

US OPEN 2025: ALCARAZ AND SABALENKA REIGN IN NEW YORK



The 2025 US Open ended under the lights of Arthur Ashe Stadium with two champions at the peak of their powers. Carlos Alcaraz battled past Jannik Sinner in a gripping men's final, while Aryna Sabalenka defended her crown with a straight sets win over Amanda Anisimova, ending the American's fairytale run that had included a semifinal victory over Naomi Osaka. Their triumphs told very different stories – one of a rivalry shaping the future of men's tennis, the other of a world No. 1 proving she knows how to stay on top. Both left New York not just with trophies, but with moments that will be remembered as part of a historic season.

The men's final was another Alcaraz–Sinner showdown, and it delivered. The match began half an hour late after extraordinary security checks were added around the stadium because of President Donald Trump's presence. Fans had to wait in long queues outside Arthur Ashe, but inside, the two young stars stayed relaxed – Alcaraz loosening up on a mat, Sinner casually kicking a ball with his team. When they finally stepped onto the court, the buzz was unmatched, and it was the Spaniard who set the tone straight away.

Alcaraz, who had lost to Sinner at Wimbledon earlier in the summer, came out determined to flip the script. He took the first set with sheer pace and untouched serves, held off Sinner's response in the second, and then pulled away to close the match in four sets – 6-2 3-6 6-1 6-4. It was a final full of power and precision. Just two days earlier, in the semifinals, he had dismissed the great Novak Djokovic in straight sets. Even Djokovic admitted afterward that while he can still beat almost anyone, these two younger men – Alcaraz and Sinner – keep stopping him in the five set battles.

For Alcaraz, it was Grand Slam number six, his second at the US Open, and his second major of the year after that unforgettable Roland Garros final in June. In Paris, he came back from two sets down against Sinner and, after 5 hours and 29 minutes, won the longest French Open final in history. Wimbledon told a different story – his serve let him down and Sinner claimed the crown. That title was Sinner's redemption on grass after the heartbreak of Paris. But in New York, Alcaraz's serve broken only twice in the entire fortnight, which undoubtedly became his biggest weapon. He not only lifted the trophy but also reclaimed the world No. 1 ranking, becoming the second youngest man after Bjorn Borg to collect six majors. This is the 5th time this two young guns have met each other in the final. As Alcaraz smiled at Sinner during the ceremony, he joked: "I see you more than I see my own family – but it's always special to share the court with you."

If Alcaraz's story was about reclaiming, Sabalenka's was about proving she belongs. The world No. 1 came to New York after a tough run at the Slams. Runner up in Australia to Madison Keys, runner-up again in Paris after 1st set lead to young Coco Gauff, and a semifinal loss at Wimbledon. This time she turned all that frustration into fuel. She overpowered Jessica Pegula in the semis and then ended Amanda Anisimova's dream run in the final. Sabalenka took the first set quickly, then played deep in the second, holding her nerve in the tie break to seal a 6-3, 7-6(3) win and defend her crown in New York.





What stood out most was how Sabalenka kept her emotions under control. She is known for showing frustration, but this time she stayed calm, even when a missed smash almost cost her while serving for the match. Instead of losing her cool, she smiled at her team, refocused, and closed it out. That control has been growing through the year with hard work and small changes in her training. After the win, she said: “To defend this title, to fight the way I did, and to control my emotions on this stage – it means everything. I’m super proud of myself.”

It was her fourth Grand Slam title, and her second in a row at the US Open – maybe her most important one yet. Winning once can be a breakthrough, but defending shows you truly belong. Sabalenka has now done something rare in women’s tennis since the days of Serena Williams – winning back-to-back in New York.

The 2025 US Open finished with two champions who took very different paths but sent out the same message. Alcaraz’s season, shared evenly with Sinner at two Slams each, has built a rivalry that already feels like it will shape the next era of men’s tennis. Sabalenka’s title defense, in a year when Madison Keys, Coco Gauff and Iga Swiatek won the other majors, showed the value of consistency at the top. As the lights went down on Arthur Ashe, the picture was clear – men’s tennis is being carried by a fierce new rivalry, women’s tennis by its wide-open field. And in the middle of it all were two champions who rose when it mattered most.