

# Euro 2020 (Summer 2021)

The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Euro 2020 football tournament will take place in June and July of 2021 across different European cities. The tournament has been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## The Euros

The UEFA European Championship, commonly known as the Euros, is a football competition that is usually held every four years. Teams from across the continent compete to become the European champions. The last Euros were held in Paris in 2016 and the winning team was Portugal.

## Host Cities



The Euros are usually held in one country. However, the year 2020 marked 60 years since the first Euro tournament so it was decided that the tournament would take place across different European cities. The host cities are:

- Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Baku, Azerbaijan
- Bucharest, Romania
- Budapest, Hungary
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Glasgow, Scotland
- London, England
- Munich, Germany
- Rome, Italy
- St Petersburg, Russia
- Seville, Spain

The opening match will take place at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome. The semi-final matches and the final match will take place at Wembley Stadium in London. All other cities will host at least three matches.

## Euro 2020 Teams

A total of 55 national teams played in **qualifying matches**. The best-performing 24 teams were then put into six groups for the finals. These are the groupings for the group stage:


<b>Group A:</b> Italy Switzerland Turkey Wales	<b>Group B:</b> Belgium Denmark Finland Russia	<b>Group C:</b> Austria The Netherlands North Macedonia Ukraine
<b>Group D:</b> Croatia Czech Republic England Scotland	<b>Group E:</b> Poland Slovakia Spain Sweden	<b>Group F:</b> France Germany Hungary Portugal

## Tournament Stages

During the first group stage of the tournament, each team plays against the other three members of the same group. The winners and runners-up from each group, along with four other teams, will progress to the next stage of the tournament, known as the round of 16. The winning eight teams from the round of 16 will then move to the quarter-finals, where the four highest-scoring teams will earn a place in the semi-finals.

The two remaining teams will meet at the final to compete for the highly regarded trophy.

## Key Players



Each team has the chance to select the best of their nation's talent to compete as part of the national squad. It is considered a great honour to play for your nation's team and many of the best

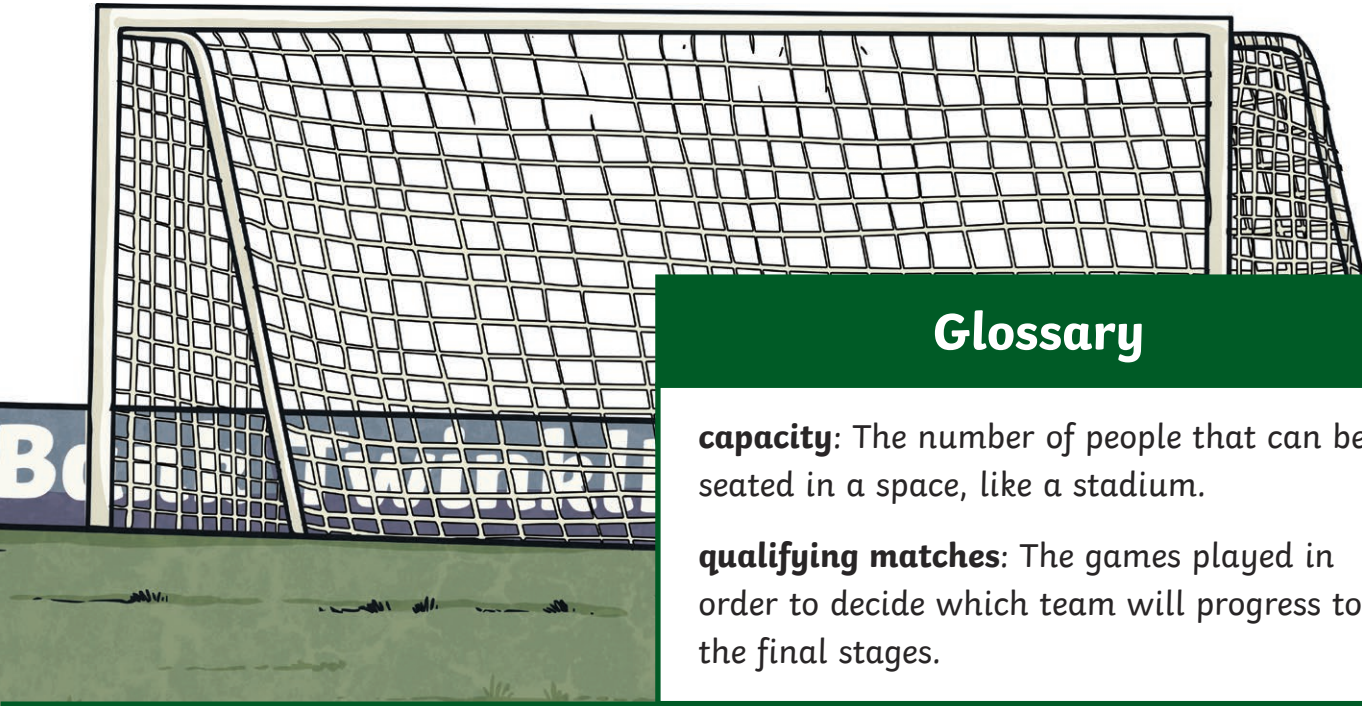
footballers in the world will take part in the Euros. Some of the big names expected to take part in the tournament include: Kylian Mbappé (France), Phil Foden (England), Robert Lewandowski (Poland) and Kevin De Bruyne (Belgium).

