

## World Cup Glory Will Come At A Price

*After a promising return to form in the first two games of the England football teams qualifying campaign for the World Cup, supporters may need to start thinking about the financial implications of following their team to glory.*

October 6, 2008 (FPRC) -- Such is the claim of Abbey, which has noted that while fans will be hoping that the team can continue to keep up the solid form shown against Croatia last month, many may fail to realise how much following them to the final will cost. According to research carried out by the group, an avid fan flying to see the final in person would be likely to pay a minimum of 3,372 pounds if they plan to do so on a shoestring.

The group noted that for those who fly economy, bed down in budget accommodation and opt for the lowest value tickets, the costs will tally up to approximately this amount.

Meanwhile, for those who are looking to enjoy the games in a slightly higher level of comfort, taking out cheap loans may prove an effective way to make the most of a potentially victorious World Cup campaign. Indeed, Abbey warned that for those planning to spend moderately during their trip to South Africa - which hosts the games in 2010 - they can expect costs to rise over 5,000 pounds.

It explained that for those flying premium economy, staying in mid-range accommodation and going for mid-price tickets, total costs are likely to average 5,193 pounds if the England team can make it all the way to the final.

For those who enjoy a lap of luxury, the financial commitment to the England campaign is likely to cost an average of 11,174 pounds, although this does include business class travel, top-end hotel accommodation and the best available match tickets. It noted that the hotel alone is likely to cost nearly 1,000 pounds more than the entire spending of the fan travelling to South Africa on a shoe string.

Commenting on the findings, Reza Attar-Zadeh, director of savings and investments at Abbey, said: "Its great that England have got off to a winning start. But those who fancy the national teams chances of not only making it to South Africa, but going all the way to the final have some serious saving to do."

Fans who fail to do so may find themselves being forced to dip into savings or apply for personal loans to make sure they can follow the path to glory in person. However, while many may dream of seeing the national side lift the sports most prestigious trophy, some may find that the financial commitment required is too big a weight to bear. Indeed, recent figures have suggested that current economic woes are already beginning to hurt many fans following their club in the Premiership.

According to Virgin Money, one in four football fans will be forced to spectate from their armchairs this season as the costs of attendance soar. For those who are struggling for a way to make sure they are on the terraces this season, taking out a cheap loan may be of interest.

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