

# UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP - 2019/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



**Portugal**

**Stadion Stožice - Ljubljana**

Sunday 28 March 2021  
21.00CET (21.00 local time)  
Group D - Matchday 2



**England**

Last updated 26/03/2021 14:50CET

## UEFA UNDER 21 OFFICIAL SPONSORS



Match background

2

Legend

4

## Match background

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There has been little to separate Portugal and England in their previous UEFA European Under-21 Championship meetings as they face off on Matchday 2.

- This Group D encounter at the Stadion Stožice in Ljubljana brings together two teams who have been finals regulars in recent years, with Portugal featuring for the third time in the last four U21 tournaments and England in the group stage for the eighth U21 EURO in a row.
- Portugal were 1-0 winners against Croatia in their opening fixture thanks to substitute Fábio Vieira's 68th-minute strike, while England went down to Switzerland by the same scoreline.

### Previous meetings

- The teams' last meeting came at the Toulon Tournament in 2016, England's Lewis Baker scoring the only goal.
- The sides' last three European U21 Championship games have also finished 1-0, the most recent a Portugal success in the 2015 group stage in the Czech Republic. João Mário got the only goal in the 57th minute, giving his side the win that helped them top Group B on five points; England finished bottom on three.
- That ended Portugal's four-game winless run in competitive fixtures against England, and was their first victory since a 2-1 success in Liverpool on 9 September 2003. England beat Portugal 1-0 home and away in qualifying for the 2011 finals thanks to goals from Danny Rose (in London) and Daniel Sturridge (in Barcelos).
- Portugal were 3-1 winners when the teams met in the 2002 group stage, goals from Filipe Teixeira (7), Ariza Makukula (20 pen) and Hugo Viana (69) securing victory despite Alan Smith's 43rd-minute response. Portugal still missed out on a semi-final place, finishing third in Group B with England fourth.
- Portugal have won five of the sides' ten competitive meetings (D2 L3), including home (4-2) and away (2-1) in qualifying ahead of the 2004 edition, Hélder Postiga and Ricardo Quaresma scoring in each game with Cristiano Ronaldo also on target in Rio Maior.
- Aaron Ramsdale and Ryan Sessegnon were in the England team that beat Portugal 2-1 in the final of the 2017 European U19 Championship. Diogo Costa, Diogo Queirós, Diogo Dalot and Gedson Fernandes featured for Portugal, with Diogo Leite and Florentino Luís unused substitutes.

### Form guide

#### Portugal

- Portugal's last finals appearance came in 2017, when they were eliminated after finishing second in Group B behind Spain. They were victorious against Serbia (2-0) and North Macedonia (4-2), but a 3-1 loss against their Iberian neighbours on Matchday 2 proved crucial.
- Rui Jorge's side lost the 2015 final to Sweden on their first appearance in the tournament since 2007. They had also been runners-up in 1994 before a quarter-final finish two years later. Subsequently the Portuguese came third in 2004, yet have otherwise been eliminated in the final tournament group stage – in 2002, 2006 (as hosts), 2007 and 2017.
- In charge since 2010, Rui Jorge guided his side to second place in Group 7 in qualifying for the 2021 finals. Portugal finished level with the Netherlands on 27 points, a 4-2 away defeat by the Dutch in their third fixture leaving them behind their opponents on head-to-head record in the final standings. Portugal won their other nine qualifiers, including the last seven, finishing with a 2-1 home victory against the Netherlands. They had the best record of all nine group runners-up.
- Portugal have now won ten of their 24 games at U21 EURO final tournaments (D7 L7).

#### England

- England have qualified for their eighth successive U21 final tournament – the longest ongoing sequence in the competition. They failed to win a game in Italy two years ago, conceding twice late on to lose to both France (1-2) and Romania (2-4) and drawing with Croatia (3-3) to finish third in Group C.
- England have made it past the initial group stage three times in those seven finals appearances although the 2017 defeat on penalties by eventual champions Germany in the last four is their only knockout appearance in the last five final tournaments; runners-up in 2009, they also lost in the 2007 semi-finals.
- This is England's tenth participation in an eight or 12-team U21 finals; six of those previous nine campaigns ended in the group stage.
- Champions in 1982 and 1984, England also reached the semi-finals in 1978, 1980, 1986 and 1988.
- England have won only three of their last 17 group games at the final tournament (D5 L9) and none of the last four

(D1 L3).

