



20 YEARS FOLLOWING ENGLAND AWAY

The Ups and Downs of a Travelling England Football Supporter

Stadiums, riots, road trips and run-ins abroad — the places and the people, not the football scores.

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THE JOURNEY SO FAR

1993 to 2013, one match at a time

20

years on the road

18

countries visited

30+

England matches

1

very patient girlfriend

Tonight: the places, the people and the scrapes along the way — the good, the bad, and the downright scary.

1993

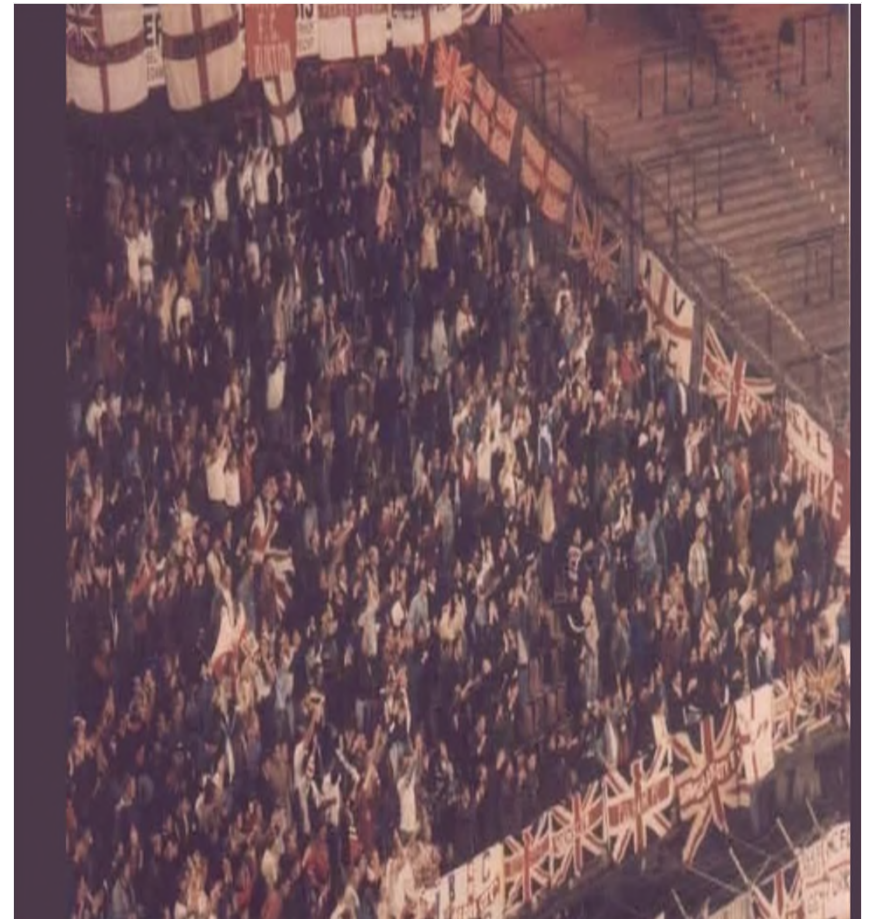
ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

SCARY

My First Away Game

ENG 0-2 NED

- A very scary entry into the stadium — a baptism of fire for a first-ever away trip
- Manager Graham Taylor was sacked in the fallout
- My planned 1994 USA holiday was scuppered as a result



1996

ENGLAND

BITTERSWEET

Euro '96 — My First Tournament

ENG 1-1 SUI
ENG 2-0 SCO
ENG 4-1 NED
ENG 0-0 ESP (won on pens)
ENG 1-1 GER (lost on pens)

- The famous 4-1 thrashing of the Netherlands — unforgettable
- The infamous “dentist's chair” incident
- It all ended in tears on penalties against Germany
- Somewhere along the way, I had to bribe my girlfriend to come along

A very memorable soundtrack to the summer

1998

MARSEILLE, FRANCE

SCARY

World Cup 1998

ENG 2-0 TUN

- Serious rioting in Marseille before the game — genuinely frightening scenes
- Locked inside a restaurant for our own safety
- Needless to say, no after-match beers for me that night



Front-page news back home

1999

HAMPDEN PARK, GLASGOW

CHAOTIC



Euro 2000 Play-off

SCO 0-2 ENG

- A brick came through the train window on the way home after the match
- A rowdy night out in Sauchiehall Street — my girlfriend, not me, I promise!

