

# Availability of Alcohol during the 2022 FIFA World Cup, Qatar

## Will you get alcohol during Qatar World Cup Football 2022?

Alcohol will be available to football fans at the 2022 World Cup if you can afford it. Despite strict Islamic law on alcohol use, the proclamation indicates that Qatari authorities agree to supply you with venues – a clear indication that beer and other beverages may be available to ordinary fans. So what about drinking and alcohol during Qatar World Cup 2022?

The question of alcoholic beverages at the World Cup has put pressure on Qatari organizers since the predominantly Muslim nation gained the right to host the tournament back in 2010.

Speaking at the launch of the tournament's packages, Jaime Byrom, chairman of MATCH Hospitality, a tourist provider at the World Cup, said:

**“We expect people to be able to (drink).”**

It is a crime to drink alcohol or get drunk in public. However, alcohol is available in restaurants and hotel restaurants, and immigrants living in Qatar can obtain alcohol through the permit system. Do not carry Alcohol with you

(without taking it on the day of collection from the storehouse to your home).

## **Alcohol will be available to football fans at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.**

But, so far, only for those who buy hospitality packages, the contractor who makes the premium offerings said.

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Commenting on today's launch of the tournament packages, Jaime Byrom, chairman of MATCH Hospitality, a tourist provider at the World Cup, said: "We expect people to be able to (drink).

**"We expect it to be based on the decisions of others – of course, we will always adhere to any rules, regulations, or rules – for sure now, we plan to be able to provide alcohol in our hospitality program."**

In a sales speech, MATCH Hospitality highly commended their contribution to the World Cup, a Pearl Lounge box at the 80,000-seat Lusail stadium, which will feature "Mixologists, Champagne selection, Sommeliers, and Premium spirits." No price provided.

[Cristiano Ronaldo Football GIF](#) from [Cristianoronaldo GIFs](#)

***The sale and use of alcohol are strictly regulated in Qatar.***

Only bars and restaurants connected to luxury hotels are

allowed to serve, and one state-owned bottle shop sells liquor licensees.

Temporary visitors, including football fans, will not shop at the bottle store under current regulations. While alcohol prices have declined modestly in recent years, a pint of beer outside for fun hours often costs more than \$ 15, wine glasses of up to \$ 20.

Drunkenness is a public crime in Qatar, and there is no tolerance for driving at all.

Qatar tried a “wet fan area” during the FIFA Club World Cup where fans were allowed to drink alcoholic beverages outside of Doha. Beer costs about \$ 7, and supporters have responded positively.

That year, General Secretary of the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy Hassan al-Thawadi said that

**“Alcohol is not part of our culture, but hospitality.”**

There will be no fan base for this year’s Club World Cup host European champions Bayern Munich, which kicks off on Thursday due to tight COVID prevention measures.

**On January 1, Qatar increased the price of alcohol by 100%.**

This week, the Arab Gulf country has reduced costs by almost 30%. Despite lower prices, a case of beer at a liquor store in Qatar will still put a lid on a dry consumer’s bag for about \$ 64, according to Bloomberg – about \$ 2.66 a drink.

The January rate hike was part of a 50-100% tax on various items the government said were “harmful to health,” including tobacco, soft drinks, and sugary drinks. This has sparked

controversy over Alcohol-operated hotels and criticism on social media for football fans over the tiny nation's reaction to Alcohol's hosting of the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

*[Read: How Much Would You fix Budget to Go to the World Cup in 2022?](#)*

While it is not clear if this outrage was the cause of the drop in [prices](#) this month, the price hike shows how difficult it was to suggest a dry Qatari culture and its role as the manager of the closest competition for alcohol. World Cup fans drank so much in the host country of Russia last year that some bars ran out of beer. Budweiser has also been an official sponsor of FIFA for decades. However, the world governing body emphasizes that competitions keep the taps flowing – prompting Brazil in 2012 to reverse a 10-year ban on alcohol.

## **Budweiser: An official Sponsor**

At present, the purchase of alcohol from Qatar Distribution Company, the only supplier and retailer in the country, is only possible with permission. To get it, you must be a non-Muslim citizen and get approval from your employer ahead of time.

Last year, in an interview with RT, the head of Qatar's 2022 World Cup committee confirmed that Alcohol would be served during the matches, not only "in public places, on the streets, and so on. But there will be designated, open spaces where people will have access to alcohol." 1.5 million are expected to arrive in Qatar for the four-week international sporting event.

Guests will also purchase alcohol at about 40 licensed hotels and charge about \$ 50 (\$ 13.44) for beer.

**"Alcohol is legal in Qatar, during the 2022 World Cup"**

Nasser Al-Khater, chief executive of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, reminded concerned fans in March. "It may be slightly restricted compared to most other countries. However, it is available."

Despite the rapid social and economic changes the nation has seen in recent decades, alcohol consumption remains a problem in Qatar, transformed from a small pearl trading center into a diverse country and one of the world's highest GDP. About 90% of its people are now out because of this – which is probably why Alcohol is available.

## **Alcohol during Qatar World Cup Football 2022**

While many Qatar's neighbors in the Arab Gulf also restrict its sales and consumption, Liquor has a rich history in the Middle East. The planting and use of wine have been around for thousands of years. Alcohol is always available and cheap compared to Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, and elsewhere – as is the case in numerous Muslim countries in Asia and Africa.

Controlling the distribution of alcohol is one of Qatar's problems since it was taken in 2010 to become the 1st Arab country to host the FIFA World Cup. The tournament was to be held in the winter because of the hot weather. As a result, hundreds of immigrant workers were reportedly killed, putting up the infrastructure at the games, and FIFA officials were accused of bribing them during a bid.