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Editor: Soccer

Title: U.S Hosts World Cup

Weekly Contributor: Sports

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The 2026 FIFA World Cup promises to be one of the most ambitious and historic tournaments in football history. For the first time, the tournament will be co-hosted by three countries: the United States, Canada, and Mexico. This marks a major expansion of the event, both geographically and structurally.

One of the most significant changes in 2026 will be the expanded format. The World Cup will grow from 32 teams to 48 teams, allowing more nations than ever to compete on the world’s biggest stage. This decision reflects FIFA’s goal of making football truly global, offering smaller and emerging footballing nations a chance to shine.

The matches will be spread across 16 host cities — 11 in the United States (such as New York City, Los Angeles, and Miami), 3 in Mexico (including Mexico City), and 2 in Canada (Toronto and Vancouver). This wide distribution aims to maximize fan engagement across North America, tapping into massive sports markets and diverse soccer cultures.

The United States will host the majority of the matches, including the final, likely to be played at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey. This choice reflects the country’s vast infrastructure and experience hosting major global sporting events, such as the 1994 World Cup and multiple Olympic Games.

With record-breaking projected attendance and viewership — expected to exceed 8.5 to 10 billion cumulative viewers — the 2026 World Cup will not only set new commercial benchmarks but also further cement soccer’s place as a truly global phenomenon. Innovations like augmented reality (AR), virtual experiences, and new broadcasting technologies are expected to make this tournament the most interactive World Cup in history.

In short, the 2026 FIFA World Cup will be a landmark event, uniting three nations under one banner and ushering in a bold new era for the world's most beloved sport.