## Did You Know...?

Due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, the tournament was postponed for a year and the **capacity** of many of the stadiums has been reduced to allow for greater social distancing.

All 24 qualifying teams will receive at least €9.25m and the winning team could earn up to €34m.

## Glossary



**capacity:** The number of people that can be seated in a space, like a stadium.

**qualifying matches:** The games played in order to decide which team will progress to the final stages.

# Questions

1. Number the stages of the Euro 2020 tournament from 1-5 to show the order that they happen in. The first one has been done for you.

- 1 group stage
- quarter-finals
- semi-finals
- finals
- round of 16

2. Which country won the last Euros in 2016? Tick one.

- England
- France
- Spain
- Portugal

3. Look at the section called **Key Players**.

Find and copy a phrase that suggests that the Euros are a rare opportunity that brings pride.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Fill in the missing words.

The semi-final and the final matches will take place at \_\_\_\_\_ Stadium  
in \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Why has the Euro 2020 tournament been rescheduled?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. **The two remaining teams will meet at the finals to compete for the highly regarded trophy.**

Explain what the phrase 'highly regarded' tells us about the trophy.

\_\_\_\_\_

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7. ... the year 2020 marked 60 years since the first Euro tournament so it was decided that the tournament would take place across different European cities.

Discuss why you think the organisers decided to do this.

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8. Would you enjoy being in the crowd to watch a Euro 2020 match? Explain your answer.

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# Answers

1. Number the stages of the Euro 2020 tournament from 1-5 to show the order that they happen in. The first one has been done for you.

- 1 group stage
- 3 quarter-finals
- 4 semi-finals
- 5 finals
- 2 round of 16

2. Which country won the last Euros in 2016? Tick one.

- England
- France
- Spain
- Portugal**

3. Look at the section called **Key Players**.

Find and copy a phrase that suggests that the Euros are a rare opportunity that brings pride.

**great honour**

4. Fill in the missing words.

The semi-final and the final matches will take place at **Wembley** Stadium in **London**.

5. Why has the Euro 2020 tournament been rescheduled?

**The tournament has been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

6. **The two remaining teams will meet at the finals to compete for the highly regarded trophy.**

Explain what the phrase 'highly regarded' tells us about the trophy.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: The phrase 'highly regarded' tells us that the trophy is well respected and a great honour to receive.**

7. ... the year 2020 marked 60 years since the first Euro tournament so it was decided that the tournament would take place across different European cities.

