



CONFEDERATIONS CUP  
RUSSIA 2017

# FIFA Confederations Cup 2017

Media background paper

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# FIFA Confederations Cup 2017

## 1. The tournament at a glance



The FIFA Confederations Cup 2017 is a major football spectacle and will feature the current champions of each of the six Confederations (AFC, CAF, CONCACAF, CONMEMBOL, OFC and UEFA), along with the current FIFA World Cup champions and the host nation.

To date, the following teams have qualified: [Russia](#) (host), [Germany](#) (2014 FIFA World Cup™ winners), [Australia](#) (AFC Asian Cup winners), [Chile](#) (*Copa América* winners), [Mexico](#) (CONCACAF Gold Cup winners), [Portugal](#) (UEFA EURO winners), [New Zealand](#) (OFC Nations Cup winners) and [Cameroon](#) (CAF Africa Cup of Nations winners). Chile and Russia will play the tournament for the first time.

The FIFA Confederations Cup (FCC) will be hosted for the first time in Russia, between 17 June and 2 July 2017, as a prelude to the 2018 FIFA World Cup™. It will consist of 16 matches played across the four Host Cities of Kazan, Moscow, Sochi and St Petersburg.

## 2. The FIFA Confederations Cup - things you need to know

1	The FIFA Confederations Cup Russia 2017 is the eighth edition under this name, the first of which took place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 1997. Before that, two tournaments, known as the “King Fahd Cup” and also organised by the Saudi Arabian Football Federation, were held in 1992 and 1995 and are generally included in historical and statistical reviews.
2	Brazil’s participation at seven consecutive editions is the most of all national teams. They have also won the most trophies, having won in 1997, 2005, 2009, 2013 and ended runners-up in 1999.
3	The only teams to successfully defend their title are Brazil in 2009 and 2013, and France in 2003.
4	To date, 30 teams have participated in at least one edition of the FIFA Confederations Cup.

5	This will be the fifth edition of the FIFA Confederations Cup to be played one year before the FIFA World Cup™ in the same host country. The first was Korea/Japan 2001, followed by Germany 2005, South Africa 2009 and Brazil 2013.
6	Brazil 2013 was the first FIFA Confederations Cup with four representative teams that were former world champions: Uruguay, Italy, Brazil and Spain.
7	In the nine competitions held to date, South Americans have claimed the title five times (with four wins for Brazil and one for Argentina) followed by Europe with three titles (two for France and one for Denmark). The only other title went to North and Central America thanks to Mexico's win over Brazil on home soil in 1999.
8	Previous hosts Mexico (1999), France (2003), and Brazil (2013) all triumphed on home soil. Japan, meanwhile, reached the final in 2001.
9	All confederations have been represented at least once in a FIFA Confederations Cup final.
10	Continental derbies have been few and far between at the FIFA Confederations Cup. Two teams from the same confederation have only come up against each other on five occasions. The most recent encounters were both semi-finals of the 2013 edition between Brazil and Uruguay, and Spain and Italy. Before that the <i>super clásico</i> between Brazil and Argentina in the 2005 final, and matches between Mexico and USA in 1999 and France and Turkey in 2003.
11	Brazilian goalkeeper Dida is the player with the most appearances. He was present in five editions from 1997 to 2005 with a total of 22 matches.
12	Mexico's Cuauhtémoc Blanco and Brazil's Ronaldinho are the all-time top scorers with nine goals each.
13	No foreign coach has ever won a FIFA Confederations Cup title. All eight winning coaches were native.
14	Brazil's Carlos Alberto Parreira (FWC 1994 & FCC 2005), Mário Zagallo (FWC 1970 & FCC 1997), and Luiz Felipe Scolari (FWC 2002 & FCC 2013) have won both the FIFA World Cup™ and the FIFA Confederations Cup.

