



INSIGHTS

Matchday 8 Serie A 2021-22
16 - 18 October 2021



16/10/2021 15:00 - ALBERTO PICCO



SPEZIA

Vs

SALERNITANA



This will be the first Serie A meeting between Spezia and Salernitana, whilst they faced 18 times in the Serie B: Spezia have won nine times, Salernitana seven (D2).

Spezia have lost their last three Serie A games and could lose four in a row for the first time in the top-flight – their only win this season was against a promoted side, Venezia.

Spezia have lost their last three Serie A home matches, as many as they had in the previous 12 (W5 D4).

Salernitana kept a clean sheet in their last league game for the first time in Serie A this season – they had ended last season's Serie B with two successive clean sheets.

Spezia and Salernitana have both picked up four points so far: since 2006/07, only four of the 15 sides with exactly four points at this stage of the competition have gone on to be relegated from Serie A.

Spezia have conceded 19 goals this season and in the three points for a win era, only three sides have conceded more at this stage of a Serie A season: Bologna (20) and Sassuolo (21) in 2013/14 and Benevento (20) in 2020/21.

Spezia have failed to score a single headed league goal this season, whilst only Genoa (seven) have conceded more such goals than Salernitana (five) in Serie A this term.

Spezia and Salernitana are two of the three sides (level with Venezia) to have scored the fewest goals from inside the box in Serie A this season (five each). However, Spezia are one of the five sides to have scored the most goals from outside the box (three).

Salernitana's Vid Belec (25) and Spezia's Jeroen Zoet (24) are two of the four goalkeepers to have made the most saves in Serie A this season, alongside Emil Audero (25) and Salvatore Sirigu (24).

Salernitana's Simy has failed to score in seven Serie A appearances this season: last term, he had scored three goals in his first seven matches played for Crotona.

16/10/2021 18:00 - OLIMPICO



LAZIO

Vs

INTER



The next will be the 250th Serie A goal scored by Inter against Lazio: only against Juventus (275) have the Biancocelesti conceded more goals in the competition.

Lazio have won only two of their last 10 Serie A meetings with Inter (D2 L6): since 2016/17, against no other side have they won so few league matches (min. three meetings).

After four consecutive home Serie A wins against Inter, Lazio have won only two of their last seven such matches (D1 L4).

Following defeat to Bologna the last time out, Lazio could lost back-to-back Serie A matches for the first time since last March.

Lazio are unbeaten in their last 16 home matches in Serie A (W14 D2), their longest such run since 2002: back then, they reached 22 home games in a row without a single defeat.

Inter have scored 2+ goals in each of their first seven matches in a Serie A season for the first time – they have scored 22 goals in total so far this campaign, their best tally at this stage since 1950/51 (25 goals after MD8).

Lazio and Inter are two of the three sides to have scored the most goals following a high turnover in Serie A this season (three, level with Torino).

In the three points for a win era, no manager has taken charge of more Serie A games for Lazio than current Inter boss Simone Inzaghi (197), who is second to only Sven-Göran Eriksson for points per game in charge of Lazio during this period (1.82 v 1.9) - min. 50 matches.

Sergej Milinkovic-Savic has scored four league goals against Inter, against no other side has he scored more – his next goal will be his 50th for Lazio across all competitions.

Edin Dzeko has scored six goals in seven league matches this season – only three players have scored 7+ goals in their first eight top-flight matches for the Nerazzurri: Nyers (eight in 1948/49), Amadei (seven in 1948/49) and Quaresima (seven in 1947/48).

16/10/2021 20:45 - GIUSEPPE MEAZZA



MILAN

Vs

HELLAS VERONA



Having lost two successive league matches against Verona between 2016 and 2017, AC Milan have gone unbeaten in the following five against them (W3 D2).

AC Milan are undefeated in 29 Serie A home meetings with Verona (W16 D13): only against Inter and Juventus have the Gialloblu played more top-flight away matches without a single win in the competition (30 against each).

AC Milan have won 19 points so far this season: in the three points for a win era, only in 2003/04 and in 2020/21 (20 points each) have they won more points after the first eight games in a Serie A campaign.

AC Milan have won all three of their home games so far this season: they last won their first four home matches in a Serie A season in 2005/06.

Following three successive defeats under Eusebio Di Francesco, Verona have won two and drawn two of their four Serie A matches under Igor Tudor, netting 2+ goals in each game (12 in total) – under the Croatian, Verona are averaging their highest points per game ratio in the three points for a win era (2.0 – higher than under any other manager).

