

# **\*!streaming-live!\* USC vs California Live Free @HQ 23 January 2021**



USC vs Cal: College Basketball Betting Picks, Predictions and Tips – January 23, 2021

The USC Trojans (11-3) visit the California Golden Bears (7-9) in a matchup of Pac-12 teams at Haas Pavilion, starting at 8:00 PM ET on Saturday, January 23, 2021. The Golden Bears are 8.5-point underdogs in the game, the first matchup between the teams this season. The matchup has an over/under set at 134.5 points.

The betting insights and predictions in this article reflect betting data from DraftKings as of January 23, 2021, 2:18 AM ET. See table below for current betting odds and [CLICK HERE](#) to bet at DraftKings Sportsbook.

The DraftKings line for this matchup is within 0.1 points of the model. Stay away from this one.

Pick OU:  
Over (134.5)

In this game, the model projects a total (138.8 points) slightly higher than the DraftKings over/under (134.5 points).

## Prediction: USC 74, Cal 65

Predictions are calculated by a data-driven algorithm (raw power score) that ranks head-to-head matchup results within a closed network of games. Prediction confidence is determined by the delta between each team's raw power score.

### Examining the Over/Under

The Trojans have an average implied point total of 74.1 this season, which is 2.1 points higher than their implied total in Saturday's game (72).

So far this season, USC has outscored its implied point total for this matchup (72) nine times.

The average implied point total on the season for the Golden Bears (70.9) is 7.9 more points than the team's implied total in this matchup (63).

Cal will try to outscore its implied point total for this matchup (63) for the ninth time this season.

The USC Trojans face the California Golden Bears Saturday night in Berkeley. The Trojans are led by consensus top-three NBA draft prospect Evan Mobley and his older brother Isaiah Mobley down low. The Trojans had won six straight games before losing earlier this week at Oregon State. The Golden Bears are just 2-7 in PAC-12 play and have played their last five games without leading scorer Matt Bradley. The Golden Bears are looking to build some momentum after their most impressive win of the season Saturday in Salt Lake City and a close loss (and cover) against UCLA on Thursday. If Bradley isn't available again, expect the Trojans to comfortably win thanks to their brotherly duo inside.

### Dominant Duo Down Low

If the Trojans hope to win and cover as heavy road favorites, they need to play through the Mobley brothers on offense and make open shots. Evan Mobley is the best big in the PAC-12 with his elite length at 6'11", silky smooth shooting stroke, and underrated passing skills.

He does this kind of stuff regularly, but Evan Mobley is an excellent pick-and-roll target — flipping screens + short-roll decision-making and passing. Such a talent in the middle of the floor. No processing delay, can pick out shooters, reverse sides, you name it.