

Football in Turkey

Football is the most popular sport in **Turkey**, followed by basketball, tracing its roots to the Ottoman Empire.^[1] The first matches were played in Ottoman Salonica in 1875. The sport was introduced by English residents.^[2] The Turkish football league system comprises five professional leagues, one of which is dedicated to female athletes.

History

League system

Süper Lig

The Süper Lig (Super League) is the top division in Turkey since 1959. The league contains 18 clubs. The champions used to receive an automatic berth in the group stage of the European Champions League until the 2020/2021 season. Galatasaray, Fenerbahçe, Beşiktaş, and Trabzonspor are the most successful Turkish clubs that participate in the competition, having won the most titles so far. Galatasaray have won the highest number of Süper Lig trophies (the club won more Süper Lig and Turkish Cup trophies than any other team).

The league ushered in clubs from all over Turkey to compete with each other. Currently, clubs finishing in the top four places in the league enter qualifying rounds of European competitions, and the winners of the Turkish Cup, if not one of the top four, are also given a spot. The three teams with the fewest points each season are relegated to the TFF First League.

The top two teams are nominated for the UEFA Champions League while the 3rd and 4th placed clubs are nominated for the UEFA Europa League.


Reserve leagues

Clubs in the Turkish football league system do not have reserve teams with the exception of Gençlerbirliği and Altınordu. Hacettepe SK is the reserve side of Gençlerbirliği, and Nigde Anadolu FK is of Altınordu. Other clubs have U21 and U18 teams which compete outside the main league system.

Amateur football

Below the four professional leagues in Turkish football are amateur leagues. Amateur football clubs include:

- Seniors' First Amateur League: 2145 clubs

Football in Turkey	
	
Atatürk Olympic Stadium has capacity of 74,753 spectators.	
Country	Turkey
Governing body	TFF
National team(s)	Turkey
First played	1898
National competitions	
Leagues	
Men's:	
<u>Süper Lig</u>	
<u>TFF First League</u>	
<u>TFF Second League</u>	
<u>TFF Third League</u>	
Women's:	
<u>Women's Super League</u>	
<u>Women's First League</u>	
<u>Women's Second League</u>	
<u>Women's Third League</u>	
Cups	
<u>Turkish Cup</u>	
<u>Turkish Super Cup</u>	
International competitions	
Club	
<u>FIFA Club World Cup</u>	
<u>UEFA Champions League</u>	
<u>UEFA Europa League</u>	

- Seniors' Second Amateur League: 1743 clubs
- Seniors' Third Amateur League: 1 club
- Women's League: 9 clubs
- Juniors' First Amateur League: 27 clubs
- Juniors' Second Amateur League: 100 clubs
- Juniorslubs
 - Antalya: 10 clubs
 - Bursa: 16 clubs
 - Istanbul: 18 clubs
 - İzmir: 12 clubs
 - Diyarbakır: 7 clubs
 - Trabzon: 13 clubs
 - Samsun: 10 clubs

UEFA Europa Conference League

UEFA Super Cup

National team

FIFA World Cup

UEFA European Championship








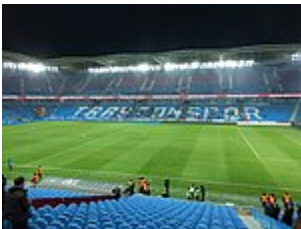
UEFA Nations League




Rams Park is home stadium of club Galatasaray.

Amateur clubs are put into leagues included in the Amateur League system and are eligible for promotion to the Turkish Third League.

Largest football stadiums in Turkey

#	Image	Stadium	Capacity	City	Home team(s)	Opened
1		<u>Atatürk Olympic Stadium</u>	74,753 ^[3]	<u>Istanbul</u>	Turkey, <u>Fatih Karagümrük SK</u>	2002
2		<u>Rams Park</u>	52,223 ^[4]		<u>Galatasaray SK</u>	2011
3		<u>İzmir Atatürk Stadium</u>	51,337 ^[5]	<u>İzmir</u>	<u>Karşıyaka SK</u>	1971
4		<u>Şükrü Saracoğlu Stadium</u>	47,834 ^[6]	<u>Istanbul</u>	<u>Fenerbahçe SK</u>	1908
5		<u>Bursa Metropolitan Municipality Stadium</u>	43,361 ^[7]	<u>Bursa</u>	<u>Bursaspor</u>	2015
6		<u>Vodafone Park</u>	42,590 ^[8]	<u>Istanbul</u>	<u>Beşiktaş JK</u>	2016
7		<u>Konya Metropolitan Municipality Stadium</u>	42,000 ^[9]	<u>Konya</u>	<u>Konyaspor</u>	2014
8		<u>Şenol Güneş Sports Complex</u>	40,782 ^[10]	<u>Trabzon</u>	<u>Trabzonspor</u>	2017

#	Image	Stadium	Capacity	City	Home team(s)	Opened
9		<u>Samsun 19 Mayıs Stadium</u>	33,919	<u>Samsun</u>	<u>Samsunspor</u>	2017
10	<u>Gaziantep Stadium</u>		33,502	<u>Gaziantep</u>	<u>Gaziantep F.K.</u>	2017

Cup competitions

The two major cup competitions are the Turkish Cup and Turkish Super Cup. The Turkish Cup includes clubs from every division. The Super Cup is an annual match held between the winners of the Süper Lig and Turkish Cup.

