

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - 2021/22 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Club Brugge

Jan Breydelstadion - Bruges

Wednesday 24 November 2021

21.00CET (21.00 local time)

Group A - Matchday 5



RB Leipzig

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Match background

Club Brugge take on eliminated Leipzig seeking a home win to maintain their increasingly slender hopes of a top-two finish in Group A.

- The Belgian champions were 2-1 winners in Germany on Matchday 2, the sides' first meeting, and Leipzig's first game against a Belgian club. Christopher Nkunku gave Leipzig a fifth-minute lead, but strikes from Hans Vanaken (22) and Mats Rits (41) took the points to Belgium.
- However, home (1-5) and away (1-4) defeats against section leaders Manchester City have left Club Brugge on four points, five behind the English club and four adrift of second-placed Paris Saint-Germain. Club Brugge will be unable to finish in the top two if they lose, or if they draw and Paris do not lose at City. They will be confirmed in third place and qualify for the UEFA Europa League if they draw and Paris avoid defeat.
- Leipzig picked up their first point via a 2-2 home draw against Paris last time out, but can no longer finish in the top two following defeats at City (3-6) and Paris (2-3) either side of their home loss against Club Brugge. They will remain in contention to qualify for the UEFA Europa League if they win on Matchday 5.

Form guide

Club Brugge

- Club Brugge are making their fourth successive group stage appearance and ninth overall, three behind Anderlecht's Belgian record.
- In 2020/21, the Belgian side finished third behind Borussia Dortmund and Lazio but ahead of Zenit in Group F, picking up eight points (W2 D2 L2) to move into the UEFA Europa League.
- Club Brugge lasted just one tie in the UEFA Europa League, however, going out in the round of 32 to Dynamo Kyiv (1-1 a, 0-1 h).
- Philippe Clement's side claimed Club Brugge's 17th Belgian league title last season, and a third in four years.
- Club Brugge have never progressed to the UEFA Champions League knockout rounds in their eight previous appearances. They have come third in their section in each of the last three campaigns.
- The Matchday 2 win in Leipzig was only Blauw-Zwart's fourth in their last 30 fixtures in the UEFA Champions League proper (D10 L16).
- A 3-0 win against Zenit on Matchday 5 last season is Club Brugge's only victory in ten home European matches (D4 L5), since a 2-1 defeat of LASK in the 2019/20 UEFA Champions League play-offs. The defeat of Zenit is their only win in their last 15 home matches in the UEFA Champions League group stage (D6 L8), since a 3-2 victory against Rapid Wien in November 2005.
- The Matchday 2 win at Leipzig ended Club Brugge's ten-game winless run against Bundesliga clubs (D3 L7). They had lost 3-0 home and away against Borussia Dortmund in the 2020/21 group stage.
- That victory in Germany this season was only Club Brugge's second in their last 14 fixtures against German clubs, home and away (D3 L9), the other a 2-1 win at home to Dortmund in the 2003/04 UEFA Champions League third qualifying round in a tie they eventually lost on penalties. They won seven of their first eight home matches against Bundesliga clubs, losing one, but that Dortmund success is the sole victory in the subsequent seven (D2 L4).

Leipzig

- This is Leipzig's fourth UEFA Champions League group campaign, all in the last five seasons.
- Semi-finalists in 2019/20, a team coached by Julian Nagelsmann again reached the knockout stages last season, beating Manchester United 3-2 on Matchday 6 to secure second place in Group H behind Paris.
- Another English side proved too strong in the round of 16, however, Liverpool winning each leg 2-0 with both games played in Budapest.
- Nagelsmann left to succeed Germany-bound Hansi Flick as Bayern coach in the summer, Salzburg's Jesse Marsch taking his place at Leipzig.
- Leipzig have won 12 of their 28 UEFA Champions League fixtures (D4 L12) but have lost eight of the last 13, the Matchday 4 draw against Paris ending a five-game losing streak.
- Leipzig's total of 13 goals conceded after four matchdays is the highest in this season's group stage.
- The German side lost three of their four away games in last season's UEFA Champions League, winning the other. Their away record in Europe is now W7 D5 L10.

