

# The African Telatelist

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## SOCCKER WORLD CUP 2010 STADIUMS – ROYAL BAFOKENG STADIUM, PHOKENG

The Royal Bafokeng Sports Palace is a rugby, soccer and athletics stadium in Phokeng near Rustenburg, South Africa. It was built and is managed by the Royal Bafokeng Nation.

The capacity of the stadium was increased from 38 000 to 44 530 to be able to host five first round matches and one second round match for the 2010 FIFA World Cup. The Royal Bafokeng Stadium played host to the round one Group C match between England and the United States on 12 June 2010.

For the 2010 tournament, the main west stand was upgraded and enlarged and given a new cantilever roof. Other improvements include the installation of new electronic scoreboards, new seats, and the upgrading of the floodlights and public address system.

The stadium upgrade was completed in March 2009 for hosting 4 matches of the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup.

### 2010 FIFA World Cup

In the 2010 FIFA World Cup, the stadium hosted 5 first round matches and 1 second round match. The following matches were played at the stadium:

Date	Team 1	Res	Team 2	Round
12 Jun 10	England	1-1	United States	Group C
15 Jun 10	New Zealand	1-1	Slovakia	Group F
19 Jun 10	Ghana	1-1	Australia	Group D
22 Jun 10	Mexico	0-1	Uruguay	Group A
24 Jun 10	Denmark	1-3	Japan	Group E
26 Jun 10	United States	1-2 aet*	Ghana	Round of 16

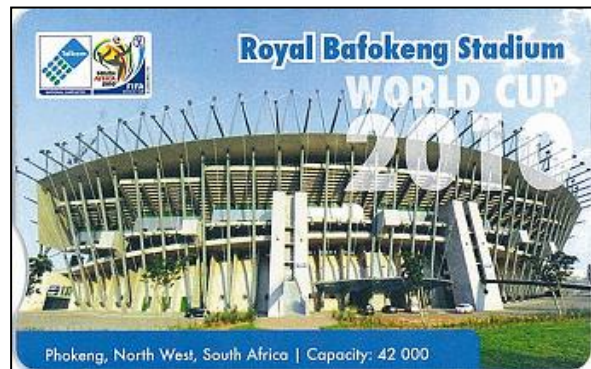
\* After extra time

The stadium is named after the Bafokeng people who live in the area.

In 1999, the Bafokeng won a legal battle, which entitled them to 20% on the platinum which is mined on their historical land. Hence, they have shares in platinum mining in the area.

The South African national team played a FIFA World Cup qualifying game against Burkina Faso in 2001, and won 2-1. It has been host to many Premier Soccer League games despite Rustenburg not having its own team.

The stadium is only a 25 minute drive to Sun City and 30 minutes to the Pilansberg. It is 12 kilometers from the Rustenburg city centre.



Source: Wikipedia.  
Anton de Klerk.