

8 Reasons You Should Be Watching The World Cup

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1. Football (or soccer for Americans) is growing!

What has been all the rage for centuries all over the world is even growing now in America. Though, the MLS (Major League Soccer) was created in 1996 it has only recently begun to gain momentum, and fans! MLS teams are now getting contracts with foreign players like the famous David Beckham who played for the LA Galaxy and now is starting his own MLS team in Miami.



FIFA WORLD CUP
Brasil

2. The World Cup is the largest sporting event besides the Olympics!

There are 32 countries participating and arguably some of the best athletes in the world! FIFA estimated on their website 715.5 million people tuned in to watch the final in 2006! Compare that to only 111.5 million people watching the most watched Super Bowl in history (Super Bowl XLVIII, 2014) reported by SportsCharts.com. With so many people tuning in, don't you want in on the fun, too?

3. Your country needs your support!

Especially if you are American, your country needs your support. Soccer is just as exciting as popular American sports. In fact soccer usually gets more play time and less commercials. For example, according to a study by the wall street journal the average NFL football game has 11 minutes of actual playtime! FIFA.com reported that play time per match is 55.8 minutes this year, and since soccer has no breaks you only watch commercials at half time. Get in on the action!

4. Football has a rich history!

Soccer is the real football and it has a rich history, dating back to... well, way, way back!

Football is so old we don't actually know when it officially began, but there is evidence of soccer being played in China during the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC. From the Olympics, to FIFA, to the MLS, world soccer is on the rise, and for good reason! Why not find out what all the fuss is about?

5. This year is special!

The World Cup has already been really exciting and unexpected! The US team beat their rivals Ghana in their first match, the team which has knocked us out of the competition the previous two World Cups! They then went on to make it out of their initial group, which was being called "The group of death" because every team we had to play were top notch teams! No one really expected this to happen, so already teams are surprising us.



6. You can watch the games live!

Because the World Cup can happen anywhere in the world many times the games are happening in Europe where the time difference for American fans is brutal. If you're American, this is a great year to watch because it's taking place in South America. Brazil is only one hour

later than Eastern Time, and since the matches usually happen in the afternoon or early evening, it's still a decent time in the US.

7. It's not over yet!

Even though the games started a couple weeks ago there is much more to come! The most exciting part -knock out stages (meaning if you lose you are out of the tournament) have barely just begun and the most exciting match -the final, is scheduled for Sunday July 13th at 3 pm Eastern Time.

8. It only happens every four years!

Like the Olympics, the **World Cup** doesn't happen annually. The next one won't be until 2018!!! Every **World Cup** is unique, they are always in a new location and many times the players and qualifying teams vary because of the large gap in between -a lot can happen in four years. There is only one 2014 **World Cup**, you don't want to miss it!

So, as you can see the **World Cup** is exciting and totally worthwhile to watch. If for no other reason, get in on the competition. The **World Cup** has been a source of national pride since 1930, that's 84 years! If there is something Americans are good at it is national pride! Support your fellow countrymen, accomplished athletes, while they enter the **world** stage in a relentless search for glory!

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