Iconic FIFA World Cup moments



2022 Legacy Complete

Dec 18, Lusail
Argentina 3 France 3 (Penalties 4-2)

Lionel Messi finally achieves dream of winning World Cup for his beloved Argentina – emulating hero ***Diego Maradona*** in breathtaking final

1930 The First Crown

Jul 30, Montevideo
Uruguay 4 Argentina 2

Inaugural tournament sees ***Lucien Laurent*** score first goal in World Cup history for France. Hosts Uruguay defeat Argentina in final to lift trophy presented by ***Jules Rimet***

1950 Maracanã Blow

Jul 16, Rio de Janeiro
Uruguay 2 Brazil 1

Possibly greatest upset in World Cup. Uruguay defeat hosts Brazil in decisive match at Maracanã, – ***Alcides Ghiggia*** scoring winner in front of estimated 200,000 stunned spectators



1958 Birth of a Legend

Jun 15, Gothenburg
Brazil 2 Soviet Union 0

World Cup debut for 17-year-old ***Pelé,*** who announces himself with an assist, before becoming youngest player to appear in final as Brazil beat Sweden to clinch first title



1966 They Think It's All Over

Jul 30, London
England 4 W. Germany 2

Iconic moment in English football culture, ***Geoff Hurst*** scores hat-trick in dramatic extra-time victory – feat later matched by ***Kylian Mbappé*** in 2022 final



1974 Cruyff Turn

Jun 19, Dortmund
Netherlands 0 Sweden 0

Famous moment of superb skill by ***Johan Cruyff***. The Dutch master feints to cross, turns 180 degrees, and swerves past helpless Swedish defender

1986 Divine Inspiration

Jun 22, Mexico City
Argentina 2 England 1

Diego Maradona scores controversial ***'Hand of God'*** goal after punching ball past Peter Shilton in clash with England



1990 The Beautiful Aria

Italy hosts World Cup in tournament forever associated with ***Luciano Pavarotti's*** rousing rendition of ***'Nessun Dorma',*** which becomes anthem of modern game

1998 Dutch Masterpiece

Jul 4, Marseille
Netherlands 2 Argentina 1

Dennis Bergkamp scores iconic goal from superb long-range pass by ***Frank de Boer,*** taking three sublime touches to control ball and volley past goalkeeper

2006 The Final Act

Jul 9, Berlin
Italy 1 France 1 (pens 5-3)

Zinedine Zidane becomes fourth player sent off in World Cup final after red card for headbutting ***Marco Materazzi*** in chest, ending international career

2014 A Nation Silenced

Jul 8, Belo Horizonte
Germany 7 Brazil 1

Germany record historic semi-final victory over Brazil, equalling host nation's heaviest defeat. ***Miroslav Klose*** becomes all-time World Cup top scorer with 16 goals



2018 A Different Russia

Entertaining tournament, shock results, set-piece goals galore and introduction of ***Video Assistant Referee.*** Viewed differently after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022

2026 Make Football Great Again

United States, Canada and Mexico co-host an expanded 48-team showpiece, amid rising global tensions and domestic challenges, mounting pressure on FIFA President Gianni Infantino *(below)*



Source: FIFA

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