Discuss why you think the organisers decided to do this.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the organisers decided to do this because it would be a nice way to celebrate around the continent of Europe. It is also a special event so a good opportunity to move away from the usual set-up.**

8. Would you enjoy being in the crowd to watch a Euro 2020 match? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think I would enjoy being in the crowd for a Euro 2020 match because I think it would be a great atmosphere and exciting to watch the game. I like football and this is one of the most important football tournaments.**



# Euro 2020 (Summer 2021)

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## The Euros

The UEFA European Championship, commonly known as the Euros, is a football competition involving national teams from across Europe. Typically held every four years, teams compete to become the continental champions. The last European Championship — hosted in Paris, France, in 2016 — was won by Portugal.

## Host Cities



The 2020 games were originally planned as a special event to celebrate the tournament's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Rather than being hosted by one nation, the games would be played in different venues across different nations during July 2020. The host cities are:

- Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Baku, Azerbaijan
- Bucharest, Romania
- Budapest, Hungary
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Glasgow, Scotland
- London, England
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The opening match will take place at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome. The semi-final matches and the final match will take place at Wembley Stadium in London. All other cities will host at least three matches.

## Euro 2020 Teams

In order to earn a place in the finals of the Euro 2020, a total of 55 national teams were put into groups to compete in qualifying matches. The best-performing 24 teams were then put into six groups for the finals. The groupings are as follows:

<b>Group A:</b> Italy Switzerland Turkey Wales	<b>Group B:</b> Belgium Denmark Finland Russia	<b>Group C:</b> Austria The Netherlands North Macedonia Ukraine
<b>Group D:</b> Croatia Czech Republic England Scotland	<b>Group E:</b> Poland Slovakia Spain Sweden	<b>Group F:</b> France Germany Hungary Portugal

## COVID-19

Due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, organisers were forced to postpone the Euro 2020 tournament until 2021 and many changes have been made to the traditional set-up. There are now 11 host cities (rather than 12) and the capacity of many of the stadiums has been reduced to allow for greater social distancing.

## Tournament Stages

The first stage of the tournament is the group stage where each team will play against the other three members of the same group. The winners and runners-up from each group, along with four other teams, will progress to the next stage of the tournament, known as the round of 16. During this stage, all 16 teams play one match. The winning eight teams will then move to the quarter-finals, where the four highest-scoring teams will earn a place in the semi-finals.

The final of Euro 2020 will see the remaining two teams competing for the prestigious prize.

## Prizes

As well as the glory and (perhaps even) the coveted trophy, there is also a large financial reward for being successful in the tournament. All 24 qualifying teams will receive at least €9.25m and the winning team could earn up to €34m.

## Key Players

Each team has the chance to select the cream of the crop of their nation's talent to compete as part of the national squad. Some of the big names expected to take part in the tournament include:



### Kylian Mbappé: France

Kylian Mbappé is one of France's key players. He was considered to be a teenage prodigy and he has been footballing since he was a young child.



### Phil Foden: England

Manchester City player, Phil Foden, rose to fame after playing a key role in the squad that won the U-17 (under 17s) World Cup in 2017.



### Kevin De Bruyne: Belgium

Kevin De Bruyne currently plays for Manchester City and is known for helping other members of his team to score goals (known as goal assists).



### Robert Lewandowski: Poland

Robert Lewandowski has scored over 40 goals for FC Bayern Munich and is Poland's all-time top goalscorer.



# Questions

1. How often are the Euros usually held? Tick one.

- every year
- every five years
- every four years
- every 10 years

2. **The tournament has been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Which word means the same as 'rescheduled'. Tick one.

- rearranged
- cancelled
- started
- relocated

3. Look at the section called **Key Players**.

Find and copy a phrase that suggests that some of the players will be well known to football fans.

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4. How many teams took part in the qualifying matches of Euro 2020?

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5. In which section of the text would you find information about how the winning teams progress to the final?

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6. Look at the section called **Euro 2020 Teams**.

Explain why you think that the table has been included in the text.

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7. **Each team has the chance to select the cream of the crop of their nation's talent to compete as part of the national squad.**

Think of another word or phrase that could be used instead of 'cream of the crop'.

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8. Discuss why Robert Lewandowski would be a good choice for the Polish national team.

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9. Discuss how you think players might feel about taking part in the Euros.

