



## EPL Weekend Preview: City vs Arsenal Title Clash, Historic Merseyside Derby and Spurs's Relegation Battle

### Description

Matchday 33 of the 2025/26 Premier League season delivers a blockbuster weekend that could define the title race, reshape the top four, and send shockwaves through the relegation battle. From a historic Merseyside derby at a brand-new stadium to a potential title decider at the Etihad, here is your complete Premier League weekend preview with predictions and betting odds for every match.

## Title Showdown: Manchester City vs Arsenal - Sunday, 19 April (3:30pm BST)

The biggest match of the Premier League weekend and arguably the season sees second-placed Manchester City (64 points, 31 games) welcome league leaders Arsenal (70 points, 32 games) to the Etihad Stadium. City still have a game in hand and a victory here would slash the gap to just three points with both sides having six matches remaining.

Pep Guardiola's men are in imperious form, having [demolished Chelsea 3-0 last weekend](#) their latest statement of intent. City have won the first half in each of their last 11 EPL home matches, a staggering run of early dominance that Arsenal will need to weather. However, City will be without John Stones, R ben Dias, and Jo ko Gvardiol through injury, weakening their defensive options considerably.

Arsenal, meanwhile, arrive at the Etihad under pressure after suffering a shock 2-1 defeat to Bournemouth last time out - their third loss in four league matches. Mikel Arteta's side also face a gruelling [Champions League quarter-final second leg against Sporting CP](#) in midweek, which could take a toll on tired legs. The Gunners need at least a draw to maintain comfortable breathing room in the title race.

**Betting Odds:** Man City 2.10 (47%) | Draw 3.40 (29%) | Arsenal 3.60 (28%)

**Prediction:** Manchester City 1-1 Arsenal. A cagey, tactical affair with City's defensive injuries and Arsenal's fatigue cancelling each other out.

## Saturday's Big Clash: Chelsea vs Manchester United Saturday, 18 April (9:00pm BST)



Stamford Bridge plays host to Saturday's headline act as Chelsea welcome Manchester United

Saturday evening's showpiece sees sixth-placed Chelsea host third-placed Manchester United at Stamford Bridge in a fixture with huge implications for both Champions League qualification and Europa League seeding. United are eyeing a return to the Champions League, whilst Chelsea are battling to secure at least Conference League football.

Both sides come into this off the back of disappointing results. Chelsea have lost three consecutive EPL matches, including that [3-0 hammering by Manchester City](#), and will be without Mykhaylo Mudryk (suspension), Estevão (injury), and Levi Colwill (injury). United fared little better, losing 2-1 at home to Leeds on Monday – their second defeat in four. The Red Devils are missing Noussair Mazraoui, Lisandro Martínez, Patrick Dorgu, and Matthijs de Ligt, leaving their backline severely depleted.

One remarkable stat favours the visitors: Manchester United have scored at least once in each of their last 20 Premier League matches – the longest active scoring run in the league.

**Betting Odds:** Chelsea 2.25 (44%) | Draw 3.50 (28%) | Man United 3.50 (28%)

**Prediction:** Chelsea 2-2 Manchester United. Goals at both ends in a match where both teamsâ?? defensive frailties will be on full display.

**Historic Merseyside Derby: Everton vs Liverpool â?? Sunday,  
19 April (2:00pm BST)**

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History awaits as the Merseyside derby is played at the Hill Dickinson Stadium for the very first time

After 131 years of Merseyside derbies at Goodison Park, this fixture writes a new chapter in one of English football's most storied rivalries. Everton welcome Liverpool to the Hill Dickinson Stadium for the first time in competitive action and what an occasion it promises to be.

David Moyes's Everton sit eighth in the table and have been in solid form, losing just once in their last five outings. The Toffees drew 2-2 at Brentford last week thanks to a late equaliser, and a home win here could see them leapfrog Liverpool in the standings. Jarrad Branthwaite, Iliman Ndiaye, and Vitalii Mykolenko all return to boost the squad, though Charly Alcaraz and Jack Grealish remain unavailable.

Liverpool, sitting fifth with 52 points, are three points outside the top four and desperately need a positive result. Arne Slot's side beat Fulham 2-0 last week, but their season has been inconsistent with 10 defeats already in 32 matches. Crucially, goalkeeper Alisson Becker misses out with a hamstring problem, joined on the sidelines by Wataru Endo (broken foot), Conor Bradley (knee), and Giovanni Leoni. Liverpool also have a Champions League quarter-final commitment in midweek.

**Betting Odds:** Everton 2.75 (36%) | Draw 3.40 (29%) | Liverpool 2.15 (46%)

**Prediction:** Everton 1-1 Liverpool. The new-ground atmosphere lifts Everton, but Slot's side have too much quality to lose - expect a feisty, tight draw.

