

England's Three Lions will stay at The Inn at Meadowbrook in Prairie Village, Kansas, and training at Swope Soccer Village. First-round matches are in Dallas-June 17th, Boston - 23rd, and New York/New Jersey -June 27th.

Netherlands basecamp is at the KC Current's elite Riverside training facility in Missouri, and staying at the Cascade Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri

Algeria will set up training camp at the University of Kansas (Rock Chalk Park) in nearby Lawrence, Kansas, and staying at The Oread Hotel in Lawrence.

Matches at Kansas City (Arrowhead) Stadium

June 16: Argentina vs. Algeria
June 20: Ecuador vs. Curaçao
June 25: Tunisia vs. Netherlands
June 27: Algeria vs. Austria
July 3: Elimination Round of 32
July 11: Quarterfinal



Algeria — “Salam!” Desert Foxes! wear green and white, and enjoy a cool citrus drink, “Mint & Orange Blossom Lemonade,” that

blends refreshing mint with floral sweetness. **To serve 6:** Mix 4 cups cold water, the juice of 4 lemons, ¼ cup sugar or honey, and 1 Tbsp orange blossom water; add a handful of lightly crushed mint leaves and serve over ice.

In in Algiers they play Billes. Draw a circle in the dirt and place several *billes* (marbles) inside. Take turns using a larger shooter marble, called a *calot*, to try to knock marbles out of the circle.

You get 1 point for hitting a clear-based marble out of the circle; 2 points for solid-colored marbles, and 3 points for multicolored. If you knock a marble out, you keep it and shoot again and tally points to see who wins.



Austria — “Servus!” Das Team Fans! Wear red and white, and enjoy “Alpine Apple Spritzer,” a crisp sparkling apple drink,

that is light, bubbly, and refreshing. **To serve 6:** Combine 3 cups apple juice and 3 cups sparkling water over ice, then garnish with apple slices.

In Vienna they play Torbogen-Spiel, (Archboard). Take turns shooting your *murmeln* (marble) through numbered wooden arches. 1 point for 2-inch arch, 5 points for a 1.5-inch arch and 10 points for a 1-inch arch. The highest-scoring player win!



Curaçao — “Bon dia!” Blue Wave Fans! Wear bright blue with touches of yellow, and enjoy a cool tropical drink, “Awa di Komekomer,” bursting with cucumber and lime freshness. **To serve 6:** Blend 1 large cucumber with 4 cups cold water, stir in juice of 2 limes and 2–3 Tbsp honey or sugar, strain if desired, and serve over ice.

In Willemstad they play Knoniks. Draw a square on the ground. Place one *köniks* (marble) on each of the four corners. Place a white marble called a *lechosa* in the center. Shoot from behind a line aiming to first knock the corner marbles out of the square and then the white marble to win. If you hit the center *lechosa*, you lose the game.



Ecuador — Wear yellow, blue, and red, say “Buenos días!” La Tri Fans “ and enjoy empanadas, potato soup, and fresh juices.

In Quito they play Canicas. Draw a line in the dirt and set *canicas* (targets marbles across the line. From a pitch line, several feet away, players flick their shooter marble toward the targets marbles. Any marble knocked off the line is won by the player. If the shooter misses, you shoot on your next turn from where it lands. Any marble knocked off the line is captured.



England —Wear red-and-white scarves . Say, “Hello Three Lions Fan!” and enjoy mini pork

pies with brown sauce, warm fruit scones topped with clotted cream (thick, dairy spread), and strong English breakfast tea.

In London they play Ring Taw. Place up to 49 *taws* (marbles) in the middle of a circle. In England every Good Friday the ring is raised 8 inches. In teams of 2, take turns shooting from outside the ring. Keep score counting the marbles you knock out of the ring.





Mexico —“*¡Qué onda!*” **El Tri Fan!** Wear green, white, and red, and enjoy “Horchata”, a sweet, creamy cinnamon-spiced drink, that tastes like a rice pudding treat. **To serve 6–8:** Soak 1 cup uncooked white rice and 1 cinnamon stick overnight in 4 cups water; blend, strain, stir in ¼–½ cup sugar and 1 tsp vanilla (optional), ice cubes.



In Mexico City they play Carnicas: Place carnicas (marbles) in an *el pozo* (small hole) in the dirt. Shoot, standing a few steps away, with a **trombo** (large marble). Take turns aiming at knocking marbles out of the hole. You keep any carnicas you knock out of the hole.



USA —“*Hello. Nice to meet you!*” Wear red, white, and blue, Stars & Stripes and enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, and a cold drink.

In the United States they play Ringer. Set 13 marbles in the middle of a circle and shoot from the edge. If you knock one out, you shoot again from where you land. The first to knock out 7 wins.



Tunisia—“*Salam. Eagles of Carthage*” Wear red and white, and enjoy “Citronnade Tunisienne,” a bright citrus drink, that is extra zesty and refreshing. **To serve 6:** Blend 3 seeded organic lemons with 4 cups cold water and ¼ cup sugar, strain, and serve on over ice.

In Tunis they play Billes. Take turns shooting your *bissa* (marble) along a winding path in the dirt. If a marble leaves the path, you return to the previous spot for your next turn. Race to the end and back to win. You can also knock an marbles off the path, sending them back to the start.



Netherlands—“*Welkom!*” **Oranje Fan!** Wear orange and enjoy “Aardbeiensap,” (Strawberry Lemonade), a bright, fruity drink. **To serve 6:** Blend 2 cups strawberries with 4 cups cold water, stir in the juice of 2 lemons and ¼ cup sugar (to taste), strain if desired, and serve over ice.

In Amsterdam they play Knikkerput. Shoot your knikker (marble) aiming to land your marble inside a hole or striking an opponents’ marbles, knocking them farther from the hole. The first player to get their marble into the hole wins the game.



The World is Coming!

Mexico, USA and Canada will co-host the 2026 FIFA World Cup and Kansas City will host some of the greatest teams and players from around the world.

Argentina, the reigning FIFA World Cup champion, and legendary, Lionel Messi, are staying at the Origin Hotel, downtown Kansas City, Missouri, and will be training at Sporting KC’s Complex.



Greeting: “¡Hosa” La Albiceleste Fans! Wear sky blue and white, and enjoy a rich hot chocolate drink, “Submarino,” where a chocolate bar melts into steaming milk. **To serve 1:** Pour 1 mug hot milk into a cup, drop in 1 small chocolate bar, and stir til melted into hot chocolate.

In Buenos Aires they play El Hoyito. Take turns shooting your **bolita** (marble) aiming for a hole about 10 feet away. Anyone who sinks the opening shot wins the round and collects one marble from other players. On your next turn you shoot from where you land. You can also aim for and capture another player’s marble. The round ends when one player remains or someone sinks the winning shot.



Enjoy a mint or citrus Mate, lemonade with herbs, or peach or hibiscus iced tea at Buenos Aires Argentinian Restaurant and Bakery, in Shawnee, KS, 10919 Johnson Dr, Shawnee, KS 66203 (near the intersection of Johnson Drive and Nieman Road). (913) 325-1915.

Mexico will play in the opening match June 11th in Mexico City, against South Africa; June 18th in Guadalajara vs Korea Republic, and in Mexico City on June 24th facing Czechia.

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