

Joao Felix set to leave Chelsea for Saudi Arabian side Al Nassr



The Portuguese forward is leaving the Blues for a reported €30m plus add-ons, only a year after a permanently signing for them from Atletico Madrid.

Felix has played a total of 40 games for the current Club World Cup Champions, scoring a total of 11 goals over two spells. He first joined Chelsea on a six month loan spell in January 2023.

Felix's decision to return to Stamford Bridge was puzzling. The move was made primarily due to Chelsea's need to perform financial gymnastics to comply with the Premier League's Profit and Sustainability rules. Academy graduate Conor Gallagher went the other way in a separate deal.

The La Liga Champion only managed 363 minutes of Premier League football in the 24/25 season as he primarily deputised English playmaker Cole Palmer. This led to a torrid 6-month loan spell to Serie A side AC Milan in January.

The 25 year old was once highly touted as a teenager but his €126m dollar switch to the Wanda Metropolitano in 2019 did not pan out as expected.

Al Nassr had hijacked negotiations between Chelsea and Felix's boyhood club Benfica. Felix is set to link up with Portuguese teammate and footballing icon Cristiano Ronaldo.

Famed journalist Fabrizio Romano has revealed that Felix has signed a two year deal to play in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh.

The signing of Felix is a statement of intent by Al Nassr. The club aim to win their first Saudi Pro League title since 2019.

For Chelsea, Felix's departure should make way for Dutch midfielder Xavi Simons to leave RB Leipzig for the London club. Simons has been linked with a switch to Stamford Bridge and both clubs have been in talks regarding the players services.