

THE LONG ROAD TO FOOTBALL IMMORTALITY

BOOTERS BIG BATTLE

FIFA World Cup 2026 will be the biggest edition in history, will begin on June 12 (IST) and conclude on July 20 (IST), featuring a record 48 teams across the United States, Canada and Mexico.

THE GROUPS

- Group A: Mexico, South Africa, Republic of Korea, Czechia
- Group B: Canada, Switzerland, Qatar, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Group C: Brazil, Morocco, Scotland, Haiti
- Group D: USA, Paraguay, Australia, Turkey
- Group E: Germany, Ecuador, Ivory Coast, Curaçao
- Group F: Netherlands, Japan, Sweden, Tunisia
- Group G: Belgium, Egypt, Iran, New Zealand
- Group H: Spain, Uruguay, Saudi Arabia, Cape Verde
- Group I: France, Senegal, Norway, Iraq
- Group J: Argentina, Austria, Algeria, Jordan
- Group K: Portugal, Colombia, DR Congo, Uzbekistan
- Group L: England, Croatia, Ghana, Panama

For Indian football fans planning to follow the action through the night and early mornings, here is the complete FIFA World Cup 2026 schedule in Indian Standard Time (IST)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

- Group A: Mexico vs South Africa, 12:30 AM IST – Mexico City
- Group A: South Korea vs Czechia, 7:30 AM IST – Zapopan

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

- Group B: Canada vs Bosnia and Herzegovina, 12:30 AM IST – Toronto
- Group D: USA vs Paraguay, 6:30 AM IST – Los Angeles

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

- Group B: Qatar vs Switzerland, 12:30 AM IST – Santa Clara
- Group C: Brazil vs Morocco, 3:30 AM IST – New Jersey
- Group C: Haiti vs Scotland, 6:30 AM IST – Foxborough
- Group D: Australia vs Turkey, 9:30 AM IST – Vancouver
- Group E: Germany vs Curaçao, 10:30 PM IST – Houston

MONDAY, JUNE 15

- Group F: Netherlands vs Japan, 1:30 AM IST – Arlington
- Group E: Ivory Coast vs Ecuador, 4:30 AM IST – Philadelphia
- Group F: Sweden vs Tunisia, 7:30 AM IST – Guadalajara
- Group H: Spain vs Cape Verde, 9:30 PM IST – Atlanta

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

- Group G: Belgium vs Egypt, 12:30 AM IST – Seattle
- Group H: Saudi Arabia vs Uruguay, 3:30 AM IST – Miami
- Group G: Iran vs New Zealand, 6:30 AM IST – Los Angeles

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

- Group I: France vs Senegal, 12:30 AM IST – New Jersey
- Group I: Iraq vs Norway, 3:30 AM IST – Foxborough
- Group J: Argentina vs Algeria, 6:30 AM IST – Kansas City
- Group J: Austria vs Jordan, 9:30 AM IST – Santa Clara
- Group K: Portugal vs DR Congo, 10:30 PM IST – Houston

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

- Group L: England vs Croatia, 1:30 AM IST – Arlington
- Group L: Ghana vs Panama, 4:30 AM IST – Toronto
- Group K: Uzbekistan vs Colombia, 7:30 AM IST – Mexico City

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

- Group A: Czechia vs South Africa, 9:30 PM IST – Atlanta

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

- Group B: Switzerland vs Bosnia and Herzegovina, 12:30 AM IST – Los Angeles
- Group B: Canada vs Qatar, 3:30 AM IST – Vancouver
- Group A: Mexico vs South Korea, 6:30 AM IST – Zapopan

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

- Group D: USA vs Australia, 12:30 AM IST – Seattle
- Group C: Scotland vs Morocco, 3:30 AM IST – Foxborough
- Group C: Brazil vs Haiti, 6:00 AM IST – Philadelphia
- Group D: Turkey vs Paraguay, 8:30 AM IST – Santa Clara
- Group F: Netherlands vs Sweden, 10:30 PM IST – Houston