### 3. History

The FIFA Confederations Cup was first designated a FIFA competition in December 1997 when it was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Previously there had been two other tournaments in Riyadh, in 1992 and 1995, under the title of "Intercontinental Championship for the King Fahd Cup".

In 1992, the winners were Argentina, then reigning South American champions. They came with a star-studded team including Gabriel Batistuta, Fernando Redondo, Claudio Caniggia and Diego Simeone and carried off the trophy after defeating the host country, despite tremendous home support, in the final. The other two teams taking part on that occasion were the USA and Côte d'Ivoire.

Six teams took part in the 1995 competition and this time it was Denmark who took the honours, with strong performances from the Laudrup brothers earning them victory over Argentina. Mexico and Nigeria made it to the semi-finals, while Japan and the host country were eliminated after losing both of their group matches.

In 1997, Brazil promptly stamped their authority on the competition to win the striking new gold trophy. One of the main purposes of the tournament was clearly demonstrated when Australia made it to the final to take on the then world champions.



In 1999, the Mexicans richly deserved to win the cup as one of two teams unbeaten in the group stage to make it to the final. The home "Azteca" factor – Mexico had not been beaten there for 18 years – could not be ignored. Brazil lived up to expectations as their talent factory continued to produce outstanding players. The tournament also witnessed a standard of goalkeeping seldom seen in a single tournament with the likes of Keller (USA), Campos (MEX), Dida (BRA) and Utting (NZL) competing. Surprise packages Saudi Arabia recovered from a 5-1 thrashing by Mexico in their opening match to qualify for the semi-finals with a 5-1 win in an all-Arab clash with Egypt. The USA defeated giants Germany only to later narrowly fall to a golden goal by Mexico's top scorer Blanco. New Zealand went home happy after gamely facing up to Germany and the USA.

In Korea/Japan in 2001, a near-capacity crowd of over 65,000 saw world champions France defeat co-hosts Japan with the only goal of the final to win the tournament and complete an unprecedented hat-trick of three major trophies in just four years.

In 2003, defending and European champions France hosted the FIFA Confederations Cup, organising matches in three of the 1998 World Cup stadiums – Lyon, St Étienne and Paris/St Denis. Brazil had to take an early flight home after the group stage, bowing out of a tough group of strong performers in the shape of Cameroon, Turkey and the USA. The revitalised hosts, on the other hand, won their group. Turkey consolidated their rise as a global football power and only just missed out on a place in the final. The event was overshadowed by the tragic death of Cameroonian midfielder Marc-Vivien Foe, whose team-mates conceded the title to France by a whisker in an emotionally charged final against an equally shaken French side.

Despite the absence of superstar striker Ronaldo from the FCC 2005, Brazil dazzled in an exciting final against rivals Argentina to lift the trophy for the second time. Adriano gained recognition as a force to be reckoned with, earning both the adidas Golden Ball and Golden Shoe awards. While Argentina's defeat was hard to take, their performance clearly showed a hint of great things to come with the competition shining a spotlight on the magical skills of their key player, Juan Román Riquelme. The competition also displayed German prowess in the shape of a well-organised dry run for the 2006 FIFA World Cup™ and the emergence of a young and promising German team – in particular, the partnership of up-and-coming starlets Lukas Podolski and Bastian Schweinsteiger – under the watchful eye of footballing legend Jürgen Klinsmann, enabling them to secure third-place in a thrilling extra-time play-off against Mexico.

In 2009, for the first time in the history of the FIFA Confederations Cup, the event took place on African soil. South Africa certainly proved themselves capable of hosting the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ and impressively presented some of their World Cup Host Cities – Johannesburg, Rustenburg, Mangaung/Bloemfontein and Tshwane/Pretoria. The gripping tournament ended with a worthy final in Johannesburg with both Brazil and the USA battling for the title. After a 3-2 victory, it was Brazil who lifted the trophy for the third time.

