

FIRST TIME: The World Cups played in the 20th Century

1930 - July 13th to July 30th, URUGUAY

Thirteen teams played in the first edition of the tournament as guests. Due to travel difficulties, only 4 European teams participated. The uruguayan mail was the only one, among all World Cup editions, not to issue stamps alluding to the event at the time of the competition. However, decades later, it issued commemorative stamps recalling the first edition of the competition, their first achievement and the inauguration of the Centenario Stadium in Montevideo, built for these games.



2005 issuance: Uruguay, the first host country of the World Cups. Cup opening ceremony.



Final match: Uruguay 4x2 Argentina

1979: 1st World Cup, Centenario Stadium - monument to football, bottom margin with emphasis on the stadium

The Centenario stadium was built in record time (8 months) and had a cost of 1.5 million dollars, considered low for the values at the time. The audience for the competition was 590,549 people in a total of 18 matches.

1934 – May 27th to June 10th, ITALY

The second edition of the Football World Cup had 16 participants classified through knockouts. In protest to the European teams, the Uruguayan team did not compete. It was the first and only edition in which the winning team of the previous edition did not defend its title. The Italian Post issued 9 stamps in commemoration of the ultimate football event.



1934 Issuance: one of the first official Cup stamps



Final match: Italy 2x1 Czechoslovakia

1990: paraguayan mail recalls one of the first official Cup stamps



The 17 games in the tournament had a total attendance of 363,000 fans. Dictator Benito Mussolini used the competition to spread his fascist ideas, taking advantage of the success obtained by the tournament 4 years earlier in Uruguay.