- Second in the Bundesliga in 2020/21, their joint highest finish, this is Leipzig's fifth European campaign. In 2017/18 they became the first team to make their European debut in the UEFA Champions League group stage.
- Nkunku's Matchday 1 hat-trick at City made him the fourth player to score three goals in a UEFA Champions League defeat, after Ronaldo (Manchester United 4-3 Real Madrid in 2002/03), Gareth Bale (Tottenham 3-4 Inter, 2010/11) and İrfan Can Kahveci (İstanbul Başakşehir 3-4 Leipzig, 2020/21).

Links and trivia

- Has played in Germany:
Bas Dost (Wolfsburg 2012–16, Eintracht Frankfurt 2019–20)
- Have played together:
Noa Lang & Brian Brobbey (Ajax 2018–20)
Stanley Nsoki & Christopher Nkunku (Paris Saint-Germain 2018/19)
Bas Dost & André Silva (Eintracht Frankfurt 2019–20)
- Benjamin Henrichs was a second-half substitute in Monaco's 1-1 draw at Club Brugge on Matchday 3 of the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League.
- Jack Hendry was a late Celtic substitute in a 2-0 Matchday 3 defeat at Leipzig in the 2018/19 UEFA Europa League.

Latest news

Club Brugge

- Brandon Mechele made his 50th appearance in UEFA club competition on Matchday 4.
- Club Brugge's league record so far this season is W7 D6 L2. They have drawn four of their last seven games (W2 L1) and were unbeaten in eight (W4 D4) before a 2-1 loss at Mechelen on Friday.
- Charles De Ketelaere scored Club Brugge's second goal in a 2-2 home draw against Standard Liège on 7 November and is the club's joint top scorer in the league this season with five goals, level with Bas Dost and one more than Hans Vanaken and Ruud Vormer.
- Dost, who opened the scoring at Mechelen, has six goals in his last five games.
- Club Brugge were 3-0 winners at home to Deinze in the last 32 of the Belgian Cup on 27 October, José Izquierdo – who rejoined in the summer after four years at Brighton – opening the scoring with his first goal for the club since 5 May 2017.
- Holders Genk will be at home to Club Brugge in the last 16 on 1 December.
- Philippe Clement's side were 4-0 winners at Zulte Waregem on 15 August, their biggest victory so far this season.
- Club Brugge were beaten 6-1 at Gent on 29 August, their heaviest loss in all competitions since a 5-0 defeat at Manchester United in the UEFA Europa League round of 32 second leg on 27 February 2020, and their biggest league reverse since they went down by the same scoreline at Anderlecht on 11 November 2012.
- Champions Club Brugge beat cup winners Genk 3-2 in the Belgian Super Cup on 17 July; it was the club's 19th appearance in the match, one short of Anderlecht's competition best, and a record 16th win.
- De Ketelaere made his first international start in Belgium's 1-1 draw in Wales on 16 November, the final match of their successful 2022 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign.

Leipzig

- Leipzig have won only seven of their 18 games this season in all competitions, losing seven including Saturday's 2-0 defeat at Hoffenheim in the Bundesliga.
- Jesse Marsch's team were unbeaten in five matches (W3 D2) before losing at the weekend, having defeated Borussia Dortmund 2-1 at home in the Bundesliga on 6 November.
- Saturday's defeat ended Leipzig's seven-match run without a league loss; in that sequence they had won all four at home and drawn all three away.
- Yussuf Poulsen was on target against Dortmund, the third successive league match in which he had found the net and his fourth strike in six Bundesliga appearances.
- Christopher Nkunku, who also scored against Dortmund, has ten goals in his last 13 Leipzig games.
- After winning 1-0 at fourth-tier Babelsberg in the German Cup second round on 26 October, Leipzig will be at home to 2. Bundesliga side Hansa Rostock in the last 16 on 19 January.
- Substitute Hugo Novoa scored with his first touch in his first professional game for Leipzig against Greuther Fürth on 23 October, becoming Leipzig's youngest ever Bundesliga scorer aged 18 years 272 days.