Verona have failed to win each of their last seven Serie A away matches (D3 L4), drawing their last two: they last drew three such matches in a row in February 2020 (one of them against AC Milan).

No side has scored more goals from outside the box than Verona in Serie A this season (three), whilst AC Milan haven't conceded any such goals in the competition this campaign.

Besides being the side to have scored the most goals in the opening 15 minutes of play in Serie A this season (five), Verona are one of the three teams (alongside Juventus and Fiorentina) that are yet to concede a goal during this period.

AC Milan's Rafael Leão has scored three league goals this season, whilst in his first seven seasonal matches in the last two campaigns he had scored one in 2019/20 and two in 2020/21 – among Serie A players with at least 15 goals scored since the start of 2019/20, only Dusan Vlahovic has done so at a younger age than the Portuguese.

Kevin Lasagna scored his very first Serie A goal at the Giuseppe Meazza (January 2016), against Inter: the Verona striker has scored three league goals against AC Milan, only against Benevento (four) has he scored more in the competition.

17/10/2021 12:30 - UNIPOL DOMUS



CAGLIARI

Vs

SAMPDORIA



Since 2017, Sampdoria have drawn four Serie A games against Cagliari (W3 L2) – against no other side have they drawn more league matches during this period.

Cagliari's last Serie A home defeat against Sampdoria came back in 2007: since then, they have won six and drawn five such matches against the Blucerchiati.

Cagliari are winless in Serie A this season (D3 L4); they last failed to win each of their first eight league matches in a single campaign in 2006/07, however they manage to avoid relegation that season.

Cagliari have failed to win each of their four home league games this season (D2 L2) and could go winless in their first five on home soil for the first time since 2014/15, a season in which they were relegated from Serie A.

Sampdoria have conceded 3+ goals in each of their last three league matches - only twice in their top-flight history have they had a longer such run: four in 1949 and 1950.

Sampdoria have won two of their last four Serie A away matches (D1 L1), as many wins as they had in the previous 11 such games (D3 L6).

Cagliari are the only side yet to score a goal in the final 15 minutes of play in Serie A this season, whilst no side has conceded fewer goals than Sampdoria in the last 30 minutes this term (one).

Walter Mazzarri was in charge of Sampdoria between 2007 and 2009 (W28 D22 L26 – averaging 1.4 points per game in Serie A) – he has failed to win any of his first four games with a side in Serie A (Cagliari) for the first time in the competition (D2 L2).

Cagliari's João Pedro has scored five Serie A goals against Sampdoria and only against AS Roma (six) has he netted more in the competition – four of those goals have come in the last four matches, having netted only once in the previous four.

Sampdoria's Fabio Quagliarella (10 goals against Cagliari in Serie A) has found the net in 17 Serie A campaigns in a row – should he score in this game, he will overtake Giampiero Boniperti and become the outright 13th top goalscorer in the competition (178 both currently).

17/10/2021 15:00 - CARLO CASTELLANI



EMPOLI

Vs

ATALANTA



Empoli and Atalanta last faced each other in Serie A in April 2019. This game saw the most shots attempted in a 0-0 draw in the competition since this data is available (2004/05): 50 total shots (Empoli 3, Atalanta 47).

Empoli and Atalanta have met nine times in Tuscany in Serie A with both sides winning three games (D3); Empoli won the only three matches in which they found the net.

Empoli's last draw in Serie A was in April 2019, against Atalanta: since then, the Tuscan side have six wins and seven defeats, while in Serie A this season the Azzurri have three wins and four defeats – the first time they've reached the 8th Serie A game of a season without any draws since in 1986/87.

Empoli have conceded at least two goals in each of their last four Serie A home games, only once before have they shipped two or more in five consecutive home matches in the competition: in 2002, however, across two different seasons.

Atalanta picked up just one point in their last two league games and they are winless in three consecutive Serie A matches for the first time since November 2020.

Atalanta's last defeat away from home in Serie A was in March (1-0 v Inter); since then they have six wins and three draws - in this period, only Napoli (9) and AC Milan (8) have won more times on the road than the Nerazzurri.

Atalanta and Empoli are two of the five teams that have not yet scored a headed goal in Serie A this campaign - the Bergamaschi are also, along with Napoli and Sampdoria, one of the three sides not to have conceded a headed goal yet, while Empoli have shipped only one so far.

Atalanta are one of only three sides against which Federico Di Francesco has netted more than one goal in Serie A: netting one in his last home match against the Bergamaschi, at Paolo Mazza with SPAL (August 2019).

