

# Women's World Cup 2023

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The Women's World Cup is one of the biggest women's sporting events in the world. It is held every four years and each time it is in a different country. There are thirty-two teams that compete and the winners win the FIFA Women's World Cup. It is a great honour to play in your country with the population cheering for you and they say that having your country cheering for you is like having an extra player on the field.



## When and where is the FIFA Women's World Cup?

The FIFA Women's World Cup started on the 20th of July and ends on the 20th of August. This year it is being held in Australia and New Zealand, the first ever co-hosted FIFA Women's World Cup. In Australia the games will be held at six different stadiums and cities and in New Zealand there will be four different stadiums and four cities. This year the stadiums are using the Indigenous names (Aboriginal and Māori) for the first time ever.

## Teams in the Women's World Cup

There are thirty-two teams in the FIFA Women's World Cup. Eight teams qualified for the first time ever including Haiti, Morocco, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Vietnam and Zambia. All thirty-two teams are divided into groups from A-H, from random pots drawn in April. Switzerland, Norway, Australia, Nigeria, Japan, Spain, England, Denmark, Netherlands, USA, France, Jamaica, Sweden, South Africa, Colombia and Morocco all qualified for the round of sixteen. At the time, England was the most predicted team to win.



## **The Matildas in the Women's World Cup**

The Matildas have made it to the round of eight, after their 2-0 win against Denmark. They have twenty-three players but only eleven of them are on the field at a time. The Matildas are named after a famous poem and song called Waltzing Matilda. At the start of the tournament, the Matildas won against the Republic of Ireland 1-0 from a penalty kick taken by Steph Catley. They then followed this with a devastating loss 3-2 against Nigeria. Then, of course, they defeated Denmark in the round of sixteen, eliminating them from the tournament. Now they can either win or they are out of the competition, this is called the knockout stage.

As you can see the FIFA Women's World Cup is important to many people around the world. Especially for Australia and New Zealand as they are hosting for the first ever co-hosted tournament. Everybody is anticipating the moment when the two final teams will verse for the famous FIFA Women's World Cup. For now we will wait, cheering on the Matildas, helping them one step at a time.

