# Salt Bae denies snub after Champions League final party controversy



Salt Bae, the Turkish chef renowned for his flamboyant meat seasoning technique, has once again found himself at the centre of controversy following the recent Champions League final. The restaurateur, whose real name is Nusret Gökçe, was reportedly turned away from a high-profile after-party in Munich after Paris Saint-Germain's convincing 5-0 victory over Inter Milan. This historic scoreline marked the largest margin of victory in a Champions League final, yet the attention has shifted away from football celebrations towards Salt Bae’s antics.

After being seen exiting a bus and approaching a hotel believed to be hosting the after-party, social media users claimed he was denied entry and escorted aside by doormen. However, Salt Bae has refuted these accusations, taking to Instagram to clarify his presence at the hotel. He stated that he was there for his fans and not as a participant in any exclusive event. "Due to the busyness that occurred, while I was waiting for my vehicle... there was a directive from Mr. Dormen," he explained, insisting there was no designated party that he could have been excluded from. He cautioned against believing the "baseless" narratives circulating online, asserting that the events were exaggerated and largely fabricated.

This latest incident is part of a pattern for Salt Bae, who previously attracted ire during the 2022 FIFA World Cup final. In that high-stakes match, he infamously gained access to the pitch and was filmed holding and kissing the World Cup trophy—a privilege typically reserved for tournament winners and FIFA officials. Following that incident, FIFA launched an investigation into how Salt Bae managed to breach protocol, ultimately deeming his access as unauthorized. The prestige associated with the trophy, described as a “priceless icon,” led FIFA to take “appropriate internal action” following the review of events on that fateful day.

Since that publicity-stirring moment, which also included Salt Bae trying to engage with Argentina's star player Lionel Messi—an interaction that was met with visible irritation from the football legend—public sentiment has been decidedly mixed. The chef has developed a close rapport with FIFA president Gianni Infantino, who once referred to him as "the best of the best." On social media, Salt Bae recently praised Infantino, dubbing him the "King of football" and acknowledging his efforts to unify the sport on a global scale.

Despite the notoriety surrounding his antics, Salt Bae continues to thrive in the culinary world, with more than 20 Nusr-Et restaurants under his belt, where he serves extravagant dishes including his famed £2,000 gold-wrapped tomahawk steak. His rise to fame began in 2017 when videos showcasing his unique seasoning technique went viral, securing him a well-established presence in both the culinary and sports spheres.