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# Answers

1. How often are the Euros usually held? Tick one.

- every year
- every five years
- every four years**
- every 10 years

2. **The tournament has been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Which word means the same as 'rescheduled'. Tick one.

- rearranged**
- cancelled
- started
- relocated

3. Look at the section called **Key Players**.

Find and copy a phrase that suggests that some of the players will be well known to football fans.

**Accept either of the following: cream of the crop; big names.**

4. How many teams took part in the qualifying matches of Euro 2020?

**A total of 55 national teams were put into groups to compete in qualifying matches.**

5. In which section of the text would you find information about how the winning teams progress to the final?

**Tournament Stages**

6. Look at the section called **Euro 2020 Teams**.

Explain why you think that the table has been included in the text.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the table has been included in the text because it provides valuable information about the teams and groups taking part in the finals. The use of a table also makes the information clearer to understand.**

7. **Each team has the chance to select the cream of the crop of their nation's talent to compete as part of the national squad.**

Think of another word or phrase that could be used instead of 'cream of the crop'.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Another phrase that could be used is 'best of the best'.**

8. Discuss why Robert Lewandowski would be a good choice for the Polish national team.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Robert Lewandowski would be a good choice for the team because he scores lots of goals and this will help the team in the tournament.**

9. Discuss how you think players might feel about taking part in the Euros.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the players might feel excited about the tournament but slightly anxious because they may feel the pressure to perform well. They may also feel proud to be representing their country in such an important tournament.**

# Euro 2020 (Summer 2021)

The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Euro 2020 football tournament, which has been rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will take place in June and July 2021 across multiple nations in Europe. This special Euro 2020 event was planned to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tournament.

## The Euros

The UEFA European Championship, commonly known as the Euros, is a football competition involving national teams from across Europe. Typically held every four years, teams (comprising each nation's finest players) compete to become the continental champions. The last European Championship — hosted in Paris, France in 2016 — was won by Portugal, who beat the host nation 1-0 in the final.

The 2020 tournament will be the first time that VAR (video assistant referee) technology will be used at the Euro, allowing other referees to use video evidence to help the referee on the pitch.

## Host Cities



The 2020 games were originally planned as a pan-European event to celebrate the tournament's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary: rather than being hosted by one nation, the games would be played in different venues across different nations during July 2020. The host cities are:

- Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Baku, Azerbaijan
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- Budapest, Hungary
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Glasgow, Scotland
- London, England

- Munich, Germany
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- Seville, Spain

The opening match will take place at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome. The semi-final matches and the final match will take place at Wembley Stadium in London. All other cities will host at least three matches.

## COVID-19

Due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, organisers were forced to postpone the Euro 2020 tournament until 2021 and many changes have been made to the traditional set-up. There are now 11 host cities (rather than 12) and the capacity of many of the stadiums has been reduced to allow for greater social distancing.



## Euro 2020 Teams

In order to earn a place in the finals of the Euro 2020, a total of 55 national teams were put into groups to compete in qualifying matches. The two best-performing teams in each group qualified for the finals, along with four other teams that earned a place through extra 'playoff' games. The 24 national teams taking part in Euro 2020 finals have been put into six groups:

<b>Group A:</b> Italy Switzerland Turkey Wales	<b>Group B:</b> Belgium Denmark Finland Russia	<b>Group C:</b> Austria The Netherlands North Macedonia Ukraine
<b>Group D:</b> Croatia Czech Republic England Scotland	<b>Group E:</b> Poland Slovakia Spain Sweden	<b>Group F:</b> France Germany Hungary Portugal

## Tournament Stages

The first stage of the tournament is the group stage where each team will play against the other three members of the same group. The winners and runners-up from each group will be joined by four of the best-performing third-placed teams to progress to the next stage of the tournament, known as the round of 16. During this stage, all 16 teams play one match. The winning eight teams will then move to the quarter-finals, where the four highest-scoring teams will earn a place in the semi-finals.

The final of Euro 2020 will see the remaining two teams competing for the prestigious prize.

