

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE - 2019/20 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Qarabağ FK

**Tofiq Bahramov Republican stadium -
Baku**

Thursday 19 September 2019
18.55CET (20.55 local time)
Group A - Matchday 1



Sevilla FC

Last updated 17/09/2019 19:00CET



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Match background

Sevilla's quest for a record-extending sixth UEFA Cup/UEFA Europa League starts in Group A with a visit to Baku, host city of last season's final, to take on Azerbaijani champions Qarabağ, who are appearing in the group stage for the fifth time in six seasons.

Previous meetings

• Sevilla have never previously faced a club from Azerbaijan in UEFA competition, but Qarabağ have happy memories of their only other two encounters with a Spanish club, drawing both matches against Atlético Madrid (0-0 h, 1-1 a) in the group stage of the 2017/18 UEFA Champions League – their only two points in the section.

Form guide

Qarabağ

• Qarabağ were Azerbaijani champions for the sixth season running in 2018/19 – and seventh overall – having finished eight points clear of runners-up Neftçi. They also made it to a fifth successive European group stage, in the UEFA Europa League, though lost five of their six matches, including both against Sporting CP and Arsenal, the only consolation a 1-0 win away to Vorskla Poltava.

• This season, as in 2018/19, Qarabağ began their European journey in the UEFA Champions League first qualifying round but were eliminated two rounds later, by APOEL (2-1 a, 0-2 h), before an away-goals win against Linfield in the UEFA Europa League play-offs (2-3 a, 2-1 h). They have never extended their European involvement into the spring.

• Qarabağ have not won any of their last seven home European group games, losing six, the exception that 0-0 draw against Atlético. They lost all three last season, incurring their heaviest European home defeat as they went down 6-1 to Sporting on matchday five.

Sevilla

• Sevilla played 16 UEFA Europa League matches last season, travelling from the second qualifying round to the round of 16, where they were dramatically eliminated by Slavia Praha after a 4-3 extra-time defeat in the Czech capital. Sevilla had topped Group J with 12 points, scoring 18 goals – the most in the group stage.

• The Andalusian club re-qualified for this competition by finishing sixth in the 2018/19 Liga, which assured them an automatic group stage berth and a fifth appearance at this juncture. They have never failed to go through to the round of 32, though have been group winners only twice.

• Sevilla's away record in the UEFA Europa League group stage is W5 D4 L3, two of those defeats having come last season – at Krasnodar (1-2) and Standard Liège (0-1).

Links and trivia

• Qarabağ and Sevilla are both appearing in European competition for the seventh season in a row, having last been absent in 2012/13.

• There are three Spanish nationals in Qarabağ's squad – midfield trio Michel, Jaime Romero and Dani Quintana.

• Sevilla's Portuguese defender Daniel Carriço has played 59 matches in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final, more than any other player.

• Two more goals will enable Sevilla to make it 100 in the UEFA Europa League proper, a milestone so far reached by only four other clubs – Villarreal, Salzburg, Lazio and Athletic Club.

The coaches

• Qarabağ coach Gurban Gurbanov is Azerbaijan's highest-scoring international with 12 goals in 64 matches. While he regularly changed club as a player, he celebrated 11 years as head coach of Qarabağ in August 2019, during which time he has led the club to six successive national league titles, four Azerbaijani Cups and European group stage involvement in each of the last six seasons, including a maiden UEFA Champions League adventure in 2017/18. He doubled up as the coach of Azerbaijan from January to December 2018.

• Sevilla appointed Julen Lopetegui as their new head coach on a three-year contract in June 2019, the former goalkeeper returning to duty in the Spanish Liga after a brief spell in charge of Real Madrid had swiftly ended in October 2018. A highly successful stint with Spain's youth selections brought European titles with the Under-19s in 2012 and U21s the following year. He had 18 months at Porto before taking charge of the senior Spain side and qualifying them for the 2018 FIFA World Cup, only to be dismissed on the eve of the tournament.

Legend

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	(aet): After extra time	pens: Penalties
GS1: First group stage	GS2: Second group stage	No.: Number	og: Own goal
3QR: Third qualifying round	R1: First round	ag: Match decided on away goals	P: Penalty
R2: Second round	R3: Third round	PI: Matches played	agg: Aggregate
R4: Fourth round	PR: Preliminary round	Pos.: Position	AP: Appearances
SF: Semi-finals	QF: Quarter-finals	Pts: Points	Comp.: Competition
R16: round of 16	QR: Qualifying round	R: Sent off (straight red card)	D: Drawn
R32: Round of 32	1QR: First qualifying round	Res.: Result	DoB: Date of birth
1st: first leg	2QR: Second qualifying round	sg: Match decided by silver goal	ET: Extra Time
2nd: second leg	FT: Final tournament	GF: Goals for	GA: Goals against
PO: Play-off	ELITE: Elite round	gg: Match decided by golden goal	t: Match decided by toss of a coin
Rep: Replay	3rdPO: Third-place play-off	Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)	W: Won
PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament	GS-FT: Group stage – final tournament	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

QUAL: All UEFA qualifiers

UEL: Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday

UEL: Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final only

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

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