

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE - 2020/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



AS Roma

Stadio Olimpico - Rome

Thursday 29 October 2020

21.00CET (21.00 local time)

Group A - Matchday 2



PFC CSKA-Sofia

Last updated 29/10/2020 17:31CET



Match background

2

Legend

3

Match background

Roma will be looking to build on a promising start to their UEFA Europa League Group A campaign as they welcome CSKA-Sofia to the Stadio Olimpico.

- While Roma came from behind to defeat Young Boys 2-1 in Berne on Matchday 1 with first European goals from Bruno Peres and Marash Kumbulla, CSKA were beaten 2-0 at home by Romanian champions CFR Cluj.

Previous meetings

- Roma have won five of their six matches against Bulgarian teams, including all three at home, keeping clean sheets in all of the victories. The two most recent matches came in the 2009/10 UEFA Europa League group stage against CSKA Sofia and resulted in wins at home (2-0) and away (3-0).

Form guide

Roma

- Roma finished fifth in Serie A last term to qualify for the UEFA Europa League group stage for the second season running and fourth time in all. They were defeated 2-0 by eventual winners Sevilla in last season's round of 16, which remains the furthest they have gone in the competition – though they were UEFA Cup runners-up in 1990/91.
- The Giallorossi's third participation in the UEFA Europa League group stage, like the previous two, resulted in qualification for the knockout phase, although unlike in 2009/10 and 2016/17 they did not top their group, finishing second to İstanbul Başakşehir despite beating the Turkish club home (4-0) and away (3-0). Their only other European win last season was 1-0 at home to Gent in the first leg of the round of 32 (1-1 a).
- A 2-0 defeat against holders Real Madrid in the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League is the only one of their last 15 European fixtures in the Italian capital that Roma have lost, winning 11. They are unbeaten at home in the UEFA Europa League group stage (W6 D3).

CSKA

- CSKA finished runners-up last season in both the Bulgarian league – to serial champions Ludogorets – and the domestic cup, losing on penalties to Lokomotiv Plovdiv after a goalless final. In Europe they fell in the third qualifying round of the UEFA Europa League for the second successive season, going down 2-1 on aggregate to Zorya Luhansk (1-1 h, 0-1 a).
- This term, under former coach Stamen Belchev, CSKA won four qualifying games in a row – against Sirens of Malta (2-1 h), BATE Borisov of Belarus (2-0 h), B36 of the Faroe Islands (2-0 h) and, most memorably, Basel of Switzerland (3-1 a) – to reach the UEFA Europa League group stage.
- CSKA's victory at Basel was only their second away win in seven European matches (D1 L4). They have failed to score in four of them.

Links and trivia

- Italian midfielder Stefano Beltrame joined CSKA from Juventus Under-23s in January 2020 – seven years after his one Serie A appearance, as a substitute, for the senior Bianconeri side. He was subsequently sent out on loan to seven clubs, including four in Italy – Bari, Modena, Pro Vercelli and Pordenone.
- CSKA striker Ali Sowe joined from Chievo in 2019, having also represented several lower-league Italian teams. In 2013 he became the first Gambian to play in Serie A.

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
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

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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