Atalanta striker Duván Zapata scored three goals in his first three matches against Empoli in Serie A, two in two games with Udinese and one with Napoli, while he has since failed to score against the Toscani in his last four, including the last two with Atalanta.

Atalanta's Josip Ilicic has scored four goals against Empoli in Serie A, thanks to two braces, both at Carlo Castellani with Fiorentina, in 2015 and 2016.

17/10/2021 15:00 - LUIGI FERRARIS



GENOA

Vs

SASSUOLO



Sassuolo have won their last three Serie A games against Genoa (9-2 on aggregate) – during this run they also won 5-0, their largest win ever in the competition.

Sassuolo have scored more Serie A goals against Genoa than against any other side (30) – while Domenico Berardi has been involved in 11 of them (37%), with five goals and six assists.

After losing 0-1 against Salernitana last time out, Genoa could remain goalless in consecutive Serie A games for the first time since October 2020 (three).

Sassuolo have lost four of their last five Serie A games (W1), recording the same number of losses than in their 19 previous games in the competition combined.

Genoa have scored at least one goal in their last 20 home league games, only twice in their Serie A history have they recorded a longer streak: April 1933 and January 1949 (both 24 games).

Genoa have conceded seven headed goals this term, more than any other team in the Big-5 European leagues – while, Sassuolo have scored only one headed goal, after netting only three last season - fewer than any other team in Serie A in 2020-21.

Genoa are the only team in the Big-5 European Leagues to not score a single goal in the first half this term, at the same time no other side have scored fewer than Sassuolo in the second half (four).

Among Serie A defenders involved in at least three goals this term, only Arthur Theate (May 2000) is younger than Genoa's Andrea Cambiaso (February 2000).

Against Genoa, Sassuolo's Giacomo Raspadori could make his 50th appearance in all comps for Neroverdi: the striker born in 2000 has scored three of his nine Serie A goals against Genoa, more than against any other team.

After scoring against Atalanta, Salernitana and Inter, Sassuolo's striker Domenico Berardi could find the net in four consecutive Serie A games for the first time in the competition.

17/10/2021 15:00 - DACIA ARENA - STADIO FRIULI



UDINESE

Vs

BOLOGNA



Udinese and Bologna have drawn each of their last three Serie A meetings, their longest streak in the competition since 1997 (four).

Bologna last won against Udinese in a Serie A game in September 2018 under Filippo Inzaghi – since then Udinese have won two times (D3).

Udinese have lost only one of their last 12 Serie A meetings against Bologna at Dacia Arena (W6 D5), keeping six clean sheets in that period.

At Dacia Arena, Udinese have lost seven of their last 10 league games, failing to score six times – during this period Udinese have won only one game, against Venezia in August (D2).

Bologna have at least 11 points from their first seven games for just the second time in their last 15 Serie A seasons, also doing so in 2017-18 (winning their eighth fixture that season).

Bologna haven't won an away Serie A game since March, 3-2 against Crotone – since then they recorded three draws and four losses, including the last two in a row conceding 10 goals.

Bologna have scored three goals from outside the box in this Serie A (Svanberg 1, Barrow x2), a joint record in the competition in 2021-22. Meanwhile, Udinese have not yet scored a single goal from such distance despite 36 attempts.

Bologna are the only side who Udinese's Ignacio Pussetto has scored more than one goal against in Serie A (two) – he has scored in both his games against Rossoblù, including his first goal ever in the competition in September 2018.

Bologna's Riccardo Orsolini scored his first Serie A goal in September 2018 against Udinese – in total, he has been involved in four goals in eight games against them in the competition, with two goals and two assists.

Roberto Soriano has scored three goals in Serie A against Udinese, but none of them with Bologna: he scored with Sampdoria in 2014 and 2015, all at the Dacia Arena.

17/10/2021 18:00 - DIEGO ARMANDO MARADONA



NAPOLI

Vs

TORINO



Napoli have lost only one of their last 18 Serie A games against Torino (0-1 in March 2015), with 12 wins and five draws.

Despite Napoli being unbeaten in 12 league games against Torino (W8 D4), four of the last seven meetings between these two teams in the top-flight have ended in a draw, including their first meeting last season.

Napoli are unbeaten in their last nine home league games against Torino (W5 D4), since a 2-1 loss in May 2009.

With a win, Napoli would equal the best start in their history in Serie A, also winning their first eight games in 2017-18. Compared to their first seven games of that season, the Partenopei have scored seven fewer goals (25 v 18), but have also conceded two fewer (5 v 3).

After their 0-1 defeat against Juventus, Torino could fail to score for two consecutive league games for the first time since last January (v Milan and Spezia).

