

WHY PHAN FOR CROATIA?



2026 will mark Croatia's seventh World Cup appearance, and their fourth straight.



Nicknamed **Vatreni** ("The Fiery Ones"), Croatia's identity was forged in the 1990s after gaining independence in 1991 and beginning competition as an independent nation. That fiery spirit shows up everywhere, but especially in their iconic red-and-white checkered kits.

Croatia finished runner-up at FIFA World Cup in 2018 and third in 2022, proving this is a nation that thrives on the world stage. When Croatia plays, expect composure, grit, and big-moment confidence.



Player to Watch

Modrić led Croatia to the 2018 final and 2022 semi-final, anchoring midfield. Regarded as one of the greatest midfielders, he is the team's heartbeat. If Croatia makes another deep run, it may start at his feet.



Show the World How You Phan

Bring your Croatia pride to life!

Tag **@FWC26Philly** and use **#HowDoYouPhan** for a chance to be featured on our social channels. Whether it's your jersey, your chant, or your pre-match dance, we want to see it!

[DOWNLOAD SOCIAL MEDIA KIT](#)

Phan Gear: Print, Color, Create

Make your own Croatia-inspired fan flair! Perfect for watch parties, classrooms, or pre-match hype.

[DOWNLOAD PRINTABLE](#)



How Croatia Phans Get Hype

Croatia fans show up in red and white, carefully positioning themselves to create a living checkerboard pattern that mirrors the national kit. It's unmistakable.

One of the most powerful chants you'll hear:

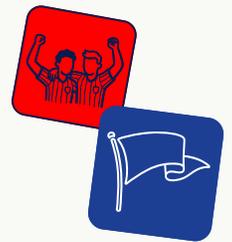


“U boj, u boj, za narod svoj!”

(“To battle, to battle, for our people!”)

The chant reflects national pride and the spirit that emerged after independence—and when thousands sing it together, it's impossible to ignore.

To Phan like Croatia: Wear the checks and get ready to sing LOUD.



Extra Time | Bonus Phan Content

Why the checkerboard? Croatia's famous red-and-white pattern is called the šahovnica (chessboard) and has been a national symbol for centuries. It appears on the country's coat of arms and is one of the most recognizable designs in international football.

PHAN WITH US AT THE FIFA FAN FESTIVAL™

The Beautiful Game is better together! Join the ultimate global watch party at Philadelphia's official FIFA Fan Festival™ at Lemon Hill in Fairmount Park. Here's what you can expect at this free, high-energy celebration of football, culture, and connection:

- Live broadcasts of matches on massive screens
- Cultural performances and entertainment
- Interactive fan experiences and photo moments
- Family-friendly activities and sponsor activations
- A sea of jerseys from every corner of the globe

Don't miss the chance to feel the roar, learn new chants, and celebrate the game together. No matter how you Phan, this is your home base!



STAY IN THE PHAN LOOP



**Don't miss a moment.
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updates, events, and
exclusive fan content:**



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