Now-defunct Turkish cup competitions include the Prime Minister's Cup, Atatürk Cup, Istanbul Football Cup and Spor Toto Cup.

Qualification for European competitions

Competition	Who Qualifies	Notes
UEFA Champions League group stage	Club finishing 1st in the Süper Lig	
UEFA Champions League third qualifying round	Club finishing 2nd in the Süper Lig	
UEFA Europa League third qualifying round	Club finishing 3rd in the Süper Lig	
UEFA Conference League second qualifying round	Club finishing 4th in the Süper Lig	
UEFA Europa League group stage	Winner of the <u>Turkish Cup</u>	If the winner is already guaranteed a place in Europe, the highest ranked club in Süper Lig which did not qualify to UEFA Champions League will replace them.
UEFA Europa League	Süper Lig club with the best UEFA Fair Play ranking that has not already qualified for Europe, but only if Turkey has the best fair play ranking or has a fair play score of above 8 and is one of the two countries drawn out of the hat	

In addition, once in a European competition, it becomes possible to qualify for others:

- All the losers of the Champions League third qualifying round go forward to the UEFA Europa League Play-off round
- All the losers of the Champions League play-off round go forward to the UEFA Europa League group stage
- Any clubs playing in the Champions League that finish third in the group stage go into the UEFA Europa League round of 32

European Competition Records

The following teams have made the last eight of European competitions:

UEFA Super Cup

- Galatasaray (**2000 – Champions**)

European Cup / UEFA Champions League

- Galatasaray (1988–89 – Semi-finals)
- Galatasaray (1962–63 – Quarter-finals)
- Galatasaray (1969–70 – Quarter-finals)
- Besiktaş (1986–87 – Quarter-finals)
- Galatasaray (1993–94 – Group stage)[‡]
- Galatasaray (2000–01 – Quarter-finals)
- Fenerbahçe (2007–08 – Quarter-finals)
- Trabzonspor (2011–12 – Group stage)*

- Galatasaray (2012–13 – Quarter-finals)

[‡] Galatasaray was one of the eight teams in the group stage of the 1993–94 UEFA Champions League, however, UEFA does not consider this a quarter-final participation.

*Fenerbahçe excluded due to matchfixing scandal

UEFA Cup / Europa League

- Galatasaray (**1999–00 – Champions**)
- Fenerbahçe (2012–13 – Semi-finals)
- Besiktaş (2002–03 – Quarter-finals)
- Besiktaş (2016–17 – Quarter-finals)

Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

- Göztepe (1968–69 – Semi-finals)

Balkans Cup

- Fenerbahçe (**1966–67 – Champions**)
- Sarıyer (**1991–92 – Champions**)
- Samsunspor (**1993–94 – Champions**)
- Eskişehirspor (1975 – Runners-up)

UEFA Cup Winners Cup

- Fenerbahçe (1963–64 – Quarter-finals)
- Göztepe (1969–70 – Quarter-finals)
- Bursaspor (1974–75 – Quarter-finals)

- [Galatasaray \(1991–92 – Quarter-finals\)](#)

UEFA Intertoto Cup

- [Kayserispor \(2006 – Joint Winners\)](#)
- [Trabzonspor \(2007 – Runners-up\)](#)
- [Sivasspor \(2008 – Runners-up\)](#)
- [İstanbulspor \(1997 – Semi-finals\)](#)
- [Samsunspor \(1998 – Semi-finals\)](#)
- [Trabzonspor \(1999 – Semi-finals\)](#)
- [Bursaspor \(1995 – Quarter-finals\)](#)

Turkey national team

The Turkey national team made its debut on October 26, 1923. The match ended in a 2–2 draw against the Romania. Turkey have qualified for the [FIFA World Cup](#) twice: 1954 and 2002. Their longest duration of competing for the Cup was coming third in the 2002 FIFA World Cup. Turkey also finished third in the 2003 Confederations Cup, reached the semi-finals of [Euro 2008](#) and played in the quarter-finals of [Euro 2000](#).^{[11][12][13][14][15]}

Women's football

Records

Seasons

1900s:					1904–05	1905–06	1906–07	1907–08	1908–09	1909–10
1910s:	1910–11	1911–12	1912–13	1913–14	1914–15	1915–16	1916–17	1917–18	1918–19	1919–20
1920s:	1920–21	1921–22	1922–23	1923–24	1924–25	1925–26	1926–27	1927–28	1928–29	1929–30
1930s:	1930–31	1931–32	1932–33	1933–34	1934–35	1935–36	1936–37	1937–38	1938–39	1939–40
1940s:	1940–41	1941–42	1942–43	1943–44	1944–45	1945–46	1946–47	1947–48	1948–49	1949–50
1950s:	1950–51	1951–52	1952–53	1953–54	1954–55	1955–56	1956–57	1957–58	1958–59	1959–60
1960s:	1960–61	1961–62	1962–63	1963–64	1964–65	1965–66	1966–67	1967–68	1968–69	1969–70
1970s:	1970–71	1971–72	1972–73	1973–74	1974–75	1975–76	1976–77	1977–78	1978–79	1979–80
1980s:	1980–81	1981–82	1982–83	1983–84	1984–85	1985–86	1986–87	1987–88	1988–89	1989–90
1990s:	1990–91	1991–92	1992–93	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	1999–00
2000s:	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10
2010s:	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20
2020s:	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24						