Napoli have had the most open play sequences of 10+ passes in Serie A this season (129). Meanwhile, only Milan (66) have had more high turnovers than Torino (64).

Napoli have had more shots on target than any other Serie A side this season (48). However, Torino have faced fewer efforts on target than any other side (18).

Napoli's Lorenzo Insigne has been involved in 11 goals against Torino in Serie A (6 goals, 5 assists). The Granata are the team against which Insigne has played the most games in the top-flight without ever losing (W12 D5).

Torino are the team against which Napoli winger Matteo Politano has played the most Serie A games without ever scoring a goal (11 games) - that Granata are also the team against which he attempted the most shots without scoring in the competition (22).

Torino striker Andrea Belotti scored his first Serie A goal against Napoli, with Palermo in September 2014. His next strike will be his 100th in Serie A, making him the 87th player to reach this milestone.

17/10/2021 20:45 - ALLIANZ STADIUM



JUVENTUS

Vs

ROMA



Only against Inter (85), have Juventus won more Serie A matches than against Roma (83), while only against Lazio (275) have the Bianconeri scored more goals in the competition than against the Giallorossi (269).

After their 2-0 victory last February, Juventus could achieve two consecutive wins against Roma in Serie A for the first time since 2016.

Juventus have won nine of their 10 Serie A games played at Allianz Stadium against Roma, losing the other. The Giallorossi could become the first team against which the Old Lady win 10 league games in this stadium, which opened in 2011.

Juventus have won their last three Serie A matches and could achieve four consecutive wins in the competition for the first time since July 2020.

Juventus have conceded goals in their first three home matches in Serie A this season: if they do not keep a clean sheet against Roma, it would be the second time without a clean sheet in the first four home games of the league in their last 36 participations in the top-flight (also in 2015/16).

Roma have lost nine Serie A away games in 2021 (W3 D3), the last time they lost at least 10 away games in a single calendar year in the top-flight was in 2012, and before that it hasn't happened since 1977.

Among the teams he has faced more than three times as a manager in Serie A, AS Roma are the one against which Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri has the lowest win percentage (35% - 7/20).

Juventus' Federico Chiesa has played six games against Roma without scoring: excluding Juventus they are the team against which he has played the most Serie A games without a goal.

Roma's Jordan Veretout has already scored two goals against Juventus in Serie A: only two French players in the history of the competition have scored at least three goals against the Bianconeri (Nestor Combin and Cyril Théreau).

Roma's Lorenzo Pellegrini is already on four goals this season – his fifth strike in Serie A last term arrived in April on MD29. However, Juventus are one of two teams (along with Napoli) he's played at least eight top-flight games against without registering a single goal involvement.

18/10/2021 20:45 - PIER LUIGI PENZO



VENEZIA

Vs

FIorentINA



Fiorentina are the team against which Venezia have won the most games in Serie A: nine, all while scoring at least two goals in each game - two draws and 13 wins for the Viola.

The last match between Venezia and Fiorentina in Serie A dates back to February 2002, a 2-0 win for Venezia - the Viola have never failed to score twice in a row in the previous 24 games between the two teams in the competition.

Venezia won their last three Serie A matches against Fiorentina played at Pier Luigi Penzo: Viola's last such away win dates back to 1966.

After 1-1 draws against Torino and Cagliari, Venezia could draw three straight Serie A games for the first time since April 1962 (4).

Fiorentina have lost only one (0-1 v Benevento in November 2020) of their last nine Serie A games against newly promoted sides (W4 D4), having recorded six defeats in the previous nine.

Fiorentina come into this game on the back of three consecutive away wins in Serie A: the Viola have won four away games in a row on five occasions in their history in the competition, the most recent in 2013, under Vincenzo Montella

Fiorentina are second only to Lazio (59%) for shooting accuracy in Serie A this season (56% for the Viola) - on the other hand, Venezia currently have the lowest such percentage in 2021-22 (34%).

Venezia's Dennis Johnsen is the player who has been involved in the most shots without a goal or assist in Serie A this season (22 combined shots and chances created) - in the Big-5 European leagues he is only behind Adama Traoré of Wolverhampton (26) and Alessandro Schöpf of Arminia Bielefeld (23).

Thanks to his equalizer in their last league match against Cagliari, Venezia's Gianluca Busio (born in 2002) is the youngest player in Serie A this season with at least one goal and one assist.

Fiorentina's forward Dusan Vlahovic has been involved in six goals in his last four Serie A appearances against newly promoted sides (five goals, one assist) after having none in his previous 12 such games in the competition.