Genial skills, wonder goals and thrilling games, an average match attendance of over 50,000, incomparable atmospheres in the stadiums – the FIFA Confederations Cup Brazil 2013 was not just a success, it was an overwhelming smash hit. With their 3-0 win in the final over FIFA World Cup holders Spain, Brazil lifted the cup for the fourth time – their third consecutive FIFA Confederations Cup victory.

## 4. FIFA Confederations Cup 2017 Winner's Trophy



Designer	Fritz Jucker, Zurich, Switzerland
Manufacturer	Europokal, Volketswil, Switzerland Beat Meixger Schumacher Goldschmied, Bülach, Switzerland Walter Schumacher
Description	<p>The FIFA Confederations Cup Official Trophy is representative of the tournament's theme 'Festival of Champions'. Two gold ribbons are wrapped around the central body in a festive, dynamic movement. They visually connect the six medallions arranged around the upper segment of the base - each bearing the name of one confederation - with the globe. The globe references the six continents whose national teams participate in this FIFA tournament.</p> <p>The Trophy recently underwent a touch of modernisation and was fitted with a re-designed, cone-shaped base to complement the family of FIFA trophies.</p>
Year of design	1997
Material	Bronze, gold plated Base: Lapis lazuli, ebony
Weight	8.6kg
Height	40.0cm
Base diameter	16.0cm
Widest point	16.0cm

## 5. Official Emblem

The concept for the Official Emblem of the FIFA Confederations Cup Russia 2017 was inspired by Russia's rich cultural history and storytelling tradition.

The design, based on the shape of the FIFA Confederations Cup Official Trophy, takes a fresh direction with a fluid and abstract form that features the mythological firebird as its main character. This majestic icon of Russian folklore was at the heart of the inspiration for the magic flying ball, the central character in the brand of the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™. So it is perhaps fitting that the firebird has its own starring role for the FIFA Confederations Cup, the tournament that acts as the precursor to the FIFA World Cup™.

The firebird inspires all movement and flow inside the Official Emblem. Its long, elegant tail feathers wrapping around the lower section of the emblem depict the unique spiral feature of the Official Trophy. Its head, wings and body feature in the spherical top of the emblem, and, along with three decorative panels, they reinforce the unifying image of football across the globe and visually hint at the transformation to come when the firebird will metamorphose into the magic flying ball of the Official Emblem of the 2018 FIFA World Cup™.

The primary colours of red and silver are vibrant and warm, echoing the kindness and hospitality of the Russian people. This palette, inspired from that of the 2018 FIFA World Cup™, allows for an even greater and more harmonious connection between the two events.



## 6. Official Look

The same narrative that created the enchanting look and feel of the 2018 FIFA World Cup™ inspired this multi-layered and colourful Official Look for the FIFA Confederations Cup Russia 2017. It is fun, celebratory, unique and glorious.

The Official Look is a vital component of the brand, providing visual flow and impact to all aspects of the tournament. It visually links all parts of the FIFA Confederations Cup, telling the story – from print to broadcast through to city and stadium dressing. The brand celebrates all of the best qualities of the beautiful game and, used effectively, will enhance not only the tournament, but also the experience of all who take part.

### The Magic Feather

Inspired by the folk tale of the firebird, the journey through Russia is depicted by a magic feather trail, taking fans on an enchanting journey of discovery across Russia and building excitement in the lead-up to the event. Its fluid form links the different design elements of the various compositions, including architectural, natural landscape and cultural elements, as well as fan icons, and reveals Russia's wonders at every turn.

## 7. The Host Country

### Geography

Russia is the largest country in the world, bordering 18 countries. Bounded by 12 seas of the Atlantic, Arctic and Pacific Oceans, the country's 17.1 million km<sup>2</sup> cover one-eighth of the earth's inhabited surface area.

Russia is a country of incomparable beauty, variety and extremes, encompassing the snow-capped peaks of the Ural and Caucasus mountains, the seemingly infinite Siberian forests, the broad rivers stretching across the continent and the deserts and grasslands of its central steppe. Russia is the land of Lake Baikal - the deepest and purest on earth - and of the Volga, the longest river in Europe.

