**West Bromwich Albion Football Club** [/](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA_for_English)[ˈbrɒmɪtʃ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA_for_English#Key)[/](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA_for_English), also known as **West Brom**, **The Baggies**, **The Throstles**, **Albion** or **WBA**, is an English professional [football](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Association_football) club based in [West Bromwich](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Bromwich) in the [West Midlands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Midlands_(county)). The club was formed in 1878 and has played at its home ground, The Hawthorns, since 1900.

Albion were one of the founding members of [The Football League](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Football_League) in 1888 and have spent the majority of their existence in the top tier of English football. They have been [champions of England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_football_champions) once, in 1919–20, but have had more success in the [FA Cup](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FA_Cup), with five wins. The first came in [1888](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FA_Cup_Final_1888), the year the league was founded, and the most recent in [1968](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FA_Cup_Final_1968), their last major trophy. They also won the [Football League Cup](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Football_League_Cup) at the first attempt in [1966](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1966_Football_League_Cup_Final). The club's longest consecutive period in the top division was between 1949 and 1973, and from 1986 to 2002 they spent their longest ever spell out of the top division. The 2014–15 season is their ninth season in the top flight since 2002.

The team has played in blue and white stripes for most of the club's history. Albion have a number of long-standing rivalries with other West Midland clubs; their traditional rivals have always been [Aston Villa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aston_Villa_F.C.), though rivalry also exists with [Wolverhampton Wanderers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolverhampton_Wanderers_F.C.), with whom they contest the [Black Country derby](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Country_derby).