2000

NETHERLANDS & BELGIUM

FUNNY

Euro 2000

ENG 2-3 POR

ENG 1-0 GER

ENG 2-3 ROU

- A group stage of two wildly different halves
- Somehow ended up lost in the woods trying to find our way back — not a highlight for the navigator



2001

TIRANA, ALBANIA

TENSE

Almost Stranded in Albania

ALB 1-3 ENG

- A genuinely scary walk back to the hotel after the final whistle
- Then our flight home was cancelled, leaving us stuck



2001

MUNICH, GERMANY

UNFORGETTABLE

Munich — The Famous 5-1

GER 1-5 ENG

- One of the great England away days — a result nobody saw coming
- Celebrated (bravely) in a bar full of Germans after the game
- 5-1, and even Emile Heskey got on the scoresheet!



2002

World Cup — Japan & South Korea

Didn't get there.

Even a 20-year odyssey has the odd one that got away.

2003

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

DANGEROUS

Mugged at Knifepoint

RSA 1-2 ENG

- A trip that took a frightening turn when I was mugged at knifepoint
- A stark reminder that not every away day is a good one



2004

PORTUGAL

GREAT

Euro 2004

ENG 1-2 FRA

ENG 3-0 SUI

ENG 4-2 CRO

ENG 2-2 POR (lost on pens)

- A brilliant, sun-soaked tournament from start to finish
- A great experience based in Setúbal, despite the familiar penalty heartbreak



2004

BAKU, AZERBAIJAN

EXOTIC

Belly Dancers and Mad Taxis

AZE 0-1 ENG

- One of the most exotic stops on the whole journey
- An unforgettable night out — and an even more unforgettable taxi ride



2005

CHICAGO & NEW YORK, USA

FUN

Chicago and New York

USA 1-2 ENG (Chicago)

ENG 3-2 COL (New York)

- A rare double-header on American soil
- Time to soak up two very different American cities between matches



2006

GERMANY

SUPERB

World Cup 2006

ENG 1-0 PAR
ENG 2-0 TRI
ENG 2-2 SWE
ENG 1-0 ECU
ENG 0-0 POR (lost on pens – again!)

- Superbly organised from start to finish — the gold standard for a host nation
- Yet another penalty exit, this time against Portugal



2007

ISRAEL & RUSSIA

MIXED

Israel and Russia

ISR 0-0 ENG

RUS 2-1 ENG

- Israel: a wonderful experience — stayed in Tel Aviv and visited Jerusalem
- Russia: a far tougher trip — attacked in Red Square, and the hotel surrounded by hooligans



2008

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

FRIENDLY

Trinidad & Tobago

TRI 0-3 ENG

- An all-inclusive resort that had no idea what had hit it
- Very friendly locals at the game itself
- A memorable night out at the out-of-town disco



2008

MINSK & BERLIN

MIXED

Belarus and Berlin

BLR 1-3 ENG (Minsk)
GER 1-2 ENG (Berlin)

- Minsk: another fairly scary place to visit
- Berlin: the usual German efficiency — though I rather disgraced myself after a beery afternoon



2009

ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN

OUCH

A Broken Foot in Almaty

KAZ 0-4 ENG

- A comfortable away win — rather less comfortable for me personally
- Fractured the base of the 5th metatarsal after rolling my ankle



2013

SAN MARINO & KYIV

FAREWELL



San Marino and Ukraine — My Final Away Games

SMR 0–8 ENG

UKR 0–0 ENG

- San Marino: a tiny landlocked state entirely surrounded by Italy
- Kyiv: a beautiful city with wonderful people — so sad to see what has since happened to it
- The final stamps in twenty years of following England abroad

THANK YOU

Twenty years, eighteen countries, one very patient girlfriend.

ANY QUESTIONS?