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

- Group E: Germany vs Ivory Coast, 1:30 AM IST – Toronto
- Group E: Ecuador vs Curaçao, 5:30 AM IST – Kansas City
- Group F: Tunisia vs Japan, 9:30 AM IST – Guadalajara
- Group H: Spain vs Saudi Arabia, 9:30 PM IST – Atlanta

MONDAY, JUNE 22

- Group G: Belgium vs Iran, 12:30 AM IST – Los Angeles
- Group H: Uruguay vs Cape Verde, 3:30 AM IST – Miami
- Group G: New Zealand vs Egypt, 6:30 AM IST – Vancouver
- Group J: Argentina vs Austria, 10:30 PM IST – Arlington

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

- Group I: France vs Iraq, 2:30 AM IST – Philadelphia
- Group I: Norway vs Senegal, 5:30 AM IST – Toronto
- Group J: Jordan vs Algeria, 8:30 AM IST – Santa Clara
- Group K: Portugal vs Uzbekistan, 10:30 PM IST – Houston

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

- Group L: England vs Ghana, 1:30 AM IST – Foxborough
- Group L: Panama vs Croatia, 4:30 AM IST – Foxborough
- Group K: Colombia vs DR Congo, 7:30 AM IST – Zapopan

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

- Group B: Switzerland vs Canada, 12:30 AM IST – Vancouver
- Group B: Bosnia and Herzegovina vs Qatar, 12:30 AM IST – Seattle
- Group C: Morocco vs Haiti, 3:30 AM IST – Atlant
- Group C: Scotland vs Brazil, 3:30 AM IST – Miami
- Group A: South Africa vs South Korea, 6:30 AM IST – Guadalajara
- Group A: Czechia vs Mexico, 6:30 AM IST – Mexico City

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

- Group E: Curaçao vs Ivory Coast, 1:30 AM IST – Philadelphia
- Group E: Ecuador vs Germany, 1:30 AM IST – New Jersey
- Group F: Tunisia vs Netherlands, 4:30 AM IST – Kansas City
- Group F: Japan vs Sweden, 4:30 AM IST – Arlington
- Group D: Turkey vs USA, 7:30 AM IST – Los Angeles
- Group D: Paraguay vs Australia, 7:30 AM IST – Santa Clara

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

- Group I: Norway vs France, 12:30 AM IST – Foxborough
- Group I: Senegal vs Iraq, 12:30 AM IST – Toronto

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

- Group H: Cape Verde vs Saudi Arabia, 5:30 AM IST – Houston
- Group H: Uruguay vs Spain, 5:30 AM IST – Zapopan
- Group G: New Zealand vs Belgium, 8:30 AM IST – Vancouver
- Group G: Egypt vs Iran, 8:30 AM IST – Seattle

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

- Group L: Panama vs England, 2:30 AM IST – New Jersey
- Group L: Croatia vs Ghana, 2:30 AM IST – Philadelphia
- Group K: Colombia vs Portugal, 5:00 AM IST – Miami
- Group K: DR Congo vs Uzbekistan, 5:00 AM IST – Atlanta
- Group J: Algeria vs Austria, 7:30 AM IST – Kansas City
- Group J: Jordan vs Argentina, 7:30 AM IST – Arlington

ROUND OF 16 FROM JULY 4

The group stage will conclude on June 28, following which the newly introduced Round of 32 will be played from June 29 to July 4. The Round of 16 is scheduled from July 4 to July 8, while the quarterfinals will take place from July 10 to July 12.

FINAL ON JULY 20

The two semifinals are scheduled for July 15 and July 16 in Arlington and Atlanta respectively. The third-place playoff will be held on July 19 in Miami, while the FIFA World Cup 2026 final will be played on July 20 at New Jersey's MetLife Stadium.