## Prizes

As well as returning to their home nation with glory and perhaps even the coveted trophy, there is also a sizable financial reward for the teams that make a success of the tournament.

All 24 qualifying teams will receive at least €9.25m. The prize money then increases with successful completion of each stage of the tournament; the winning team could earn up to €34m.

## Key Players

Each team has the chance to select the cream of the crop of their nation's talent to compete as part of the national squad; the Euros will include a plethora of elite, high-profile players from the top footballing leagues. Some of the big names expected to take part in the tournament include:



### **Kylian Mbappé: France**

Kylian Mbappé is one of France's key squad members. He was hailed as a teenage prodigy and he has been honing his football skills since the age of six.



### **Phil Foden: England**

Manchester City player, Phil Foden, rose to fame after playing a key role in the squad that won the U-17 (under 17s) World Cup in 2017.



### **Kevin De Bruyne: Belgium**

The midfielder, Kevin De Bruyne, currently plays for Manchester City and is known for his impressive number of goal assists (helping other members of his team to score goals).



### **Robert Lewandowski: Poland**

Robert Lewandowski has scored over 40 goals for his club, FC Bayern Munich, and is Poland's all-time top goalscorer.

# Questions

1. Which city will host the opening match of the Euro 2020 tournament? Tick one.

- London
- Amsterdam
- Rome
- Baku

2. Why is the Euro 2020 event being held across multiple nations in Europe? Tick one.

- because these were the qualifying nations
- to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tournament
- due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- to make it easier for people to attend

3. Look at the section called **Key Players**.

Find and copy a word or phrase which means 'a select group with superior ability or qualities'.

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4. Why has the capacity of stadiums been reduced in many of the cities?

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5. How many teams will take part in the quarter-finals?

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6. Discuss how you think the players and teams may have felt when organisers were forced to postpone the Euro 2020 tournament.

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7. **Typically held every four years, teams (comprising each nation's finest players) compete to become the continental champions.**

Explain why you think that the author used the word 'typically' in this sentence.

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8. Discuss why Kevin De Bruyne would be a good choice for the Belgium national team.

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9. Why do you think VAR (video assistant referee) technology has been introduced in football matches?

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10. Summarise the UEFA European Championships in 25 words or fewer.

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# Answers

1. Which city will host the opening match of the Euro 2020 tournament? Tick one.

- London
- Amsterdam
- Rome**
- Baku

2. Why is the Euro 2020 event being held across multiple nations in Europe? Tick one.

- because these were the qualifying nations
- to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tournament**
- due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- to make it easier for people to attend

3. Look at the section called **Key Players**.

Find and copy a word or phrase which means 'a select group with superior ability or qualities'.

**Accept either of the following: cream of the crop; elite.**

4. Why has the capacity of stadiums been reduced in many of the cities?

**The capacity of many of the stadiums has been reduced to allow for greater social distancing.**

5. How many teams will take part in the quarter-finals?

**The winning eight teams will move to the quarter-finals.**

6. Discuss how you think the players and teams may have felt when organisers were forced to postpone the Euro 2020 tournament.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the players and teams may have felt disappointed and frustrated that the tournament was postponed because they would have been training hard.**



7. **Typically held every four years, teams (comprising each nation's finest players) compete to become the continental champions.**

Explain why you think that the author used the word 'typically' in this sentence.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the author used the word 'typically' because the tournament is usually held every four years but, in the case of Euro 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic meant that this was forced to change.**

8. Discuss why Kevin De Bruyne would be a good choice for the Belgium national team.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Kevin De Bruyne would be a good choice for the Belgium team because he is known for his goal assists: this skill should help the team to score goals and win games in the tournament.**

9. Why do you think VAR (video assistant referee) technology has been introduced in football matches?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think VAR technology has been introduced because it helps the referee with decisions on incidents that they may not see. Videos can also be paused and rewound to observe parts of the match in closer detail.**

10. Summarise the UEFA European Championships in 25 words or fewer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: The UEFA European Championships is a football tournament that takes place every four years. The 2020 event will take place in stadiums across Europe.**