

UEFA EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE - 2021/22 SEASON

MATCH PRESS KITS



FC Kairat Almaty

Almaty Ortalyk Stadion - Almaty

Thursday 25 November 2021

16.30CET (21.30 local time)

Group H - Matchday 5



FC Basel 1893

Last updated 24/11/2021 00:25CET



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Match background

While Kairat Almaty's race is run in Group H, unbeaten Basel make the long journey to Kazakhstan safe in the knowledge that they are already through to the knockout phase of the UEFA Europa Conference League.

- Defeats in their last three fixtures, including back-to-back 1-2 losses to Qarabağ – Guinea international José Kanté scoring their consolation goal in each – have left Kairat out of contention at the foot of the Group H table with a single point gained from their opening 0-0 draw at home to Omonoia, who are also eliminated. Basel, meanwhile, took four points from the Cypriot champions on Matchdays 3 and 4 (3-1 h, 1-1 a), Canadian Liam Millar scoring in both games, to double their tally and secure a top-two berth alongside table-toppers Qarabağ.

Previous meetings

- Kairat's first UEFA encounter with Swiss opponents ended in a 4-2 defeat by Basel on Matchday 2, the Swiss side going 4-0 up through goals from Arthur Cabral, Michael Lang (two) and Dan Ndoye before the champions of Kazakhstan belatedly countered with strikes from Kanté and Ricardo Alves (penalty).
- Basel have had one previous tie against a team from Kazakhstan, beating Tobol Kostanay 3-1 at home and on aggregate in the 2006/07 UEFA Cup first qualifying round.

Form guide

Kairat

- Champions of Kazakhstan in 2020 for the first time in 16 years, Kairat are appearing in UEFA competition for the eighth successive season. However, this is the club's first appearance in a group stage, their last six campaigns having all ended in the UEFA Europa League qualifying phase.
- Conquerors of Maccabi Haifa – the team that ended their European hopes last season – in the UEFA Champions League first qualifying round (1-1 a, 2-0 h), Kairat then lost to Crvena zvezda (2-1 h, 0-5 a), meaning a switch to the UEFA Europa League, where they fell in extra time to Armenian champions Alashkert (0-0 h, 2-3 a). However, a comprehensive UEFA Europa Conference League play-off win over Fola Esch (4-1 a, 3-1 h) booked their place in the competition's group stage.
- Kairat have lost just three of their 25 European home games (W16 D6), those defeats – by Crvena zvezda (0-2) in 2002/03, Sigma Olomouc (1-2) in 2018/19 and Qarabağ on Matchday 4 – the only matches in which they have conceded more than one goal. They were on an eight-match unbeaten home run (W5 D3) until the defeat by Qarabağ.

Basel

- Distant runners-up to Young Boys in the 2020/21 Swiss Super League, Basel also suffered disappointment last season in Europe, the 2019/20 UEFA Europa League quarter-finalists going out in the play-offs of the same competition after a 1-3 home defeat by CSKA-Sofia.
- This term Basel are making a 17th autumn appearance in a European group stage, their place as Switzerland's sole representatives in the UEFA Europa Conference League proper secured by three qualifying phase successes. Comprehensive victors against Partizani of Albania (3-0 h, 2-0 a) and Újpest of Hungary (2-1 a, 4-0 h), Patrick Rahmen's side were then taken to a penalty shoot-out in the play-offs by Swedish side Hammarby after the teams had traded 3-1 home wins, but ultimately prevailed 4-3 on spot kicks.
- Basel were on a run of five successive European wins on the road until that defeat at Hammarby. They have drawn both of their Group H away fixtures, the first of them 0-0 at Qarabağ on Matchday 1.

Links and trivia

- The distance of 5,263 km between Basel and Almaty is the longest between competing teams in this season's UEFA Europa Conference League group stage.
- Kairat are one of eight clubs making their debut appearance in a UEFA group stage this season; the others – one in each group – are Alashkert (Group A), Flora Tallinn (B), Bodø/Glimt (C), Randers (D), Union Berlin (E), Lincoln Red Imps (F) and Mura (G).
- Basel's Brazilian striker Cabral scored in all six matches of the club's UEFA Europa Conference League qualifying campaign, finding the net eight times in total. He scored all four of the Swiss side's goals in the play-off against Hammarby and also converted the winning penalty in the shoot-out. He has since reached double figures for the campaign by scoring twice in the group stage.

Legend

Competitions

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