Sports Travel Experience Designed Especially for Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association

Soccer in Turin & Milan
April 5 - April 13, 2020

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

DAY 1  DEPARTURE FROM NORTH AMERICA
DAY 2  ARRIVE MILAN - TURIN AREA (3 NIGHTS)
DAY 3  PROFESSIONAL COACHING CLINIC & TURIN
DAY 4  JUVENTUS STADIUM TOUR & FIRST INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY
DAY 5  TURIN AREA - SECOND INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY - MILAN AREA (4 NIGHTS)
DAY 6  MILAN & SAN SIRO STADIUM TOUR
DAY 7  LAKE COMO & THIRD INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY
DAY 8  FOURTH INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY & PROFESSIONAL MATCH
DAY 9  DEPARTURE FROM MILAN
One of the traditional European soccer powers, Italy has won four World Cups. Italy’s domestic league, Serie A, boasts some of the best talent in the world. Juventus, AC Milan, Internazionale Milan and A.S. Roma are just a few of the clubs that make Serie A competitive in European competition. The Italian way of soccer is known for its disciplined defending and passionate support.

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**DAY 1  Sunday, 05 April 2020**

Relax and enjoy our scheduled flight to Milan, Italy.

* Please note that the final itinerary may be slightly different from this program. The final itinerary will be determined based on the size of the group, any adjustments that are required (such as adding additional matches), and the final schedule of the matches. (If additional matches are required, then some sightseeing content will be replaced by the additional matches needed.)

**DAY 2  Monday, 06 April 2020**

Our 24-hour Tour Director will meet us at the airport and remain with us until our final airport departure.

We will be met at the airport by our driver and our private bus. We will then transfer to nearby Turin (Torino). We will have use of a private coach and driver, while touring in Italy.

Turin (Torino) is often associated with industry, but is also a town of superb grace and charm. Set dramatically against the foothills of the Alps, the city is filled with beautiful Baroque architecture and excellent museums.

Our base for the first three nights will be in the Turin (Torino) area. While here, we will enjoy breakfast and dinner at the hotel.

TRAINING SESSION

We will participate in a Training Session at a local field. The training session will be led by your own coaching staff and are designed to prepare the team for upcoming friendly matches. (Training sessions may be in the morning, afternoon or evening and will be determined by the final hotel location, field availability, and the schedule of activities for the day).

This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.

**DAY 3  Tuesday, 07 April 2020**

This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

Today we will explore Turin (Torino).

PROFESSIONAL COACHING CLINIC

We will participate in a special Coaching clinic with a guest coach, player or instructor. The clinic will be designed exclusively for the team and to enhance skills in areas identified by the coaching staff. (Excel Sports has contacts at every level and can provide your team with some of the finest instructors in the industry. Specific clinics and coaches will be selected after time of booking).
DAY 3  Tuesday, 07 April 2020

During the course of our tour we will gain from the knowledge and insight of three half-day local guides while we are here in Italy.

TURIN WALKING TOUR
We will enjoy a walking tour of the center of Turin taking in some of the important religious and historic attractions. First we will head to the beautiful Piazza San Carlo. After a brief orientation, we will continue down the Via Roma, with its famous covered sidewalks on to Piazza Castello. From the front of the royal palaces, we will be able to learn a little more about the history of Turin, especially at the time of Don Bosco.

This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 4  Wednesday, 08 April 2020

This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

LIGHT TRAINING SESSION
Participate in a Light Training Session or a walk through at a local field in the Barcelona area. The training session will be led by your own coaching staff and is designed to prepare the team for upcoming friendly matches. (Light training sessions may be in the morning, afternoon or evening and will be determined by the final hotel location, field availability, and the schedule of activities for the day.)

Today we will travel to Juventus Stadium and then to our first match.

