

Sell Iraq Vs Norway Tickets: Graham Arnold Confident Iraq Can Shock the World in Historic Qualification Push

Sell Iraq Vs Norway Tickets: Arnold's appointment represents a fascinating twist because his connection with Iraqi football stretches back more than twenty years. As assistant coach of the Australian Olympic team at the 2004 Summer Olympics, he watched Iraq's Olympic side make an astonishing run to the semi-finals.

[Iraq Dream of Historic Comeback as Graham Arnold Targets a World Cup Shocker](#)

He may not have known it at the time, but the genesis of Graham Arnold's latest coaching venture began more than two decades ago in the birthplace of Zeus. Given the lightning-bolt-bearing deity's connections to ancient sport, it was fitting that the seed was planted.

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At the Sporting of the XXVIII Olympiad. It was at Crete's Pankration Ring anywhere Australia, by Arnold helping as associate coach, would clatter with the country he now leads, Iraq, in the quarter-finals of the Blokes' Olympic Point Event. A year into a conflict that would span the next seven.

Iraq rose from chaos at home to down the Olyroos en route to a remarkable fourth-place finish at Athens 2004. The bulk of that team then went on to lift the Asian Cup three years later in the midst of the worst years of a war that touched almost every member of the squad.

Sell FIFA World Cup 2026: Graham Arnold Believes Iraq Can End 40-Year World Cup Drought Amid Nation's Football Revival.

With Arnold then in charge of the Socceroos for the first of two stints at the national team helm, he saw Iraq dazzle in a 3-1 win in Bangkok. By that point, he had no doubts whatsoever about the quality possessed by the Lions of Mesopotamia, as he explains to FIFA. It really began back in 2004.

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With that squad that wound up then winning the Asian Cup, it was clear what they could do. I've always felt, though, that they'd underachieved in World Cup qualification. It's been 40 years since the nation last qualified for the FIFA World Cup 2026, and that challenge also drew me to Iraq.

I knew from my time with Australia, where, before 2006, we also hadn't qualified for such a long time, what that can do. Getting back to the World Cup with a country that is so passionate about football can actually change the nation. Having resigned from Australia Post in September 2024.

Sell France Vs Iraq Tickets: Graham Arnold Guides Iraq to Intercontinental Play-Off Final After Dramatic Qualification Campaign

Arnold swiftly found himself back in the cut-and-thrust of FIFA 2026 conditions when he was paired with Jesus Casas at the wheel of Iraq in Possibly will of the following year. A 1-0 win on the path in Jordan in his additional competition in trust sent Iraq to the quarter finals of the AFC preliminaries.

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There, they only unsuccessful to secure direct qualification on goal difference, having over level with Saudi Arabia, before a 107th-minute consequence saw the state edge the UAE in the fifth round to reach the Play-Off Contest. Seeded finished in the Play-Off Final.

[Sell FIFA World Cup: Iraq One Win Away from Historic Return as Graham Arnold Eyes Bold Play-Off Approach](#)

Iraq's attitude now is just one competition away after reaching forgiveness, which would be a lone additional presence at the global championships, and a primary since 1986. Also, Bolivia or Suriname, who clashed five days ago, will be their adversaries in Monterrey on 31 March. For Arnold, though, the attention is all on his own lineup.

[Graham Arnold confident in Iraq's World Cup dream](#)

- Coach Graham Arnold has faith that Iraq can surprise the issue world and be suitable for the FIFA World Cup 2026 after nearly 40 years away.
- Arnold's association with Iraq dates back to the 2004 Olympics, where he saw Iraq's remarkable run to the semi-finals.
- Iraq reached the international play-off final after an affected qualifying campaign and now stands one win away from the World Cup.
- The coach says Iraq will go full gas and leave everything on the pitch in pursuit of a historic return to football's biggest stage.

I really can't tell you who I think will win between Bolivia and Suriname, but the most significant thing is that we get belongings right by ourselves. We have to be sure that our groundwork is correct and that the companies are fit and primed. Then, we go for it. I can tell you that we won't go there annoying not to lose. For now, to learn more about the [sell Iraq Vs Norway Tickets](#).

Sell Senegal Vs Iraq Tickets: Graham Arnold Vows Iraq Will Leave Everything on the Pitch in Bid for Historic Qualification

When we get on that pitch, we'll give it full gas for 95 or 120 minutes, or however long it takes to win that game. This squad has been on the edge four times in six months. It's been such an intense effort to get to this point. This is the 21st qualifier we'll have played, whereas some nations play only eight to get to the Football World Cup 2026.



Having come this far, we will leave everything on the pitch and go for it from the very first minute because I want to do this for the Iraqi people. With a distinguished playing career that saw him earn 56 Socceroo caps and an even more decorated coaching spell, Arnold has been in the game now for an almost unbroken run of four-and-a-half decades.

Four Olympics, three World Cups, mainland contests at club and nationwide level. Argentina at Tokyo 2020 and an incident in which the Socceroo became the first team to win 11 successive qualifiers in a single movement. Across a training career at the global level that spans 253 competitions, with 133 wins and 54 draws.

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Who is leading Iraq's push for FIFA World Cup 2026 qualification?

Former Australia trainer Graham Arnold is foremost Iraq's national team in its qualification campaign.

Why is Graham Arnold confident about Iraq's chances?

Arnold trusts Iraq has the talent, hunger, and willpower to surprise the rugby ball world and secure a historic qualification.

How long has Iraq been absent from the FIFA World Cup?

Iraq has not qualified for the [FIFA World Cup 2026](#) since 1986, nearly 40 years ago.

What inspired Arnold's connection with Iraqi football?

His joining dates back to the 2004 Olympic Games, where he observed Iraq's extraordinary run to the semi-finals.

What achievement did Iraq accomplish after the 2004 Olympics?

Many players from that Olympic squad far along helped Iraq success the 2007 AFC Asian Cup.

How did Iraq reach the intercontinental play-off stage?

Iraq [Group I FIFA World Cup](#) advanced concluded dramatic AFC stipulation rounds, together with a late extra-time conquest over the United Arab Emirates.

Who could Iraq face in the play-off final?

Iraq could express either Bolivia or Suriname in the conclusive requirement match.

What approach will Arnold take into the play-off final?

Arnold says Iraq will go full gas and attack the game rather than play defensively.

Why does Arnold consider qualification important beyond football?

He believes reaching the World Cup could unify and stimulate the Iraqi people throughout a significant moment in the nation's football history.

How can fans buy or sell World Cup tickets safely?

Fans can use secure platforms like [Xchangetickets.com](#), which connect real supporters and provide a marketplace for buying and selling FIFA World Cup 2026 tickets safely.