- In qualifying for these finals Aidy Boothroyd – who has been in charge since 2016 – oversaw an unbeaten campaign, England winning nine of their ten fixtures to finish on 28 points, ten clear of Austria at the top of Group 3.
- England have reached each of the last four U21 final tournaments without losing a game. Their last qualifying defeat was a 2-1 loss in Belgium on 14 November 2011; their subsequent record is W37 D6.
- Eddie Nketiah was the top scorer in qualifying overall with 13 goals. He is England's all-time U21 top scorer on 16.

#### **Links and trivia**

- Have played in England:

Vitinha (Wolverhampton Wanderers loan 2020–)

Gedson Fernandes (Tottenham loan 2020–21)

Diogo Dalot (Manchester United 2018–20)

Pedro Gonçalves (Wolverhampton Wanderers 2017–19)

João Virgínia (Arsenal 2015–18, Everton 2019–, Reading loan 2019/20)

Pedro Pereira (Bristol City 2019/20 loan)

- Have played together:

Gedson Fernandes & Japhet Tanganga, Oliver Skipp, Ryan Sessegnon (Tottenham 2020)

João Virgínia & Emile Smith Rowe, Eddie Nketiah (Arsenal 2015–18)

João Virgínia & Ben Godfrey, Tom Davies (Everton 2020–)

- Goals from Fábio Vieira and Diogo Queirós helped Porto beat Chelsea 3-1 in the final of the 2018/19 UEFA Youth League; Diogo Costa, Diogo Leite, João Mário and Vitinha also featured for the Portuguese club.
- Gonçalo Ramos scored twice as Benfica beat Liverpool 4-1 in the 2019/20 UEFA Youth League round of 16.

## Legend

### :: Squad list

**No:** number **DoB:** date of birth **Qual:** qualifying **FT:** final tournament **Pld:** played **Gls:** goals **Overall U21:** all-time qualifying and final tournament data

### :: Match officials

**Nat:** nationality **DoB:** date of birth

**Under-21:** Total matches officiated in the UEFA European U21 Championship including all qualifying round matches. Matches as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

**UEFA:** Total matches officiated in all UEFA competitions including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

### :: Group statistics/Tournament schedule

**Pos:** position **Pld:** played **W:** won **D:** drawn **L:** lost **GF:** goals for **GA:** goals against **Pts:** points

### :: NOTE: All-time statistics

Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out.

## 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  
**GS1:** First group stage  
**GS2:** Second group stage  
**3QR:** Third qualifying round  
**R2:** Second round  
**R4:** Fourth round  
**SF:** Semi-finals  
**R16:** round of 16  
**R32:** Round of 32  
**1st:** first leg  
  
**2nd:** second leg  
**PO:** Play-off  
**Rep:** Replay  
**PO - FT:** Play-off for Final Tournament  
  
**GS:** Group stage  
**R1:** First round  
**R3:** Third round  
**PR:** Preliminary round  
**QF:** Quarter-finals  
**QR:** Qualifying round  
**1QR:** First qualifying round  
**2QR:** Second qualifying round  
**FT:** Final tournament  
**ELITE:** Elite round  
**3rdPO:** Third-place play-off  
**GS-FT:** Group stage – final tournament

## Other abbreviations

**(aet):** After extra time  
**No.:** Number  
**ag:** Match decided on away goals  
**Pld:** Matches played  
**Pos.:** Position  
**Pts:** Points  
**R:** Sent off (straight red card)  
**Res.:** Result  
**sg:** Match decided by silver goal  
**GF:** Goals for  
**gg:** Match decided by golden goal  
**Y/R:** Sent off (two yellow cards)  
**f:** Match forfeited  
  
**pens:** Penalties  
**og:** Own goal  
**P:** Penalty  
**agg:** Aggregate  
**AP:** Appearances  
**Comp.:** Competition  
**D:** Drawn  
**DoB:** Date of birth  
**ET:** Extra Time  
**GA:** Goals against  
**t:** Match decided by toss of a coin  
**W:** Won  
**Y:** Booked  
**L:** Lost  
**Nat.:** Nationality  
**N/A:** Not applicable

## Statistics

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-: Denotes player substituted

+: Denotes player introduced

\*: Denotes player sent off

+/-: Denotes player introduced and substituted

## Squad list

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**D:** Disciplinary

\*: Misses next match if booked

**S:** Suspended

**Overall:** Total appearances in the UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament only

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