JUVENTUS STADIUM TOUR
Take a guided Juventus Stadium Tour chance to experience the most exclusive areas of Juventus Stadium, including the dressing rooms, the players’ tunnel the media area and other exclusive parts of the stadium. We will also visit the Juventus Museum to relive all the club’s history and triumphs. We will enjoy a unique and memorable experience packed with technology, multimedia and memorabilia.

We will enjoy some free time to shop or explore in Turin.

FIRST FRIENDLY MATCH
We will play a Friendly Match against a local club or academy team. The team will meet and compete against athletes of similar ages and skill levels, and have the opportunity to make friends for life. (The teams you will play will be selected after time of booking and will be based on the specific skill level and requirements of your team. We have contacts at every level and take great pride in finding the perfect fit for each friendly match.)

This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 5  Thursday, 09 April 2020

This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

Today we will travel from Turin to Milan.

SECOND FRIENDLY MATCH
We will play a Friendly Match against a local club or academy team. The team will meet and compete against athletes of similar ages and skill levels, and have the opportunity to make friends for life. (The teams you will play will be selected after time of booking and will be based on the specific skill level and requirements of your team. We have contacts at every level and take great pride in finding the perfect fit for each friendly match.)

More chic than traditionally beautiful, the bustling city of Milan is a center of fashion, business, and finance. For centuries, it has been an important trading center and a prize for powerful dynasties. Today, it is the best place to experience cosmopolitan Italy.

Our base for the final four nights will be in the greater Milan area. While here, we will enjoy breakfast and dinner (or lunch) at the hotel.

This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.
DAY 6  Friday, 10 April 2020

This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

TRAINING SESSION
We will participate in a Training Session at a local field. The training session will be led by your own coaching staff and is designed to prepare the team for upcoming friendly matches. (Training sessions may be in the morning, afternoon or evening and will be determined by the final hotel location, field availability, and the schedule of activities for the day.)

Today we will explore San Siro Stadium and Milan.

SAN SIRO STADIUM TOUR
Pay homage to 'the beautiful game' in Milan with a guided tour of San Siro Stadium, where both AC Milan and FC Internazionale Milano (aka Inter Milan) play. Inside we will explore the stadium's public areas and gaze down at the pitch from the tiered seating stands. We will visit the press room where post-match interviews and photo sessions take place, and then take a walk through the 'tunnel of champions' to the pitch. Often you can also visit the changing rooms. We conclude in the stadium museum, a place full of football paraphernalia with trophies, cups, shirts and more.

CAS A MILAN
Visit Casa Milan and the new headquarters of AC Milan. The contemporary new building, unveiled for the 2014-15 season, is complete with a museum, store and the Cucina Milanello restaurant. Browse AC Milan history in the museum, shop for more souvenirs and then, if option selected, visit the restaurant for a light lunch.

MILAN CITY TOUR
Discover Milan on our private bus as we view some of the most important landmarks in the historic heart of the city. We will then take a tour on foot of the enormous and magnificent Piazza del Duomo, flanked by the Duomo, La Scala Opera House and the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II.

MILAN D UOMO
Spend time in central Milan's Piazza del Duomo and visit the unique and beautiful Gothic Duomo. The cathedral is easily recognizable because of its unusual roofline, consisting of 135 spires and numerous statues and gargoyles. We will view the cathedral's beautifully crafted stained glass windows, the treasury, and the remains of the original 4th century baptistry.

GALLERIA VITTORIO EMANUELE II
We will stroll around the four-story covered double arcade of shops in the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II; it was originally designed in 1861 and built by Giuseppe Mengoni between 1865 and 1877. The imposing street is covered over by an arching glass and cast iron roof, and the central octagonal space is topped with a glass dome. The Galleria connects two of Milan's most famous landmarks, the Duomo and the Teatro Alla Scala.

