# England Fans Eager for Euro 2024 Opener Against Serbia amid Security Concerns and Festive Atmosphere



**England Fans Gear Up for Euro 2024 Opener Against Serbia**

England's Euro 2024 campaign kicks off today at 8 PM local time, with Gareth Southgate's team set to face Serbia at the Veltins-Arena in Gelsenkirchen, Germany. Fans have flocked to the city in high spirits, singing "Sweet Caroline" and indulging in local beer. Around 40,000 supporters are expected, with 10,000 holding tickets for the match.

Head coach Gareth Southgate has urged fans to enjoy the tournament despite potential security concerns, as local police have labeled the match "high-risk" due to reports of traveling Serbian ultras. Measures include serving lower-alcohol beer.

Charity runner Russ Cook, known for endurance feats, is among the attendees, having completed a 352-mile trek from Wembley Stadium. With England aiming to improve on their runner-up finish in Euro 2020, anticipation is high both in Germany and back home, where an estimated 30 million pints will be consumed.

Tensions rose when hooligans reportedly stole England fans' flags, adding to the charged atmosphere. The Prince of Wales is expected to join the fans for England's next match against Denmark on June 20.