No other country extends across nine of the earth's 24 standard time zones; as Russians in Vladivostok sit down to enjoy their evening family meals, their countrymen in Kaliningrad are rising to greet the sun's morning rays.

### Population

Russia's people are as astoundingly diverse as their country. Across this immense land live 143 million people, representing more than 140 nationalities and ethnic groups who speak over 100 languages and embody a wide range of beliefs, customs and historical legacies. Around 80 per cent of Russia's population resides in the European area of the country. In terms of population, Russia is the ninth largest nation in the world.

### Culture

Russia's contribution to the world's culture, arts and sciences is immense. Russia is home to more than 20 Nobel Prize winners, including the 20<sup>th</sup> century poets Boris Pasternak and Joseph Brodsky, scientist and human rights activist Andrei Sakharov and the first President of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev.



Russia enjoys a strong tradition in music, literature and the arts. Key figures include: composers Peter Tchaikovsky, Sergei Rakhmaninov and Dmitry Shostakovich; writers Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoyevsky and Anton Chekhov. The Bolshoi in Moscow and Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg are recognised opera and ballet brands.

## Sport

Russians are both dedicated to and fascinated by sports. The country has succeeded in a wide variety of sports, consistently performing among the best nations at international competitions. Football, however, is the one of the most popular sports in modern Russia. Football is universally loved and enthusiastically played year-round by the Russian people.

The quality of Russian football is on the rise, as is the performance of the Russian national and club teams. Clubs such as CSKA Moscow and Zenit St Petersburg (2005 and 2008 UEFA Cup winners respectively), Lokomotiv Moscow, Spartak Moscow and Rubin Kazan – with their remarkable achievements in the UEFA Champions League – rose to prominence through their success at continental level, while Russia’s national team reached the semi-finals at UEFA EURO 2008.

## 8. The Host Cities

### Kazan

Kazan, one of the oldest Russian cities, has recently celebrated its millennium. Modern Kazan is the capital of the Republic of Tatarstan and is home to 1.19 million residents. This timeless city is also a city of youth, home to 30 of Russia’s largest universities and more than 180,000 students. This “culture of youth” provides Kazan with a modern and progressive vibrancy, an energy that only young people can instil.

Visitors will also discover the ancient and fascinating Tatar culture in Kazan. A great centre of Muslim culture and a vivid example of how different ethnicities and religions can live peacefully together for many centuries. Kazan is at the forefront of Russian sport, home to some of the best football, basketball and hockey teams in the country. In 2013, the city hosted the Summer Universiade, and in 2015, the FINA World Championships.

- Founded in: 1005
- Population: 1,205,651
- Distance to Moscow: 825km

### [Kazan Arena](#)

Kazan Arena was built in preparation for the Summer World University Games in 2013. It was designed by the same firm of architects that planned Wembley Stadium and Emirates Stadium in London. Viewed from above, the arena, which stands on the banks of the Kazanka River, resembles a water lily. Kazan Arena is home to Rubin Kazan and hosts a whole range of entertainment shows, concerts and cultural events. In 2015, the pitch housed two swimming pools in order to host the FINA World Championships.

## Moscow

Founded in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Moscow is the capital of the Russian Federation and one of the most renowned and fascinating cities in the world. It is a dynamic 21<sup>st</sup> century metropolis showcasing some of the world's best shopping, nightlife, restaurants and culture. Moscow welcomes over four million tourists each year.

The city is blessed with beautiful architecture and such renowned cultural landmarks as the Bolshoi Theatre, the Kremlin, the Pushkin Fine Arts Museum and the Tretyakov Gallery, to name but a few. Moscow is also home to three UNESCO World Heritage sites, including the Kremlin and Red Square. The colourful St Basil's Cathedral on Red Square is a symbol of both Moscow and Russia.