See also

- [List of Turkish football champions](#)
- [List of football clubs in Turkey](#)

- [Sport in Turkey](#)
- [Big Three \(Turkey\)](#)
- [Amputee football in Turkey](#)

Notes

1. Aslan Amani (2013-07-19). "Football in Turkey: A force for liberalisation and modernity?" (<http://www.opendemocracy.net/can-europe-make-it/aslan-amani/football-in-turkey-force-for-liberalisation-and-modernity>). openDemocracy. Retrieved 2014-06-24.
2. "Before the national Turkish leagues" (<http://www.angelfire.com/nj/sivritepe/5758/tl.html>). Erdinç Sivritepe. Retrieved 15 September 2018.
3. "Stat Arama Detay TFF" (<http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=110>). Archived (<https://archive.today/20190131175826/http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=110>) from the original on 2019-01-31. Retrieved 2012-04-23.
4. "Ali Sami Yen Spor Kompleksi Nef Stadyumu - GALATASARAY.ORG" (<https://www.galatasaray.org/s/ali-sami-yen-sk-turk-telekom-arena/60>). Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20211021124935/https://www.galatasaray.org/s/ali-sami-yen-sk-turk-telekom-arena/60>) from the original on 2021-10-21. Retrieved 2021-10-21.
5. "Stat Arama Detay TFF" (<http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=118>). Archived (<https://archive.today/20190131180146/http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=118>) from the original on 2019-01-31. Retrieved 2012-04-23.
6. "Ülker Stadyumu Fenerbahçe Şükrü Saracoğlu Spor Kompleksi - Fenerbahçe Spor Kulübü" (<https://www.fenerbahce.org/kulup/tesislerimiz/ulker-stadyumu-fenerbahce-sukru-saracoglu-spor-kompleksi>). Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210121215106/https://www.fenerbahce.org/kulup/tesislerimiz/ulker-stadyumu-fenerbahce-sukru-saracoglu-spor-kompleksi>) from the original on 2021-01-21. Retrieved 2021-10-21.
7. "Stat Arama Detay TFF" (<http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=6070>). Archived (<https://archive.today/20180701075456/http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=6070>) from the original on 2018-07-01. Retrieved 2016-01-16.
8. "Stat Arama Detay TFF" (<http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=6097>). Archived (<https://archive.today/20180701075914/http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=6097>) from the original on 2018-07-01. Retrieved 2016-08-28.
9. "Stat Arama Detay TFF" (<http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=5754>). Archived (<https://archive.today/20180701075448/http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=5754>) from the original on 2018-07-01. Retrieved 2015-12-27.
10. "Stat Arama Detay TFF" (<http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=6219>). Archived (<https://archive.today/20190131180444/http://www.tff.org/Default.aspx?pageID=394&stadID=6219>) from the original on 2019-01-31. Retrieved 2018-11-08.
11. James Davis (2002-04-28). "Turkey's world challenge born in Germany" (<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2002/apr/28/worldcupfootball2002.sport1>). The Observer. Retrieved 2014-06-24.
12. Ian Hawkey (2010-10-11). "Ozil's choice is Germany's gain and Turkey's loss" (<http://www.thenational.ae/sport/football/ozils-choice-is-germanys-gain-and-turkeys-loss>). The National. Retrieved 2014-06-24.
13. Flohr, Markus; Popp, Maximilian (2010-09-17). "Reverse Immigration: Turkey Recruits Players 'Made in Germany'" (<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/reverse-immigration-turkey-recruits-players-made-in-germany-a-717927.html>). Spiegel Online. Retrieved 2014-06-24.
14. McCarra, Kevin (7 October 2003). "German foundation beneath Turkey's rise to greatness" (<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2003/oct/07/newsstory.sport4>). *the Guardian*.
15. "Dawn of a new Turkish era - Soccer - www.theage.com.au" (<http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2004/05/15/1084570999598.html?from=storylhs>). *www.theage.com.au*.

External links

- [TurkishFootballNews.com](http://www.turkishfootballnews.com/) - your source for the latest in Turkish football (<http://www.turkishfootballnews.com/>)

- [Turkish soccer live scores and news and blog by Ahmet Bob Turgut \(http://www.turkish-football.com/\)](http://www.turkish-football.com/)
 - [All of results in Turkish Football \(http://www.amatorfutbol.org/\)](http://www.amatorfutbol.org/)
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Football_in_Turkey&oldid=1194223083"

▪