## Match background

Last updated 17/09/2019 18:08CET

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**UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE - 2019/20 SEASON**  
**MATCH PRESS KITS**

**PFC Ludogorets 1945**  
**Ludogorets Arena - Razgrad**  
**Thursday 19 September 2019**  
**21.00CET (22.00 local time)**  
**Group H - Matchday 1**

**PFC CSKA Moskva**

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After a busy summer of qualifying ties Bulgarian champions Ludogorets have found their way into the UEFA Europa League group stage for the third successive year and begin Group H with a home fixture against a CSKA Moskva side who are playing their first European game of the season.

Previous meetings
• Ludogorets’ eight seasons of European football have never featured any other matches against Russian opposition.
• CSKA's one previous encounter with a Bulgarian club was a 2-1 home win against Levski Sofia in the 2005/06 UEFA Cup group stage. It was the then holders’ only victory in the section, however, and they failed to reach the knockout phase in defence of their trophy.

Form guide
Ludogorets
• Ludogorets' eighth consecutive Bulgarian league title earned them a place in this season's UEFA Champions League first qualifying round, where they lost both legs to Ferencváros – a team they will meet again in UEFA Europa League Group H, having subsequently knocked out Valur, the New Saints and, in the play-offs, Maribor to reach the group stage of this competition for the third year in a row, and fourth time in all.
• The Razgrad club were successful in their first two UEFA Europa League group stage participations, reaching the round of 16 in 2013/14 and round of 32 in 2017/18, but failed to win any of their six games last season (D4 L2), finishing bottom of a group containing Bayer Leverkusen, Zürich and AEK Larnaca. They also competed in the 2016/17 round of 32, having finished third in their UEFA Champions League group.
• Ludogorets have kept clean sheets in eight of their 11 European home games over the past two seasons (W5 D4 L2). Their UEFA Europa League group stage record in Bulgaria is W3 D4 L2.

CSKA
• CSKA finished fourth in last season's Russian Premier League, missing out on a spot in the UEFA Champions League, where they had been group stage participants for six straight years, but qualifying directly for a first UEFA Europa League group campaign since their only previous participation in 2010/11.
• They collected 16 points from their six group games in that 2010/11 campaign to top their section and progress to the round of 16, where they were eliminated by eventual winners Porto. Two seasons ago, having finished third in their UEFA Champions League group, the 2004/05 UEFA Cup winners made it to the UEFA Europa League quarter-finals, where they were knocked out by Arsenal.
• CSKA's only two away defeats in the UEFA Europa League, qualifying included, have come in those knockout phase eliminations by Porto (1-2) and Arsenal (1-4). Their overall away record in the competition is W6 D2 L2, and in their last European fixture on the road they defeated Real Madrid 3-0 in the Spanish capital on matchday six of last season's UEFA Champions League to complete a sensational double over the holders.

Links and trivia
• During the 2016/17 season Ludogorets defender Georgi Terziev was loaned to Croatian side Hajduk Split, where he was a team-mate of current CSKA midfielder Nikola Vlašić.
• CSKA coach Viktor Goncharenko was in charge of Kuban Krasnodar in 2013/14, when Ludogorets midfielder Stanislav Manolev was a member of the team.
• Ludogorets coach Stanislav Genchev won one of his seven caps for Bulgaria in August 2010 in a friendly against a Russia side featuring CSKA's Igor Akinfeev and Alan Dzagoev, who helped the hosts to a 1-0 win in Saint Petersburg.

The coaches
• Genchev stepped up from his position as Ludogorets assistant coach in August 2019 to oversee the club's UEFA Europa League play-off elimination of Maribor just days after replacing Stoycho Stoiev in the hot seat. A 38-year-old former midfielder with seven caps for Bulgaria, he only hung up his boots in June 2017 and went straight into coaching with his final club Etar. He won two successive Bulgarian league titles, in 2011/12 and 2012/13, as a player with Ludogorets – one of a dozen clubs he represented in an eventful career.
• Appointed by CSKA to replace long-serving coach Leonid Slutski in December 2016, Goncharenko had earned a growing reputation in Russian football, notably as Slutski's assistant. He made his name as a coach in his native Belarus at BATE Borisov, winning five straight league titles and leading the club into the UEFA Champions League group stage on three occasions. In his first full season as CSKA boss he led the Muscovites to the UEFA Europa League quarter-finals and a runners-up spot in the domestic league.
### Legend

#### Competitions

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<th>Club competitions</th>
<th>National team competitions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCL</strong>: UEFA Champions League</td>
<td><strong>EURO</strong>: UEFA European Football Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECCC</strong>: European Champion Clubs' Cup</td>
<td><strong>WC</strong>: FIFA World Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UEFA</strong>: UEFA Europa League</td>
<td><strong>CONFEC</strong>: FIFA Confederations Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCUP</strong>: UEFA Cup</td>
<td><strong>FRIE</strong>: Friendly internationals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCWC</strong>: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup</td>
<td><strong>U21FRIE</strong>: Under-21 friendly internationals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCUP</strong>: UEFA Super Cup</td>
<td><strong>U21</strong>: UEFA European Under-21 Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCF</strong>: UEFA Intertoto Cup</td>
<td><strong>U17</strong>: UEFA Under-17 Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ICF</strong>: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup</td>
<td><strong>U16</strong>: UEFA European Under-16 Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UELF</strong>: UEFA Europa League Final Tournament</td>
<td><strong>U19</strong>: UEFA Under-19 Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCWC</strong>: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup</td>
<td><strong>U18</strong>: UEFA European Under-18 Championship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Competition stages

- **F**: Final
- **GS1**: First group stage
- **3QR**: Third qualifying round
- **R2**: Second round
- **R4**: Fourth round
- **SF**: Semi-finals
- **R16**: Round of 16
- **R32**: Round of 32
- **1st**: first leg
- **2nd**: second leg
- **PO**: Play-off
- **Rep**: Replay
- **PO - FT**: Play-off for Final Tournament

#### Other abbreviations

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

#### Statistics

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

#### Squad list

- **D**: Disciplinary
- **S**: Suspended
- **QUAL**: All UEFA qualifiers
- **UEL**: Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday
- **UEFA**: Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final only
- **UEFA**: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competition including qualifying

#### Disclaimer

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