- Founded in: 1147
- Population: 12,197,596

### [Spartak Stadium](#)

Spartak Moscow, the "people's team", is one of Russia's most popular football clubs. And yet, ever since it was founded in 1922, it has had to make do without its own stadium. In spring 2010, on the site of Moscow's former airfield in the district of Tushino, Spartak started building its own 45,000-seater stadium. The venue hosted its first match on 5 September 2014, when Spartak drew 1-1 with Red Star Belgrade.

## Sochi

The Black Sea resort of Sochi has risen to global prominence after having been awarded the 2014 Olympic Winter Games. Situated along 140km of the coast (the longest city in Europe) and against the backdrop of the Caucasus Mountains, this resort, now commonly referred to as the "Russian Riviera", has long been one of Russia's most popular tourist destinations and a truly great sports city.

The city offers countless opportunities for sports: mountain climbing, hang-gliding, diving, sailing, aqua biking, skiing and much more. The undisturbed forests surrounding the city are a UNESCO World Heritage site.

- Founded in: 1838
- Population: 470,443
- Distance to Moscow: 1679km

### [Fisht Stadium](#)

Located in the Olympic Park in Imeretin Valley in Sochi, Fisht Stadium was built for the Winter Olympics in February 2014, and hosted the opening and closing ceremonies. Fisht Stadium was originally named after Mount Fisht, a peak in the Caucasus range of mountains. The silhouette of the arena, which was designed by British architects, resembles a snow-capped mountain peak.

## St Petersburg

Founded by Peter the Great in 1703 as Russia's new imperial capital, St Petersburg is the ultimate embodiment of artistic talent. Europe's best architects and Russia's foremost creative talents, including Alexander Pushkin, Nikolay Gogol, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Dmitry Shostakovich and Joseph Brodsky, left their indelible imprints on this remarkable city.

From architecture and city planning to the performing talents of the Mariinsky Opera and Ballet to the masterpieces of the magnificent Hermitage Museum, everything in this delightful city is focused on beauty and elegance. The city's legendary drawbridges over the grand River Neva and the famous "White Nights" in June draw tens of thousands of tourists every year.

- Founded in: 1703
- Population: 4,848,800
- Distance to Moscow: 687km

### [Saint Petersburg Stadium](#)

In the same artistic tradition, a new state-of-the-art 68,134-seat stadium is being constructed on Krestovsky Island facing the Bay of Finland. Resembling a spaceship, it was designed by the famous architect Kisho Kurokawa. The stadium will have a retractable pitch, ensuring that the quality of the turf remains high regardless of the weather.

## 9. Match schedule

A total of 16 games will be played to decide the winner of the FIFA Confederations Cup. See [here](#) when and where the action will be taking place.

## 10. Volunteers

The volunteer programme presents thousands of people from Russia and other countries with the unique opportunity to be part of the FIFA Confederations Cup 2017. There are several stages in the programme, including the recruiting, selecting and training of volunteers in all four Host Cities, and finally organising their work during the event and appreciating their effort and dedication.

In total, there will be over 5,500 volunteers involved in the FIFA Confederations Cup 2017. The volunteers will provide support in areas such as ceremonies, transport, media, protocol, language services, doping control and fan services.

## 11. FIFA TV Broadcast Production

FIFA TV will provide its Media Rights Licensees (MRLs) with state-of-the-art broadcast production of the FIFA Confederations Cup in Russia, with top match directors and an impressive camera plan capturing all the drama and emotion from every match.

The production will be coordinated from the International Broadcast Coordination Centre, as with other tournaments. The competition gives FIFA TV the perfect opportunity to test-run its operations before the 2018 FIFA World Cup™, especially as one of the venues will have a close-to-full FIFA World Cup™ broadcast production set-up in place.



FIFA TV envisages great interest from broadcasters for coverage of the competition, in view of the growing importance of this event in the world sports TV calendar.