In the wake of these incidents, combined with his ongoing engagement with high-profile football personalities, it seems that Salt Bae will remain a controversial figure within both culinary and sporting communities. Whether he is celebrated or ridiculed largely hinges on the perceptions of his interactions—each layered with complexity and occasionally overshadowed by the backlash of his previous indiscretions.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14772771/Salt-Bae-Champions-League-final-party-FIFA-World-Cup.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/64071206)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14772771/Salt-Bae-Champions-League-final-party-FIFA-World-Cup.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/football/2022/dec/22/fifa-investigating-how-chef-salt-bae-got-on-to-world-cup-final-pitch), [[6]](https://www.skysports.com/football/news/11095/12773268/salt-baes-world-cup-final-antics-on-pitch-being-investigated-by-fifa)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1131954/salt-bae-world-cup-final), [[5]](https://apnews.com/article/world-cup-sports-argentina-gianni-infantino-3644c28f6bbff1290e96493ac54e3929), [[7]](https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/salt-bae-world-cup-final-messi-fifa-argentina-b2250251.html)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14772771/Salt-Bae-Champions-League-final-party-FIFA-World-Cup.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/football/2022/dec/22/fifa-investigating-how-chef-salt-bae-got-on-to-world-cup-final-pitch> - FIFA is investigating how chef Salt Bae gained access to the World Cup final pitch. The Turkish chef, Nusret Gökçe, was seen holding and kissing the trophy, actions restricted to a select group, including tournament winners and FIFA officials. FIFA stated they are reviewing how individuals gained undue access to the pitch after the closing ceremony at Lusail Stadium on 18 December and will take appropriate internal action. Salt Bae, known for his unique meat seasoning technique, owns a chain of luxury steakhouses and has been a regular guest of FIFA during the World Cup. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/football/2022/dec/22/fifa-investigating-how-chef-salt-bae-got-on-to-world-cup-final-pitch?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1131954/salt-bae-world-cup-final> - FIFA is investigating how Turkish chef Salt Bae gained access to the pitch and handled the World Cup trophy after Argentina's victory over France. Under FIFA rules, the trophy can only be touched by a select group, including tournament winners and FIFA officials. Salt Bae, whose real name is Nusret Gökçe, owns a chain of luxury steakhouses and was a regular guest of FIFA during the World Cup. FIFA has stated they are reviewing how individuals gained undue access to the pitch after the closing ceremony at Lusail Stadium on 18 December and will take appropriate internal action. ([insidethegames.biz](https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1131954/salt-bae-world-cup-final?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/64071206> - FIFA is investigating how celebrity chef Salt Bae gained 'undue access' to the pitch at the end of the World Cup final in Qatar. Salt Bae, the Turkish chef whose real name is Nusret Gökçe, was pictured holding and kissing the World Cup trophy while celebrating with Argentina players after their win over France. FIFA rules state the trophy can only be held by a 'very select' group of people, including tournament winners, FIFA officials, and heads of state. In a statement to BBC Sport, a FIFA spokesperson said: 'Following a review, FIFA has been establishing how individuals gained undue access to the pitch after the closing ceremony at Lusail Stadium on 18 December. The appropriate internal action will be taken.' Salt Bae owns a chain of luxury steakhouses and rose to fame in 2017 after his technique for preparing and seasoning meat became an internet meme. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/64071206?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://apnews.com/article/world-cup-sports-argentina-gianni-infantino-3644c28f6bbff1290e96493ac54e3929> - FIFA is taking 'appropriate internal action' to address breaches of World Cup protocol by celebrity chef Salt Bae, who held the gold trophy on the field. The chef, known as Salt Bae and regularly seen with FIFA president Gianni Infantino, mingled with Argentina players and posed for photos after their victory over France in Qatar. FIFA describes the trophy as 'a priceless icon' which 'can only be touched and held by a very select group of people, which includes former winners of the FIFA World Cup and heads of state.' 'Following a review, FIFA has been establishing how individuals gained undue access to the pitch after the closing ceremony at Lusail Stadium on 18 December,' the world soccer body said. 'The appropriate internal action will be taken.' The chef, who has a restaurant in Doha, was a regular guest of FIFA with VIP access during the World Cup and posted photos and video clips on social media. After Argentina's win in a penalty shootout following a thrilling 3-3 draw, he was filmed grabbing the arm of captain Lionel Messi on the field to get his attention. The soccer great seemed irritated in the film clip though later posed for a photo that Salt Bae posted on Instagram. ([apnews.com](https://apnews.com/article/world-cup-sports-argentina-gianni-infantino-3644c28f6bbff1290e96493ac54e3929?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.skysports.com/football/news/11095/12773268/salt-baes-world-cup-final-antics-on-pitch-being-investigated-by-fifa> - FIFA is investigating the circumstances which led to 'Salt Bae' gatecrashing Argentina's World Cup celebrations in Qatar. The celebrity restaurant owner, whose real name is Nusret Gökçe, was seen on the pitch after the final trying to take selfies with Argentina players, including Lionel Messi, and holding the World Cup. FIFA has told Sky Sports News his access to the pitch was unauthorised and its rules state that only the World Cup winners and heads of state are allowed to touch the trophy during the closing ceremony. A spokesperson for FIFA said: 'Following a review, FIFA has been establishing how individuals gained undue access to the pitch after the closing ceremony at Lusail Stadium on 18 December. The appropriate internal action will be taken.' It is understood that Salt Bae has no involvement with FIFA president Gianni Infantino, who has previously been pictured visiting one of his restaurants. It is also believed there is no commercial relationship between FIFA and Salt Bae. Salt Bae was one of Infantino's 303 Instagram followers at 6pm on Thursday, but as of 7.15pm on Thursday has been unfollowed. The Turkish celebrity chef has become known by the pseudonym Salt Bae since rising to fame on social media for his unique style of seasoning steaks. ([skysports.com](https://www.skysports.com/football/news/11095/12773268/salt-baes-world-cup-final-antics-on-pitch-being-investigated-by-fifa?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/salt-bae-world-cup-final-messi-fifa-argentina-b2250251.html> - FIFA is investigating how celebrity chef Salt Bae and others gained 'undue access' to the pitch after the World Cup final in Qatar. Salt Bae, a Turkish chef and restaurateur whose real name is Nusret Gökçe, was pictured holding and kissing the World Cup trophy alongside Argentina players after their win over France. The FIFA World Cup Trophy, which is made of solid gold and depicts two figures holding up the globe, can only be touched and held by a select group of people. This includes former winners and heads of state, according to FIFA. Football fans were infuriated after Mr Gökçe, who is also a social media personality, was seen 'grabbing' Argentina's star player Lionel Messi on the pitch. In a statement, a FIFA spokesperson said: 'Following a review, FIFA has been establishing how individuals gained undue access to the pitch after the closing ceremony at Lusail Stadium on 18 December. The appropriate internal action will be taken.' The chef rose to fame in 2017 after a video of him sprinkling salt onto a steak went viral, earning him his now-famous nickname. Following Argentina's win on Sunday, Mr Gökçe was seen tapping Messi on the shoulder and grabbing his arms. After Messi appears to ignore him, Mr Gökçe touches his arm again and the footballer turns around and quickly shakes his hand before walking off. ([independent.co.uk](https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/salt-bae-world-cup-final-messi-fifa-argentina-b2250251.html?utm_source=openai))