

**Relaxation of licensing hours during the FIFA Men’s Football World Cup 2026**

The Government have announced that licensed premises in England and Wales already licensed to 11pm, and subject to their existing licence conditions, can remain open for the sale and supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises and provision of late-night refreshment for the FIFA Men’s Football World Cup 2026

The purpose of the national relaxation of licensing hours during the World Cup 2026 semi-finals and the final would be to enable communities to come together to celebrate this achievement and support their national team. Licensing hours would not be relaxed beyond 1:00am. After these licensed hours, premises would not be able to sell alcohol under the licensing hours order

<b>The licensing hours will extend only when a home nation team, England or Scotland are playing</b>	<b>This will be applicable for the following stages -</b>
<p>kick-offs from 5pm up to 9pm - licensing hours will extend from 11pm to 1am</p> <p>kick-offs after 9pm up to 10pm - licensing hours will extend from 11pm to 2am</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• round of 32 fixtures</li> <li>• round of 16 fixtures</li> <li>• quarter-final fixtures</li> <li>• semi-finals fixtures</li> <li>• bronze medal match</li> <li>• final</li> </ul>

**Planning Ahead**

At least one TEN is required whether England finish first, second or third so planning ahead for TENs is highly recommended to cater for all potential England finishing places in Group L.

Matches starting before 5pm or after 10pm will not benefit from a national extension. Premises can apply for a Temporary Event Notice via our dedicated webpages via the following link <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/licensing/premises-and-alcohol-licences/temporary-event-notice>

**Useful Information Links**

**Home Office – Official information release** <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/relaxation-of-licensing-hours-for-the-mens-football-world-cup-2026/contingent-relaxation-of-licensing-hours-during-the-semi-finals-and-final-of-the-fifa-mens-football-world-cup-2026>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/relaxation-of-licensing-hours-for-the-mens-football-world-cup-2026>

**FIFA World Cup 2026 Fixtures**

<https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/articles/match-schedule-fixtures-results-teams-stadiums>