

Russia 2018: FIFA World Cup

JUNE 14 - JULY 15

Russia hosts the FIFA World Cup for the first time, but the lowest ranked team in the tournament faces a huge challenge to compete with the world's top footballing powers

RED AMBITION: Russia finished fourth in 1966, as **Soviet Union**, but **Russian Federation** team has yet to qualify from group stage

Performance by host

Group stage 1

2010

2nd round / Last 16: 3

1982, 94, 2002

Quarter-final: 4

1938, 54, 70, 86

3rd / 4th 5

1962, 90, 2002, 06, 14

Final 2

1950, 58

Winner 6

1930, 34, 66, 74, 78, 98

WINNING FEELING: Victory for Germany would equal Brazil's five World Cup crowns and be first successive title win since 1962

	Win ratio: 67.3%	Tournament wins: 70
Brazil	62.3%	66
Germany	54.2%	45
Italy*	54.5%	42
Argentina	49.2%	29
Spain	47.5%	28
France	54.0%	27
Netherlands*	41.9%	26
England		

*Did not qualify for World Cup 2018

Joshua Kimmich

New German star, 23, set to shine on world stage after meteoric rise to fame with Bayern Munich

Top goalscorers:

Poland's **Robert Lewandowski** (right) and **Mohammad Al-Sahlawi** of Saudi Arabia both scored 16 goals in qualifying matches

Competition schedule

32 teams contest total of 64 matches, played at 12 venues, over four weeks

Venues



















Igor Akinfeev














Russia captain and veteran goalkeeper crucial to host nation's hopes – over 100 caps for his country





0 FIFA rank at time of draw












Telstar 2018
Official World Cup match ball











June								
14	Russia		Saudi Arabia	Moscow				
15	Egypt		Uruguay	Yekaterinburg				
19	Russia		Egypt	St Petersburg				
20	Uruguay		Saudi Arabia	Rostov				
25	Uruguay		Russia	Samara				
	Saudi Arabia		Egypt	Volgograd				
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June				 3		 8		 48		 34	
15	Morocco	<input type="text"/>	Iran			St Petersburg					
	Portugal	<input type="text"/>	Spain			Sochi					
20	Portugal	<input type="text"/>	Morocco			Moscow					
	Iran	<input type="text"/>	Spain			Kazan					
25	Iran	<input type="text"/>	Portugal			Saransk					
	Spain	<input type="text"/>	Morocco			Kaliningrad					
P W D L F A Pts											
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16	France		Australia	Kazan				
	Peru		Denmark	Saransk				
21	Denmark		Australia	Samara				
	France		Peru	Yekaterinburg				
26	Denmark		France	Moscow				
	Australia		Peru	Sochi				
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
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June		D	<div><div><div>4</div><div></div></div><div><div>21</div><div></div></div><div><div>18</div><div></div></div><div><div>41</div><div></div></div></div>			
16	Argentina	<div></div>	Iceland	Moscow		
	Croatia	<div></div>	Nigeria	Kaliningrad		
21	Argentina	<div></div>	Croatia	Nizhny		
22	Nigeria	<div></div>	Iceland	Volgograd		
26	Nigeria	<div></div>	Argentina	St Petersburg		
	Iceland	<div></div>	Croatia	Rostov		
P W D L F A Pts						
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June					
17	Costa Rica		Serbia	Samara	
	Brazil		Switzerland	Rostov	
22	Brazil		Costa Rica	St Petersburg	
	Serbia		Switzerland	Kaliningrad	
27	Serbia		Brazil	Moscow	
	Switzerland		Costa Rica	Nizhny	
P W D L F A Pts					
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June		F	 1	 16	 25	 62		
17	Germany		Mexico	Moscow				
18	Sweden		South Korea	Nizhny				
23	South Korea		Mexico	Rostov				
	Germany		Sweden	Sochi				
27	Mexico		Sweden	Yekaterinburg				
	South Korea		Germany	Kazan				
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
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June				
18	Belgium		Panama	Sochi
	Tunisia		England	Volgograd
23	Belgium		Tunisia	Moscow
24	England		Panama	Nizhny
28	England		Belgium	Kaliningrad
	Panama		Tunisia	Saransk
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June	<div>H</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>32</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>44</div>			
19	Colombia	<div></div>	Japan	Saransk				
	Poland	<div></div>	Senegal	Moscow				
24	Japan	<div></div>	Senegal	Yekaterinburg				
	Poland	<div></div>	Colombia	Kazan				
28	Japan	<div></div>	Poland	Volgograd				
	Senegal	<div></div>	Colombia	Samara				
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Top two from each group progress to knockout stage

If scores level after 90 minutes, knockout stage matches go into extra-time. Matches remaining level decided on penalties

Second stage

Quarter-finals

Third-place play-off

Quarter-finals

Second stage

June	Sochi
30	A1
	B2
	Kazan
30	C1
	D2
July	Samara
2	E1
	F2
	Rostov
2	G1
	H2

July 6 Nizhny

July 6 Kazan

July 6 Kazan

July 6 Kazan

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ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

Host nation

1930	Uruguay	4-2	Argentina	Uruguay
1934	Italy	2-1	Czechoslovakia	Italy
1938	Italy	4-2	Hungary	France
1950	Uruguay	2-1	Brazil	Brazil
1954	West Germany	3-2	Hungary	Switzerland
1958	Brazil	5-2	Sweden	Sweden
1962	Brazil	3-1	Czechoslovakia	Chile
1966	England	4-2	West Germany	England
1970	Brazil	4-1	Italy	Mexico
1974	West Germany	2-1	Netherlands	West Germany

Opened in 1956 as **Central Lenin Stadium**, flagship stadium of Communist Russia – hosted 1980 Summer Olympics and Champions League final in 2008

Luzhniki Stadium
Capacity: 80,000

Reopened in Nov 2017 after four-year, €350m renovation to expand roof structure, increase capacity and preserve iconic Soviet facade



1978	Argentina	3-1	Netherlands	Argentina
1982	Italy	3-1	West Germany	Spain
1986	Argentina	3-2	West Germany	Mexico
1990	West Germany	1-0	Argentina	Italy
1994	Brazil	0-0 (3-2 pens)	Italy	USA
1998	France	3-0	Brazil	France
2002	Brazil	2-0	Germany	Korea/Japan
2006	Italy	1-1 (5-3 pens)	France	Germany
2010	Spain	1-0	Netherlands	South Africa
2014	Germany	1-0	Argentina	Brazil