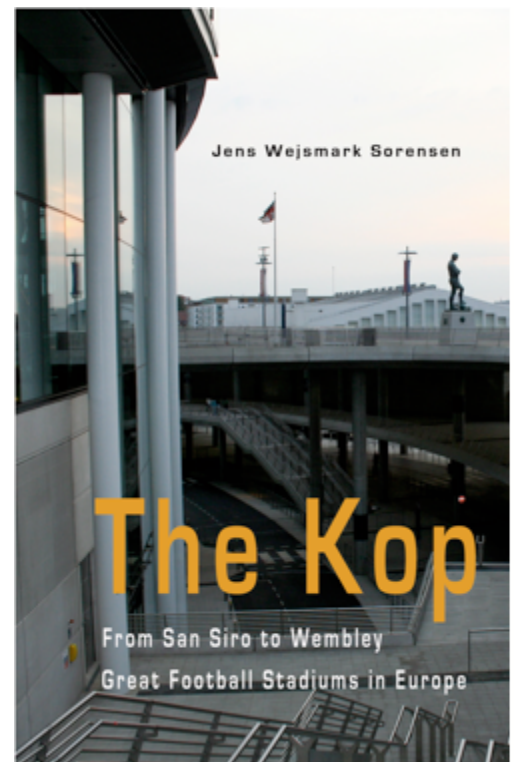


The 'inventors' of a game consisting of a few markings on a field, two sticks in opposite ends, two groups of men, and a pigs bladder stitched up in leather laces could hardly have imagined the extreme popularity it would obtain. However, the introduction of football in 18th century Europe had almost immediate great appeal to the masses. Special 'constructions' in order for every spectator to follow the action on the field soon became a necessity. The first stadiums began to take form and modern football would be inconceivable without some kind of arena. Big matches are, as a rule, played at great stadiums and great stadiums often create great matches.

### The aim & the scope

The book's main scope is to give a new and different approach, insight and knowledge to a selection of great stadiums in Europe (see list below). The text is not only meant to be descriptive but also to put things into perspective. The huge amount of data and facts will be spiced by the many stories and anecdotes that great stadiums and their respective clubs are so full of. Each stadium will not only be seen as a remarkable physical construction, but also as a remarkable historical and cultural phenomenon. Football stadiums are of course much more than big buildings which can be described from an architectural viewpoint. As is the case with cathedrals, stadiums represent great historical, social and cultural importance for many people and communities. The same can of course be said for any team associated with a stadium. It would not make much sense writing about Allianz Arena or Camp Nou for instance without mentioning the history and culture surrounding FC Bayern München or Barcelona FC.



### The audience & the method

The main audience are naturally interested in football and stadiums as well as in architecture, culture and history. The book will initially be in the Danish language, but could of course be translated. It will be written in an accessible and easygoing style and each stadium will be covered in the tone and spirit, which is part of football. Each chapter, synonymous with a stadium (and maybe a football club), will be 'kick-started' with an interesting story. It's my aim, through thorough research, to present as much information as possible – architecture, history, culture, etc. I'll naturally have to visit each stadium for gathering information, interviews and photos.

### The format & the content

The book is in the format of 15 x 22 cm and contains approx. 320 pages incl. foreword, intro, and a chapter for each stadium (see list below). Historical and contemporary photos as well as boxes mentioning brief history, current capacity, etc will assist the text. The foreword will be written by a well known player/manager and the intro will include general reflections on stadiums as a phenomena. Every chapter will be 'kick-started' with an interesting story. The book will be launched before the 2012 UEFA European Football Championship.



### The author

Born 1961 in Copenhagen and currently living in Amsterdam. Being a trained journalist and librarian he has worked several years in Denmark and England as an editor in the publishing industry. Since 2006 he has worked as a freelance journalist and photographer in his own company. The idea and inspiration for the book materialised while researching for an article about the Olympic Stadium in Berlin. He has followed international soccer for almost forty years and is a frequent visitor to stadiums all over Europe - especially to the Amsterdam ArenA and to Elland Road in Leeds!

### The stadiums

Idrætsparken/Parken (Copenhagen – Denmark)  
 Ullevi (Gothenburg – Sweden)  
 Allianz Arena (Munich – Germany)  
 Stade du Heysel/Stade Roi Baudouin (Brussels – Belgium)  
 Parc de Prince (Paris – France)  
 Stadio San Siro/Stadio Giuseppe Meazza (Milan – Italy)  
 Hampden Park (Glasgow – Scotland)  
 Camp Nou (Barcelona – Spain)

Brøndby Stadion (Copenhagen – Denmark)  
 Olympiastadion Berlin (Germany)  
 Amsterdam ArenA (The Netherlands)  
 Stade de France (Paris – France)  
 Stadio Olimpico di Roma (Italy)  
 Wembley National Stadium (London – England)  
 Estadio da Luz (Lisbon – Portugal)  
 Estadio Santiago Bernabeu (Madrid – Spain)