

Player Interviews: We asked Premier League players to talk about their experiences living in the UK and playing in the Premier League.

Player Interviews: Coming to the Premier League

Transcript

Is the Premier League popular in your country?

- Ashkan Dejagah:** Yeah - of course. You have sky as well in German and they show, not every game but many games from the Premier League - not from Italy, not from Spain, so they show the Premier League.
- Marc Muniesa:** Yes so much the people like the Premier League discover football the intensity the velocity of this game.
- Jose Fonte:** Very there's five or six games every week it's like the Portuguese League as much.
- Jonas Olsson:** Yes, it's very popular, you know, you grow up with English football in Sweden. I think the Premier League is almost bigger than the domestic league. It's huge and I think the two biggest fan bases are for Liverpool and United.

Where do your teammates come from?

- Jose Fonte:** Well they come from various parts of the world all over Europe America South America they're from all over the world.
- Marc Muniesa:** From England, Ireland, Scotland, Netherlands, Germany, Honduras, USA, Bosnia - I don't know more.
- Ashkan Dejagah:** We have a big mix so we have many so we have from Venezuela we have from German Switzerland we have a lot of mix.
- Jonas Olsson:** My teammates here? Well, all around the world, and I think that's why I see the Premier League as the best league in the world because you have all the influences from all around the world whether they be players or coaches or owners. I think in our team we have 14 or 15 different nationalities. And it's really beneficial as a player, as an individual to be part of that. I think.

How do you communicate with your teammates?

- Ashkan Dejagah:** We have a lot of players they speak German in Fulham, but yeah I try to speak English and to learn English. If I speak always German I never learn English so I try to speak English with the players but yeah we have also German language in this dressing room sometimes.
- Marc Muniesa:** With Wilson Palacios is in Spanish but with all the rest in English.
- Jonas Olsson:** Mostly English, of course, there's been quite a few Dutch and Belgian players here during my time, and I was in Holland before so towards them I spoke a bit of Dutch. But, I think English is quite global so that's obviously the main language here.
- Jose Fonte:** We use mainly the English and some Spanish and that's it English and Spanish.

What's the best thing about playing in the Premier League?

- Jonas Olsson:** That's a good question. Erm, I think that it's, you know, so global, everyone cares about it, whether that be Scandinavia, America, the Middle East, Africa, wherever. It's always, such a big interest from everywhere and like I said, to be part of that, to have teammates from all round the world and to get other perspective on football and on life etc, that's what I really enjoy really.
- Jose Fonte:** The atmosphere from the stadiums and the fans are great.
- Marc Muniesa:** All the stadiums a full the supporters always are making noise and for the players are very good this.
- Ashkan Dejagah:** For me, everything I love, I love the fans, the atmosphere, the dynamic in the game is hard, this is like my ... I like to play hard and with the dynamic I can always say I love the Premier League and I enjoy the league.