

TB12, Legendary Forever
By Jesse Almeida 2/2/22
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All of football fans were wondering, when will Tom Brady have his cliff fall? When will he be done with his legendary career? How much longer does Tom Brady have left in the tank? Well, to answer the very first question, Tom Brady never “fell off a cliff”, and to answer the second and third question together, he has called it a career at the age of 45. He may even still have some left in the tank to be honest with you but he is hanging up his cleats. It is the news that makes all of the fans, and all of the NFL feel dreadful. This is the day that none of us wanted to see happen anytime soon, but it is now time to thank Tom Brady for all he has done for the sport and especially for New England.

Patriots fans should be thankful to TB12 for everything that he has done for the region of New England. He gave the Patriots 20 years of hard work, sacrifice, and effort. The Patriots have won 6 Super Bowl Championships in their franchise, and he was centered around all 6 of those championships. As a 6th round pick (199th overall), expectations were low but like Tom Brady said to Robert Kraft, “it was the best decision that franchise ever made.” Tom Brady is truly the greatest NFL player of all time. Brady holds multiple records in the NFL including passing yards, passing touchdowns, game winning drives, 4th quarter comebacks, wins, most importantly Super Bowl rings, and many more. TB12 was a 15x Pro Bowl, 3x All-Pro, 7x Super Bowl Champion, 3x MVP, 5x Super Bowl MVP, and plenty more accomplishments for Brady. In his regular season career he played in 335 games and completed 64.3% of his passes, 89,214 yards, and 649 touchdowns. In his playoff career, TB12 played in 48 games and completed 62.5% of his passes, had 13,400 yards, and 88 touchdowns.

Tom Brady had some memorable moments in Patriots history. For starters when Tom Brady took over as the starting QB, we had the tuck rule game and his first ever career playoff win to advance to the AFC Championship against the Steelers. The Pats would go on to win that game and advance to the Super Bowl 36. Tom Brady had a solid performance in the Super Bowl seeing that it was his first year as a starting quarterback. 16/27, with 145 yards a touchdown, and an unbelievable drive under 2 minutes to get the Patriots in field goal range and for Vinatieri to drill the game winning field goal for the Patriots first ever Super Bowl against the Rams and was Super Bowl MVP.

In Super Bowl 38 Tom Brady was unreal as Patriots fans witnessed the beginning of greatness. In Super Bowl 38, Tom was 32/48 with 354 yards and 3 touchdowns. Once again just like in Super Bowl 36, Brady had little to no time left to get the Patriots in a position that would win them the game. Mr. Clutch delivered again that would set up Vinatieri again, and Vinatieri delivered that would clinch their second Super Bowl and his second Super Bowl MVP.

The next season TB12 and the Patriots were back in the Super Bowl against the Eagles. It was the hunt to go back to back, and the Patriots ended up completing that accomplishment. Brady was 23/33 with 236 yards and 2 touchdowns. This was their 3rd Super Bowl in 4 years.

In Super Bowl 49 where Brady would get his 4th ever Super Bowl, he went to war against one of the best quarterbacks at the time in Russel Wilson. The Patriots were down by 10 headed into the 4th quarter and a touchdown pass to Amendola and a touchdown pass to Edelman brought the Patriots back and gave them the lead. The hero of this Super Bowl was not Brady however. That was Malcom Butler with one of the most famous interceptions ever. Butler picked off a pass that would have given Seattle the win, and that play clinched their 4th Super Bowl. Even though Butler was the hero of the game, Brady was still remarkable as he was 37/50 with 328 yards, and 4 touchdowns with 2 interceptions and was named Super Bowl MVP. Brady himself even acknowledged that Butler deserved Super Bowl MVP and gave him the car that he won from the Super Bowl MVP award.

The greatest moment of Tom Brady's career was the greatest comeback in Super Bowl history and arguably in NFL history. Super Bowl 51 against the Falcons. Tom Brady looked the worst ever in the first half as the Patriots were down 21-3 at halftime and down by 28-3 in the third. Tom Brady turned up, with 2 touchdowns in the second half, and was successful on a 2 point conversion to bring the Patriots all the way back to force Super Bowl 51 into OT. It was the first ever Super Bowl in NFL history that went to OT. Brady and the Patriots drove down the field and James White fought his way into the end zone to clinch Brady, and the Patriots their 5th championship. It was unreal for a quarterback to turn it around that quickly in the Super Bowl. You could not have scripted it any better than that. Brady ended 43/62 with 466 yards, 2 touchdowns, an interception, and a fumble.

What is better than 5 Super Bowl rings? 6 rings. In Super Bowl 53, this was one of the only Super Bowls where Tom Brady was in that was all about the defense. What made this one special for Brady was the first player in NFL history with 6 Super Bowl rings. The downfall

from this was that this would be his last with New England. 2 seasons later he joined the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and would go on to win his 7th and final Super Bowl in a blow out against the Kansas City Chiefs. As Patriots fans it is upsetting that he did not spend his entire career as a Patriot for reasons we will not revisit.

Tom Brady is nothing but greatness. His legacy, and his performance will be talked about forever. He has earned nothing but respect from every fan, every player, every organization, and everyone involved with the NFL. TB12 was always calm and always embraced the moment. He was a serious competitor and would give his team and his teammates his all day in and day out. Tom Brady retiring only means two things. The first one is that we will never see someone as great as Tom Brady again in the NFL, and the NFL will never be the same again without Brady. Every fan should be thankful that they were able to witness unbelievable greatness for 23 years and should be thankful for what Tom Brady brought every single day. For Patriots fans, be thankful for what Tom Brady has done for your team for the 20 years that he spent. The only 6 banners that the Patriots have, the memories that you get to share with your kids in the future, the effort and greatness that he brought to the Patriots for 20 years. Thank you Tom Brady for all that you have done for the NFL, and especially here in New England. We will miss you and we wish you nothing but success in your next phase in your life.

Sources:

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[Tom Brady's Top 10 moments with Patriots | NFL Throwback](https://www.nfl.com/news/tom-brady-top-10-moments-with-patriots)