



UEFA EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE - 2021/22 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



FK Jablonec

**Strelnice Stadion - Jablonec nad
Nisou**

Thursday 16 September 2021
21.00CET (21.00 local time)
Group D - Matchday 1



CFR 1907 Cluj

Last updated 15/09/2021 00:07CET



Match background	2
Legend	3

Match background

Jablonec's second European group stage campaign starts with a home fixture against reigning Romanian champions CFR Cluj, who have been autumn participants in the UEFA Europa League in each of the last two seasons.

Previous meetings

- While Jablonec are facing Romanian opposition for the first time, CFR's European CV includes three previous pairings with Czech clubs. Defeated twice by both Sparta Praha – in the 2009/10 UEFA Europa League group stage (0-2 a, 2-3 h) – and Slavia Praha – in the 2019/20 UEFA Champions League play-offs (0-1 h, 0-1 a), when current coach Dan Petrescu was also in charge – they won home and away against Slovan Liberec in the 2012/13 UEFA Champions League third qualifying round (1-0 h, 2-1 a).

Form guide

Jablonec

- Third in the 2020/21 Czech Liga, 17 points adrift of champions Slavia, Jablonec thus qualified for a fourth successive season of European football. They were well beaten in their UEFA Europa League third qualifying round tie by Celtic (2-4 h, 0-3 a) but made amends in the UEFA Europa Conference League play-offs against Žilina, storming through 8-1 on aggregate (5-1 h, 3-0 a).
- This is the club's second appearance in a European group stage, the first having come in the 2018/19 UEFA Europa League, when they finished bottom of a section including Dynamo Kyiv, Rennes and Astana with five points.
- Jablonec had failed to win in eight European home games (D4 L4) until their 5-1 victory over Žilina in the first leg of the UEFA Europa Conference League play-off.

CFR Cluj

- CFR won Romania's Liga I for the fourth successive season in 2020/21, making it seven titles in all, while also competing in the UEFA Europa League group stage for the second year in a row. Unlike in 2019/20, however, they failed to reach the knockout phase, finishing third in their section behind Roma and Young Boys.
- The Romanian title holders were again foiled by their Swiss counterparts in this season's UEFA Champions League third qualifying round, losing 4-2 on aggregate (1-1 h, 1-3 a) after earlier victories over Borac Banja Luka (3-1 h, 1-2 a) and Lincoln Red Imps (2-1 a, 2-0 h). They were then beaten in the UEFA Europa League play-off by Crvena zvezda (0-4 a, 1-2 h) to end up as Romania's sole group stage representatives in the inaugural UEFA Europa Conference League.
- CFR have lost five of their last six European away matches, though in all three previous UEFA group stages when their Matchday 1 fixture has been outside Romania they have started with a win, most recently against CSKA-Sofia (2-0) last season.

Links and trivia

- Former Romanian international Ciprian Deac, now in his third spell with CFR, has started five of the club's six previous European matches against Czech clubs, missing only the 2-1 away win at Liberec in 2012.
- Jablonec's 40-year-old ex-Czech Republic international Tomáš Hübschman spent ten years (2004–14) under legendary Romanian coach Mircea Lucescu at Shakhtar Donetsk.
- None of the four teams in Group D, which also includes AZ Alkmaar and Randers, kicked off their 2021/22 European campaigns in the UEFA Europa Conference League qualifying phase – as opposed to at least two clubs having done so in all of the other seven groups.

Legend

Competitions

Disclaimer: Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein. More information can be found in the competition regulations available on UEFA.com.