

## Randy Couture vs Antonio Rodrigo Nogueira UFC 102 Odds, Picks & Predictions

Contributed by Matt Foust  
 Saturday, 29 August 2009  
 Last Updated Saturday, 29 August 2009

UFC 102 will take place tonight at the Rose Garden Arena in Portland, Oregon. The headline bout in this evening's 11 fight card is a heavyweight tilt between former UFC Heavyweight and Light Heavyweight Champion, Randy "The Natural" Couture, and former Pride Heavyweight Champion, Antonio "Minotouro" Nogueira. The main card is set to begin at 10:00pm ET and can be seen live on Pay-Per-View. UFC 102 Odds, Picks & Predictions at BetUS.com are favoring Couture to win this evening at -200 on the moneyline.

Randy Couture will be making his second appearance in the Octagon tonight since returning to the UFC last year. The former champs homecoming foray did not go according to plan as current heavyweight title holder Brock Lesnar took him out at 3:07 into the second round at UFC 91 in November of 2008.

Despite the loss to Lesnar, Couture acquitted himself well against the champion, especially for a 46 year old. In fact, no one has looked as good as Couture did against Lesnar, and that includes Frank Mir's freakish submission of the behemoth Minnesotan.

If "The Natural" can beat Nogueira this evening, he might be in line for another title shot. However, beating "Minotouro" is easier said than done, which Couture hinted at in his comments regarding the Brazilian.

"Antonio is one of the most dynamic submission fighters in our sport," Couture said. "He is [also] very tenacious and durable."

Antonio Nogueira, like Couture, is looking to rebound from a loss in his last fight. The 33 year Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Balck Belt was destroyed by Frank Mir at UFC 92 in December of 2008. Mir stopped Nogueira for the first time in his career with a TKO at 1:54 in the second round.

The devastating defeat dropped Nogueira's record to 31-5-1 and left him with a 2-1 tally in the UFC. Prior to the Mir fight, the Rio de Janeiro native submitted former UFC Heavyweight Champion Tim Sylvia via choke at 1:28 in the third round.

Couture and Nogueira have long been two of the most respected fighters in the world. Nogueira expressed his excitement at finally getting to challenge the man who has become the face of the UFC.

"I'm honored to face such a great fighter as Randy Couture," Nogueira said. "[I've] wanted to fight him for some time now and I know to become a legend you have to beat a legend."

BetUS.com Randy Couture vs Antonio Rodrigo Nogueira UFC 102 Odds, Picks & Predictions

Randy Couture -200  
 Antonio Rodrigo Nogueira +160

Nate Marquardt -180  
 Demian Maia +150

Keith Jardine -140  
 Thiago Silva +110

Ed Herman -115  
 Aaron Simpson -115

Chris Leben -150  
 Jake Rosholt +120

Gabriel Gonzalez -375  
 Chris Tuchscherer +275

Krzysztof Soszynski +165  
 Brandon Vera -210

Nick Catone +165  
 Mark Munoz -210

Marcus Aurelio -160  
Even Dunham +130

Justin McCully +210  
Mike Russo -280

Tim Hague +160

Todd Duffee -200 Bet on sports at online sportsbook BetUS.com and receive up to 145% in Cash Bonuses and start winning today!