- Dani Olmo was a substitute in Spain's 1-0 win in Greece on 11 November and started another 1-0 victory at home to Sweden three days later as his side reached the 2022 FIFA World Cup.
- Joško Gvardiol played all 180 minutes as Croatia won 7-1 in Malta and 1-0 at home to Russia to also qualify.
- Dominik Szoboszlai scored twice in Hungary's 4-0 win against San Marino on 12 November. He missed the 2-1 win in Poland three days later because of muscular problems but was fit to start for Leipzig on Saturday.
- Willi Orbán (thigh) returned on Saturday having been out since Matchday 4 while Péter Gulácsi also played 90 minutes after an abdominal muscle injury had forced him to miss Hungary's recent qualifiers.
- Poulsen suffered a calf injury in Denmark's 3-1 home win against the Faroe Islands on 12 November and missed Leipzig's weekend loss.
- Amadou Haidara missed Mali's recent internationals with an ankle injury while muscular problems meant Konrad Laimer sat out Austria's matches; neither featured for Leipzig at Hoffenheim.
- Lukas Klostermann played 79 minutes on Saturday having been out since Matchday 3 due to a thigh injury.
- Brian Brobbey, who had been missing since 8 October because of a hamstring injury, returned as a late substitute for the Netherlands in a 3-1 win against Bulgaria in 2023 UEFA European Under-21 Championship qualifying on 12 November. Three days later he scored in a 7-0 win away to Gibraltar.
- Marcel Halstenberg is yet to feature this season because of an ankle injury and has also been suffering with knee problems.
- Marcelo Saracchi, who has been left out of Leipzig's UEFA Champions League squad, has been sidelined since 23 July due to a knee injury.

Legend

ALL-TIME STATISTICS

The all-time record of the competing clubs in UEFA club competition.

UEFA club competition: These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in UEFA club competition defined as European Champion Clubs' Cup, UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, UEFA Cup Winner's Cup UEFA Super Cup, UEFA Intertoto Cup and European/South American Cup. Matches in the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup and the 1972 Super Cup are not included as they were not held under UEFA auspices, while the FIFA Club World Cup is excluded.

Match officials

UCL: Total matches officiated in the UEFA Champions League from 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records.

UEFA: Total matches officiated in UEFA club competition including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records.

Competitions

Club competitions

UCL: UEFA Champions League
ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup
UEL: UEFA Europa League
UCUP: UEFA Cup
UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup
SCUP: UEFA Super Cup
UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup
ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

National team competitions

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship
WC: FIFA World Cup
CONFCUP: FIFA Confederations Cup
FRIE: Friendly internationals
U21FRIE: Under-21 friendly internationals
U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship
U17: UEFA Under-17 Championship
U16: UEFA European Under-16 Championship
U19: UEFA Under-19 Championship
U18: UEFA European Under-18 Championship
WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup
WEURO: UEFA European Women's Championship

Competition stages

F: Final	GS: Group stage
GS1: First group stage	GS2: Second group stage
3QR: Third qualifying round	R1: First round
R2: Second round	R3: Third round
R4: Fourth round	PR: Preliminary round
SF: Semi-finals	QF: Quarter-finals
R16: round of 16	QR: Qualifying round
R32: Round of 32	1QR: First qualifying round
1st: first leg	2QR: Second qualifying round
2nd: second leg	FT: Final tournament
PO: Play-off	ELITE: Elite round
Rep: Replay	3rdPO: Third-place play-off
PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament	GS-FT: Group stage – final tournament

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time	pens: Penalties
No.: Number	og: Own goal
ag: Match decided on away goals	P: Penalty
Pld: Matches played	agg: Aggregate
Pos.: Position	AP: Appearances
Pts: Points	Comp.: Competition
R: Sent off (straight red card)	D: Drawn
Res.: Result	DoB: Date of birth
sg: Match decided by silver goal	ET: Extra Time
GF: Goals for	GA: Goals against
gg: Match decided by golden goal	t: Match decided by toss of a coin
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)	W: Won
f: Match forfeited	Y: Booked
	L: Lost
	Nat.: Nationality
	N/A: Not applicable

Statistics

-: Denotes player substituted
*: Denotes player sent off

+: Denotes player introduced
+/-: Denotes player introduced and substituted

Squad list

D: Disciplinary

*****: Misses next match if booked

S: Suspended

UCLQ: Current season total UEFA Champions League appearances in the qualifying rounds and play-offs only

UCL: Current season total UEFA Champions League appearances from group stage onwards prior to current matchday

UCL: Total appearances in the UEFA Champions League from 1992/93 season, group stage to final only

UEFA: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competition including qualifying

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