

The History of the Football World Cup under the Eye of Philately



05/31/1997: From the block of stamps with the 10 host cities, the highlight is the city of Lyon which, in addition to 5 matches in the group stage, hosted the confrontation between Germany and Croatia in the quarter-finals

12/12/1995: the movement of players on the field of play. In highlight, the official emblem of the competition



Envelope transported in 4 Cups/Countries (having traveled more than 29,400km) with 4 stamps issued by the host countries: Mexico, in 1986 (upper right corner) stamp of the final between Argentina and Germany on 06/29/86; Mobile unit at Azteca Stadium, stage of the final; Italy, in 1990 (upper left corner) stamp of 12/09/89, in Rome; United States, in 1994 (lower left corner) postmarked 07/17/1994, in Los Angeles and France, in 1998 (lower right corner) postmarked 12/12/1995, in Paris.

SECOND HALF – Cups in the 21st Century

2002 – May 31st to June 30th, JAPAN and SOUTH KOREA

In addition to being the first tournament held in the new century, the 2002 edition was the first World Cup on the Asian continent and also the first hosted jointly by 2 countries. The 32 competing teams were divided into 20 cities: 10 Japanese and 10 South Korean. In this edition, 4 countries made their debut in World Cups: Ecuador, Slovenia, China and Senegal (which reached the quarter-final stage finishing in 7th place). The host team, South Korea, finished in 4th place, the best position in the history of Asian countries in this tournament. Brazil is the only five-time world champion to this day. The tournament's 64 matches attracted a total of 2,705,197 fans.

While Japan issued only 5 stamps highlighting the World Cup mascots and trophy, South Korea's mail surpassed all issues about the event so far: 56 pieces in total.

Champions: **Brazil** Runners-up: **Germany**