

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE - 2020/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Bayer 04 Leverkusen

BayArena - Leverkusen

Thursday 22 October 2020
18.55CET (18.55 local time)

Group C - Matchday 1



OGC Nice

Last updated 29/10/2020 22:12CET



Match background	2
Legend	3

Match background

Last season's quarter-finalists Bayer Leverkusen kick off their 2020/21 UEFA Europa League campaign with a Group C fixture at home to Nice, their first in UEFA competition against the team from the south of France.

Previous meetings

- Leverkusen's first home match with French opposition was a 1-0 victory against Toulouse in the second round of the 1987/88 UEFA Cup, a competition the German club went on to win. Their overall home record against teams from France is W5 D1 L3, the most recent encounter a 3-0 win against already-qualified Monaco on Matchday 6 of the 2016/17 UEFA Champions League.
- Nice's first encounter in the UEFA Europa League group stage was at home to Schalke in 2016/17. They lost that game (0-1) and the return in Germany (0-2), making it three defeats and no goals from their three visits to the country.

Form guide

Leverkusen

- Fifth place in the 2019/20 Bundesliga earned Leverkusen a return to the UEFA Europa League, where they reached the quarter-finals last season after finishing third in their UEFA Champions League group. They won both legs against Porto in the round of 32 (2-1 h, 3-1 a) and Rangers in the round of 16 (3-1 a, 1-0 h) before losing their quarter-final in nearby Düsseldorf 2-1 to Internazionale. They also reached the final of last season's DFB-Pokal, losing 4-2 to Bayern München.
- This is Leverkusen's sixth appearance in the UEFA Europa League proper and fourth in the group stage. They have never failed to progress to the knockout phase, topping the group in their most recent participation two seasons ago ahead of Ludogorets, Zürich and AEK Larnaca.
- The Werkself were undefeated in nine UEFA Europa League matches (W6 D3) until last season's quarter-final defeat by Inter. Their overall home record in the competition, play-offs included, is W11 D5 L2.

Nice

- After two years without European football, Nice qualified for a third appearance in the UEFA Europa League group stage after finishing fifth in the truncated 2019/20 Ligue 1 campaign.
- Les Aiglons finished bottom of their group in 2016/17 but progressed as runners-up the following year in a section comprising Lazio, Vitesse and Zulte Waregem before going out to Lokomotiv Moskva (2-3 h, 0-1 a) in the round of 32.
- Nice have won two and lost four of their six away fixtures in the UEFA Europa League group stage. Their last three games on the road in the competition have all been 1-0 defeats.

Links and trivia

- Nice coach Patrick Vieira was in the Arsenal side that drew 1-1 at Leverkusen in the 2001/02 UEFA Champions League second group stage then won the return fixture 4-1, in which he scored the Gunners' third goal. The German side nevertheless went on to contest the final.
- Leverkusen coach Peter Bosz was in charge of an Ajax side featuring Nice striker Kasper Dolberg in 2016/17. Leverkusen's Daley Sinkgraven was also an Ajax player throughout Dolberg's time in Amsterdam (2015–19).
- Nice skipper Dante played in Germany for Borussia Mönchengladbach (2009–12), Bayern München (2012–15) and Wolfsburg (2015/16). The Brazilian defender won three Bundesliga titles, two German Cups, the UEFA Champions League, UEFA Super Cup and FIFA Club World Cup with Bayern. Leverkusen's Mitchell Weiser was his team-mate at the Munich club.
- Leverkusen winger Moussa Diaby is a French youth and Under-21 international who joined the club from Paris Saint-Germain in 2019. Nice defender Stanley Nsoki is his former Paris team-mate.
- Leverkusen's fourth appearance in the UEFA Europa League group stage is a record for a German club.
- The Rhineland club are one of six former UEFA Cup winners in this season's UEFA Europa League group stage – along with PSV Eindhoven (Group E), Napoli (F), Tottenham (J), CSKA Moskva and Feyenoord (both K).

Legend

Competitions

Club competitions

UCL: UEFA Champions League
ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup
UEL: UEFA Europa League
UCUP: UEFA Cup
UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup
SCUP: UEFA Super Cup
UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup
ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

National team competitions

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship
WC: FIFA World Cup
CONFCUP: FIFA Confederations Cup
FRIE: Friendly internationals
U21FRIE: Under-21 friendly internationals
U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship
U17: UEFA Under-17 Championship
U16: UEFA European Under-16 Championship
U19: UEFA Under-19 Championship
U18: UEFA European Under-18 Championship
WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup
WEURO: UEFA European Women's Championship

Competition stages

F: Final	GS: Group stage	(aet): After extra time	pens: Penalties
GS1: First group stage	GS2: Second group stage	No.: Number	og: Own goal
3QR: Third qualifying round	R1: First round	ag: Match decided on away goals	P: Penalty
R2: Second round	R3: Third round	Pld: Matches played	agg: Aggregate
R4: Fourth round	PR: Preliminary round	Pos.: Position	AP: Appearances
SF: Semi-finals	QF: Quarter-finals	Pts: Points	Comp.: Competition
R16: round of 16	QR: Qualifying round	R: Sent off (straight red card)	D: Drawn
R32: Round of 32	1QR: First qualifying round	Res.: Result	DoB: Date of birth
1st: first leg	2QR: Second qualifying round	sg: Match decided by silver goal	ET: Extra Time
2nd: second leg	FT: Final tournament	GF: Goals for	GA: Goals against
PO: Play-off	ELITE: Elite round	gg: Match decided by golden goal	t: Match decided by toss of a coin
Rep: Replay	3rdPO: Third-place play-off	Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)	W: Won
PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament	GS-FT: Group stage – final tournament	f: Match forfeited	Y: Booked
			L: Lost
			Nat.: Nationality
			N/A: Not applicable

Statistics

-: Denotes player substituted
*****: Denotes player sent off

+: Denotes player introduced
+/-: Denotes player introduced and substituted

Squad list

D: Disciplinary

*****: Misses next match if booked

S: Suspended

QUAL: All UEFA qualifiers

UEL: Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday

UEL: Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final only

UEFA: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competition including qualifying

Disclaimer: Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein. More information can be found in the competition regulations available on UEFA.com.