

FIFA U-20 Trophy goes on Tour

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The FIFA U-20 World Cup Winner's Trophy has been on the road for three weeks as it works its way down the country throughout the seven regions which will host matches during the tournament in 2015.



Courtesy of FIFA U20 World Cup NZ 2015 Facebook page from images taken during Trophy Tour

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The trophy was officially welcomed to New Zealand shores when Oceania Footballer of the Century, Wynton Rufer was paddled into shore via a waka to the Waitangi Treaty Grounds at the start of the month.

Following a rousing ceremonial display and series of challenges, the trophy left the sacred ground and headed off to a local primary school with several members of the current New Zealand U-20 Football side for some skills and drills sessions with local children.

The FIFA U-20 World Cup is the second largest male tournament in the world and will be held from May 30 – June 20 next year in Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, New Plymouth, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

“With the FIFA World Cup in Brazil kicking off shortly, and our tournament just a year away, we wanted to give football fans across the country a chance to get a taste of what is coming and to feel part of the excitement. Kiwis get to see the trophy before the players vying for it do and we think that's pretty special,” said Dave Beeche, Local Organising Committee CEO FIFA U-20 World Cup NZ 2015.

“This trophy has been held aloft by some of the greatest footballers in the world. Players such as Lionel Messi and Diego Maradona who first found fame at this event,” said Beeche.

Thousands of children and football enthusiasts have turned up at Trophy Tour events to get their photo with the prized silverware as well as take part in fun football activations on inflatable pitches and the 'Kick Wall'.

Tickets are currently onsale to Official Fans of the tournament before public sale begins in June. To become an Official Fan and for all ticketing information go to [FIFA website](#).