE
19	26	63	Kerber, Angelique	GER
20*	54	53	Ostapenko, Jelena	LAT
21**	59	74	Siegemund, Laura	GER
22**	107	146	Petkovic, Andrea	GER

\* Top 20 Wildcard

\*\* Wildcard

The "Porsche Race to Shenzhen" is the official qualifying ranking for the end-of-season WTA Finals.

*Further information, film and photo material in the Porsche Newsroom: [newsroom.porsche.com](https://newsroom.porsche.com)*

The consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emission values were determined in accordance with the new Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicle Test Procedure (WLTP). The NEDC values derived from this should continue to be specified for the time being.

Further information on the official fuel consumption and official, specific CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of new passenger cars is available in the publication entitled "Guidelines on fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and power consumption of new passenger cars", which is available free of charge from all sales outlets and from Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH (DAT).