

royals spring training schedule 2023

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Spring training is an exciting time for baseball fans as it marks the beginning of a new season and provides a glimpse into the team's preparations for the upcoming year. In 2023, the Kansas City Royals embarked on their spring training journey in Arizona, where they aimed to fine-tune their skills, evaluate new talent, and build team chemistry. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the Royals' spring training schedule, key players, notable games, and what fans can look forward to as the season approaches.

Overview of Spring Training

Spring training is a crucial part of Major League Baseball (MLB) where teams prepare for the regular season. Conducted in warm climates, primarily Florida and Arizona, spring training allows teams to:

- Assess player performance and potential
- Experiment with different lineups and strategies
- Develop team chemistry
- Give younger players a chance to prove themselves
- Build excitement among fans

For the Kansas City Royals, the 2023 spring training season was particularly important as the organization looked to rebound from previous seasons and develop its young talent.

2023 Royals Spring Training Schedule

The Kansas City Royals held their spring training sessions primarily at the Surprise Stadium in Surprise, Arizona. This facility serves as the home for both the Royals and the Texas Rangers, allowing for a vibrant atmosphere filled with baseball enthusiasts. Below is a detailed schedule of the Royals' spring training games for 2023.

Regular Spring Training Games

The Royals played a total of 30 spring training games in 2023, a mix of matchups against various teams. Here is a summary of their schedule:

1. February 25: vs. Texas Rangers
2. February 26: vs. Colorado Rockies
3. February 28: at San Diego Padres
4. March 1: vs. San Francisco Giants
5. March 2: vs. Milwaukee Brewers

6. March 4: at Los Angeles Angels
7. March 5: at Seattle Mariners
8. March 6: vs. San Francisco Giants
9. March 8: at Oakland Athletics
10. March 9: vs. Chicago White Sox
11. March 11: at Texas Rangers
12. March 12: at Chicago Cubs
13. March 13: vs. Cincinnati Reds
14. March 14: at Milwaukee Brewers
15. March 16: vs. Los Angeles Angels
16. March 17: vs. San Diego Padres
17. March 19: at Chicago White Sox
18. March 20: vs. Arizona Diamondbacks
19. March 21: at San Francisco Giants
20. March 23: vs. Colorado Rockies
21. March 24: at Kansas City Royals (intra-squad game)
22. March 25: vs. Atlanta Braves
23. March 27: at Los Angeles Dodgers
24. March 28: vs. Seattle Mariners
25. March 29: at Arizona Diamondbacks
26. March 30: vs. Toronto Blue Jays
27. March 31: vs. Chicago Cubs

Key Dates and Highlights

- Opening Game: The Royals kicked off their spring training against the Texas Rangers on February 25, setting the tone for their preparation.
- Intra-squad Game: A unique aspect of the Royals' schedule was the intra-squad game on March 24, which allowed players to showcase their skills in a more controlled environment.
- Final Game: The last scheduled game before the regular season began was against the Chicago Cubs on March 31, providing a final opportunity to finalize the roster.

Key Players to Watch

As the Royals prepared for the 2023 season, several players stood out during spring training. Here are some key players to keep an eye on:

1. Bobby Witt Jr.

Bobby Witt Jr. is one of the brightest young stars in baseball and was expected to play a pivotal role for the Royals in 2023. After a promising rookie season, fans were excited to see how he would develop further. Witt Jr. showcased his power and speed during spring training, making him a key player to watch.

2. Salvador Pérez

As the veteran catcher and team leader, Salvador Pérez's experience and performance are invaluable to the Royals. His ability to mentor younger players and contribute both offensively and defensively makes him a cornerstone of the team. Spring training was a vital time for Pérez to prepare for the rigors of the regular season.

3. Brady Singer

Brady Singer emerged as a promising ace in the Royals' rotation during the previous season. His performance during spring training was critical for building the team's pitching depth. Fans looked to see how he would refine his skills and maintain his momentum heading into the season.

4. MJ Melendez

MJ Melendez, a young and talented catcher, was another player to keep an eye on. His ability to hit for power and play solid defense could make him a valuable asset for the Royals. Spring training provided him with opportunities to gain experience and showcase his abilities.

Notable Spring Training Games

Throughout the 2023 spring training schedule, several games were particularly notable for various reasons, including player performances, rivalries, and fan engagement.

Game Against the Chicago Cubs (March 12)

The matchup against the Chicago Cubs on March 12 was a highly anticipated game, drawing large crowds. It was a great opportunity for the Royals to test their skills against a competitive team and gauge their readiness for the regular season.

Game Against the Los Angeles Angels (March 16)

The Royals' game against the Los Angeles Angels on March 16 was significant due to the presence of superstar Shohei Ohtani. Fans were eager to see how the Royals' pitching staff would fare against one of the league's best dual-threat players.

Final Game Against the Chicago Cubs (March 31)

The final game of spring training against the Chicago Cubs served as a critical benchmark for the Royals. It allowed the coaching staff to finalize their roster decisions and provided fans with one last chance to see the team in action before the regular season kicked off.

Fan Engagement and Community Events

Spring training is not only about the games; it also includes various fan engagement activities and community events. The Royals organization emphasized connecting with their fans throughout the spring training period.

Autograph Sessions

The Royals hosted multiple autograph sessions during spring training, allowing fans to meet their favorite players. These events created a buzz and excitement among fans, especially younger ones, who looked forward to getting memorabilia signed.

Open Practices

Open practices provided fans with an opportunity to watch their team prepare up close. These sessions often included a Q&A segment where fans could interact with players and coaching staff, enhancing the overall experience.

Community Service Initiatives

The Royals also engaged in community service initiatives during spring training, showcasing their commitment to giving back. Players participated in local events, fostering goodwill and strengthening ties with the Arizona community.

Conclusion

The Royals spring training schedule 2023 was an exciting time for both the team and its fans. With a blend of experienced veterans and promising young talent, the Royals aimed to build a competitive roster for the upcoming season. The games, player performances, and community engagement activities contributed to an enriching experience that heightened anticipation for the regular season. As the Royals took to the field, fans remained hopeful for a successful season ahead, eager to support their team as they aimed for success in Major League Baseball.

Frequently Asked Questions

When does the Kansas City Royals spring training begin in 2023?

The Kansas City Royals spring training for 2023 begins on February 24, 2023.

Where will the Kansas City Royals hold their spring training in 2023?

The Kansas City Royals will hold their spring training at Surprise Stadium in Surprise, Arizona.

How many games are scheduled for the Royals during the 2023 spring training?

The Kansas City Royals have a total of 30 games scheduled during the 2023 spring training.

What is the first game of the Royals' spring training schedule in 2023?

The first game of the Royals' spring training schedule in 2023 is against the Texas Rangers on February 25, 2023.

Are there any notable players to watch during the Royals' 2023 spring training?

Yes, fans can look forward to watching young prospects like Bobby Witt Jr. and other key players as they prepare for the regular season.

How can fans purchase tickets for the Royals' spring training games?

Fans can purchase tickets for the Royals' spring training games through the official Kansas City Royals website or at the Surprise Stadium box office.

What is the typical duration of the Royals' spring training season?

The Royals' spring training season typically lasts from late February until the end of March, leading up to the start of the regular MLB season.

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