# Martin Zubimendi arrives in London to finalise £51m Arsenal transfer



Martin Zubimendi has reportedly arrived in London as he edges closer to sealing a £51 million summer transfer to Arsenal, marking what is expected to be Mikel Arteta’s first signing ahead of the new Premier League campaign. The midfielder from Real Sociedad is said to be finalising formalities with club officials, with a medical anticipated to complete the deal.

Arsenal have long been admirers of the Spanish international, who boasts a £51 million release clause in his contract. The Gunners’ pursuit has intensified recently, particularly as they aim to bolster their midfield following Jorginho’s departure and the anticipated exit of Thomas Partey, whose contract expires at the end of June with no new agreement reportedly in place. Zubimendi’s move is viewed as a critical reinforcement for Arteta’s side.

The 26-year-old product of Real Sociedad's youth system has made 236 appearances for the club and contributed ten goals. His development at Sociedad includes lifting the Copa del Rey and winning international honours with Spain, notably Euro 2024 and the 2022-23 Nations League. Zubimendi shares past club ties with Arsenal teammates Martin Odegaard and Mikel Merino and international camaraderie with David Raya. Notably, he previously turned down a move to Liverpool, but now appears set to test himself in the Premier League.

Arsenal’s position at the front of the race for Zubimendi has reportedly edged out fierce competition from Liverpool and Bayern Munich, with early tracking of the player dating back to 2022. While Real Madrid reportedly made some contact with Zubimendi’s camp, those overtures did not develop into a formal bid, and sources suggest Real Madrid is no longer a significant threat to Arsenal's pursuit. The player’s transfer is described in some quarters as effectively “done and signed,” with any delay in official announcements attributed to accounting considerations.

Beyond midfield reinforcements, Arsenal continue to explore options to enhance their attacking line-up, with Sporting Lisbon’s Victor Gyokeres and RB Leipzig’s Benjamin Sesko mentioned among their targets. This activity underscores the club’s broader ambitions to mount a strong title challenge in the upcoming season.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14831411/Martin-Zubimendi-touches-London-ahead-51m-Arsenal-Mikel-Arteta-closes-summer-signing.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.skysports.com/transfer/news/11670/13375932/arsenal-finalising-martin-zubimendi-transfer-after-meeting-real-sociedad-midfielders-51m-release-clause), [[3]](https://www.goal.com/en-us/lists/martin-zubimendi-set-for-arsenal-medical-transfer-real-sociedad-nears-completion/blt3212aa0cce3b4d98), [[7]](https://www.goal.com/en-us/lists/arsenal-51m-martin-zubimendi-transfer-real-sociedad-done-signed-reason-delay-official-announcement-truth-about-real-madrid-interest-revealed/blt675cb9ff42af3d06)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14831411/Martin-Zubimendi-touches-London-ahead-51m-Arsenal-Mikel-Arteta-closes-summer-signing.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.skysports.com/transfer/news/11670/13375932/arsenal-finalising-martin-zubimendi-transfer-after-meeting-real-sociedad-midfielders-51m-release-clause), [[5]](https://www.espn.com/football/story/_/id/43409785/arsenal-lead-liverpool-race-martin-zubimendi-sources)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14831411/Martin-Zubimendi-touches-London-ahead-51m-Arsenal-Mikel-Arteta-closes-summer-signing.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.football-espana.net/2024/04/19/arsenal-lead-bayern-munich-martin-zubimendi-transfer), [[5]](https://www.espn.com/football/story/_/id/43409785/arsenal-lead-liverpool-race-martin-zubimendi-sources)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14831411/Martin-Zubimendi-touches-London-ahead-51m-Arsenal-Mikel-Arteta-closes-summer-signing.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[5]](https://www.espn.com/football/story/_/id/43409785/arsenal-lead-liverpool-race-martin-zubimendi-sources), [[6]](https://www.sportsmole.co.uk/football/arsenal/transfer-talk/news/arsenal-at-risk-of-zubimendi-hijack-but-should-arteta-be-worried_565070.html), [[7]](https://www.goal.com/en-us/lists/arsenal-51m-martin-zubimendi-transfer-real-sociedad-done-signed-reason-delay-official-announcement-truth-about-real-madrid-interest-revealed/blt675cb9ff42af3d06)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14831411/Martin-Zubimendi-touches-London-ahead-51m-Arsenal-Mikel-Arteta-closes-summer-signing.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14831411/Martin-Zubimendi-touches-London-ahead-51m-Arsenal-Mikel-Arteta-closes-summer-signing.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.skysports.com/transfer/news/11670/13375932/arsenal-finalising-martin-zubimendi-transfer-after-meeting-real-sociedad-midfielders-51m-release-clause> - Arsenal are finalising a deal to sign Real Sociedad midfielder Martin Zubimendi after meeting his £51 million release clause. The Spain international is expected to undergo a medical before completing the move. This transfer follows the confirmation of Jorginho's departure and aims to strengthen Arsenal's midfield ahead of the new season.
3. <https://www.goal.com/en-us/lists/martin-zubimendi-set-for-arsenal-medical-transfer-real-sociedad-nears-completion/blt3212aa0cce3b4d98> - Real Sociedad's Martin Zubimendi is reportedly set to have a medical before joining Arsenal in a £51 million deal. The midfielder, who previously rejected a move to Liverpool, is now poised to make the switch to the Premier League, with the transfer nearing completion.
4. <https://www.football-espana.net/2024/04/19/arsenal-lead-bayern-munich-martin-zubimendi-transfer> - Arsenal are leading the race to sign Real Sociedad's Martin Zubimendi, with reports suggesting they are willing to meet his €60 million release clause. The Gunners have been tracking the Spanish international since early 2022 and are now in pole position ahead of Bayern Munich.
5. <https://www.espn.com/football/story/_/id/43409785/arsenal-lead-liverpool-race-martin-zubimendi-sources> - Arsenal have moved ahead of Liverpool in the pursuit of Real Sociedad midfielder Martin Zubimendi. The north London club is in advanced talks with Sociedad to secure the 25-year-old's signature, with a deal expected to be finalised at the end of the season.
6. <https://www.sportsmole.co.uk/football/arsenal/transfer-talk/news/arsenal-at-risk-of-zubimendi-hijack-but-should-arteta-be-worried_565070.html> - Arsenal could face competition from Real Madrid in their pursuit of Real Sociedad midfielder Martin Zubimendi. Reports suggest that Madrid is showing increasing interest in the player, potentially complicating Arsenal's efforts to secure his signature.
7. <https://www.goal.com/en-us/lists/arsenal-51m-martin-zubimendi-transfer-real-sociedad-done-signed-reason-delay-official-announcement-truth-about-real-madrid-interest-revealed/blt675cb9ff42af3d06> - Arsenal consider Martin Zubimendi's move from Real Sociedad to be 'done and signed', with the delay in an official announcement being explained. The transfer is reportedly being held up for accounting purposes, and Real Madrid has not made a play for the Spain international.