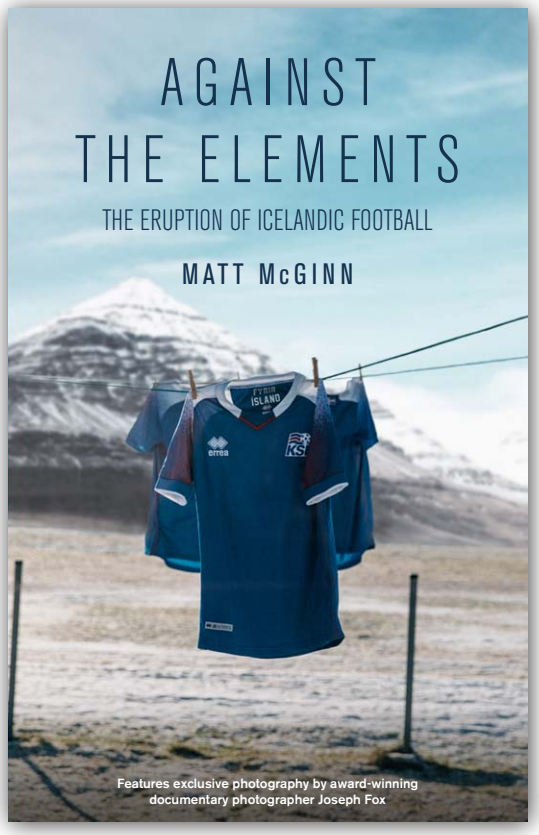
Title information



Against the Elements

The Eruption of Icelandic Football

By Matt McGinn

Key features

- Enthralling exploration of one of the most remarkable underdog stories in international football
- Draws on 50 exclusive interviews with key figures from Icelandic football, music, politics and beyond
- Travelogue sections bring to life the places, people and values of the nation
- Matt McGinn writes on football for ESPN and the *Guardian*
- Colour photo section and cover by award-winning documentary photographer Joseph Fox
- Wide appeal to discerning sports fans and visitors to Iceland, a booming tourist destination
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

Against the Elements is an enthralling account of football's most captivating underdog story. With a population of just 350,000, Iceland stunned the sporting world when it went toe-to-toe with the elite at Euro 2016 and the 2018 World Cup. So how was such a tiny nation, sited on the edge of the Arctic circle, able to take on the giants of world football? Matt McGinn draws on 50 exclusive interviews with the key protagonists to unpick how it happened. Does an Icelandic 'Viking' mentality exist? Can smallness be an advantage? Is there a template for other countries to follow? McGinn experienced Iceland's World Cup campaign in different parts of the country – from five days spent on a fishing trawler, to Iceland's bustling capital of Reykjavík, to the jagged volcanic island of Heimaey. Part travelogue, part thematic investigation, *Against the Elements* searches for the truth behind the Iceland football team's remarkable, unprecedented rise, bringing to life the people, places and values of the nation that produced this astonishing team.

Details

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