**Relegation Six-Pointer: Tottenham vs Brighton - Saturday, 18 April (5:30pm BST)**

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Roberto De Zerbi faces his former club Brighton at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in a match Spurs simply cannot afford to lose

Few would have imagined at the start of the season that Tottenham Hotspur would be fighting for their Premier League lives in April, yet here we are. Spurs sit in the bottom three, two points from safety with just six matches remaining, following a [1-0 defeat to Sunderland](#) in Roberto De Zerbi's first match in charge.

This fixture carries added spice as De Zerbi faces Brighton – the club where he made his name in English football. The Seagulls arrive in brilliant form, having won three consecutive league matches and four of their last five to climb to ninth. They harbour European ambitions of their own and will fancy their

chances against a Spurs side low on confidence.

**Betting Odds:** Tottenham 2.50 (40%) | Draw 3.60 (27%) | Brighton 3.00 (33%)

**Prediction:** Tottenham 1-2 Brighton. De Zerbi's side are in desperate need of a win, but Brighton's form and quality may prove too much. A devastating result for Spurs' survival hopes.

## The Rest of the Weekend's Fixtures

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A packed Premier League weekend with crucial fixtures across the table from the title race to the relegation battle

## **Brentford vs Fulham â?? Saturday, 18 April**

A west London derby with both sides in decent form. Brentford are unbeaten in five matches, whilst Fulham will be stinging from their defeat to Liverpool. Brentford's home form makes them slight favourites in this evenly matched local affair.

**Odds:** Brentford 2.30 | Draw 3.30 | Fulham 3.20

**Prediction:** Brentford 2-1 Fulham

### **Leeds United vs Wolverhampton Wanderers â?? Saturday, 18 April**

Leeds welcome Wolves to Elland Road in a mid-table encounter. After their shock win over Manchester United, Leeds will be riding high. Wolves have been inconsistent and face a tough trip to Yorkshire.

**Odds:** Leeds 1.90 | Draw 3.50 | Wolves 4.20

**Prediction:** Leeds 2-0 Wolves

### **Newcastle United vs AFC Bournemouth â?? Saturday, 18 April**

Bournemouth arrive at St James's Park on the back of a remarkable 12-match unbeaten run â?? the best in the league. Newcastle have scored in their last nine matches and with both teams to score hitting in 21 of each side's 32 games this season, goals are virtually guaranteed. This is one of the most intriguing matches of the weekend.

**Odds:** Newcastle 2.10 | Draw 3.40 | Bournemouth 3.60

**Prediction:** Newcastle 2-2 Bournemouth

### **Aston Villa vs Sunderland â?? Sunday, 19 April**

Sunderland's impressive return to the top flight continues, but Villa Park is a daunting destination. Aston Villa drew 1-1 with Nottingham Forest last time out and will want to bounce back in front of their home supporters.

**Odds:** Aston Villa 1.75 | Draw 3.70 | Sunderland 4.80

**Prediction:** Aston Villa 2-1 Sunderland

### **Nottingham Forest vs Burnley â?? Sunday, 19 April**

Two promoted sides meet at the City Ground. Forest drew 1-1 with Villa last weekend, while Burnley were beaten 2-0 by Brighton. Forest's home advantage should be the deciding factor in a tight contest.

**Odds:** Nottingham Forest 2.00 | Draw 3.40 | Burnley 3.80

**Prediction:** Nottingham Forest 1-0 Burnley

### **Crystal Palace vs West Ham United â?? Monday, 20 April**

The Monday night fixture sees Crystal Palace host West Ham at Selhurst Park. West Ham hammered Wolves 4-0 last time out and will be full of confidence, but Palace upset Newcastle 2-1 in their most

recent outing. An entertaining south-east London derby to close the matchday.

**Odds:** Crystal Palace 2.50 | Draw 3.30 | West Ham 2.90

**Prediction:** Crystal Palace 1-1 West Ham

## Standings Snapshot and Title Race

As things stand heading into Matchday 33, Arsenal lead the way on 70 points from 32 matches, with Manchester City lurking six points behind on 64 but crucially with a game in hand. The title race is far from over. If City win at the Etihad on Sunday, the gap shrinks to just three points and the momentum swings decisively in their favour.

At the bottom, Tottenham's perilous position in the relegation zone has shocked the football world. De Zerbi has just six matches to save Spurs' top-flight status starting with a must-not-lose encounter against his former club. For all the latest [Premier League coverage and analysis](#), stay tuned to Little Big Red Dot.

*All betting odds are approximate and based on market consensus at the time of writing. Please gamble responsibly.*

### **Date Created**

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