This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 7  Saturday, 11 April 2020

This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

LIGHT TRAINING SESSION
Participate in a Light Training Session or a walk through at a local field in the Barcelona area. The training session will be led by your own coaching staff and is designed to prepare the team for upcoming friendly matches. (Light training sessions may be in the morning, afternoon or evening and will be determined by the final hotel location, field availability, and the schedule of activities for the day.)

Today we will travel north of Milan to explore Lake Como.

Life is slower around the northern Italian lakes than in mega-paced Milan; Como is an ideal base for drawing breath and kicking back. Sitting on the southwestern tip of Lake Como, the city is essentially a center of commerce with a small medieval quarter and a pretty waterfront. Tourists flock here for its ancient heritage, fine churches, and lake views. Como is the jumping point for most adventures on the lake, and the 10-minute funicular ride up to hilltop Brunate leads on to stretches of hiking along wooded trails up to Bellagio.

LAKE COMO CRUISE
This morning we will enjoy a scenic Lake Como Cruise. The cruise will be a wonderfully tranquil experience, as we explore the lake and the many surrounding villages. A vacation to Lake Como is part of the Italian Lake District is a well-known vacation retreat because of its lovely blue-green water, diving areas, fishing and swimming opportunities, great scenery, and old-world charm and atmosphere. During our cruise, we will likely see popular towns such as Bellagio, Varenna, Lecco, and Menaggio.
DAY 7  Saturday, 11 April 2020

1. THIRD FRIENDLY MATCH
   We will play a Friendly Match against a local club or academy team. The team will meet and compete against athletes of similar ages and skill levels, and have the opportunity to make friends for life. (The teams you will play will be selected after time of booking and will be based on the specific skill level and requirements of your team. We have contacts at every level and take great pride in finding the perfect fit for each friendly match.)
   This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 8  Sunday, 12 April 2020

1. This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
2. LIGHT TRAINING SESSION
   Participate in a Light Training Session or a walk through at a local field in the Barcelona area. The training session will be led by your own coaching staff and is designed to prepare the team for upcoming friendly matches. (Light training sessions may be in the morning, afternoon or evening and will be determined by the final hotel location, field availability, and the schedule of activities for the day.)
   Today we will travel to our final match and then to a professional match.
3. FOURTH FRIENDLY MATCH
   We will play a Friendly Match against a local club or academy team. The team will meet and compete against athletes of similar ages and skill levels, and have the opportunity to make friends for life. (The teams you will play will be selected after time of booking and will be based on the specific skill level and requirements of your team. We have contacts at every level and take great pride in finding the perfect fit for each friendly match.)
4. ATTEND A PROFESSIONAL MATCH
   We will attend a professional soccer match featuring teams from the top leagues. Seeing the top talent in the world in person would itself be an unforgettable experience, but add the passionate crowds signing, cheering and chanting and you will enter an atmosphere that can only be understood through personal experience. (Excel Programs will secure tickets for the group after time of booking and upon release of the official schedule. Due to scheduling your final itinerary may need to adjusted to accommodate attending a match.)
   This evening we will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 9  Monday, 13 April 2020

1. This morning you will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
2. Our rewarding and enjoyable tour comes to an end as our Tour Director accompanies us to the airport on our final day.
What is Included:

- Round trip airfare, including all airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- Accommodation in three star hotels in twin and triple rooms with private facilities guaranteed throughout
- Breakfast and dinner (or lunch) at the hotel daily (determined by the final sporting arrangements)
- WorldStrides Excel Sports Tour Director to accompany your group 24 hours a day from arrival to departure
- Transportation by private coach for transfers and touring, as required based on your itinerary
- Excursions, cultural activities, stadium tours and admissions as per your itinerary
- International Friendly Matches per your itinerary (Excel Sports is a FIFA approved match agent, holding the rights to arrange soccer matches between teams from different confederations and will provide full documentation of the sanctioned games)
- Training Sessions and/or Professional Coaching Clinics per your itinerary
- One professional soccer ticket (subject to travel dates and match schedule)
- Three free college credits for all high school students (earning credit is optional for each participant and post trip course work is required)
- Free Professional Development Points/Credits (35 points or equivalent) for any educators traveling with the group
- Manchester United Raffle Fundraiser - all proceeds earned go directly to the cost of the tour
- WorldStrides Excel Sports App - featuring itinerary, flight and hotel details, as well as instant messaging capabilities
- Financial assistance program through the Future Leaders of American Government (FLAG) Foundation (for qualifying participants)
- Payment plans to meet the needs of all participants - EZPay and our Advantage Payment Plan (APP), where participants can make equal installment payments up to six months after the trip
- USTOA Extensive Consumer Protection up to $1,000,000 in coverage for advance deposits through our USTOA membership
- Basic health insurance while on tour (including medical treatment on tour up to $7,500) and $50,000 of coverage for emergency evacuation
- Industry leading Professional Liability Insurance of $50,000,000 in coverage
- Exclusive 24-hour Doctors On-Call partnership with George Washington University Hospital

Our Price Guarantee - Once you have enrolled to join the group, the prices shown for the relevant group size levels will not change, regardless of any subsequent rate fluctuations (for example, on visits to attractions, airline fuel/taxes or currency movements on overseas programs).

This Does Not Include:

- Any items not mentioned above or in the detailed itinerary
- Single rooms for adults - available at a supplement of $75 per night
- Third daily meal or personal beverages with meals
- Laundry services on tour
- Public transport pass in capital or major cities
- Visas (if required)
- Tips and gratuities for the Tour Director and driver
- Any fees that might be imposed by the airlines at the airport for checked baggage, or any costs for the hire of, or transport of, equipment or gear
- Travel Insurance - we offer and encourage you to consider our comprehensive policy which includes health, property and cancellation coverage at a cost of $149 (available upon registration)
Manchester United Grand Prize Raffle Drawing

Win a four-day trip for two and attend the final Manchester United home game at Old Trafford Stadium

The winner will receive:
- Two round trip flights to Manchester
- Two nights accommodation
- Two tickets to see Manchester United’s final season home game at Old Trafford

The Ultimate Fundraiser

WorldStrides Excel Sports Programs is pleased to offer your individual participants or your team with the ultimate fundraiser. Your participants will be able to sell raffle tickets to people in their community or to other friends and family members. The money they raise will be theirs to apply towards the cost of their sports tour.

We will provide a PDF of the raffle tickets. The participants will print the tickets at home, and then they will proceed to sell the tickets for $10 each. WorldStrides Excel Sports Programs will provide the grand prize and hold a drawing on the 1st of March each year in order to choose a winner.

“This raffle fundraiser is sending me to Spain to play soccer. When my parents told me I had to pay for the trip myself I was determined I could do it and with the help of this raffle I was able to pay for the entire trip. Thank you so much!”

Sydney Larkin, St. Mary’s College Women’s Soccer (MD)

“The Manchester trip was an awesome experience that I will never forget. It’s been a dream of mine to see a Premier League game so this trip helped that wish come true for me. The atmosphere at the game was awesome and I got to see some great goals from Manchester United. I was also impressed with how accommodating Excel International Sports was while arranging extra days and flights for the trip. Overall, I am so grateful that I got this opportunity to go to Manchester and fulfill one of my dreams!”

Mike Smith, Grand Prize Raffle Winner
Don’t Just Take Our Word for it. Here is What Our Participants Had to Say:

“We had an excellent experience in Italy. Our travel was great; the guides were very knowledgeable and professional. As always the sights, smells and tastes of Italy were amazing and the girls discovered the rich history from roman ruins, to the marble streets of Verona and Venice. It truly was the trip of a lifetime for them to play against very good Serie A and B teams. I would highly recommend WorldStrides Excel for your team’s next trip abroad.”

Chris Wilson, Head Coach, EPYSA ODP Girls, Italy

“The trip was so well-organized from when we landed in Italy to when we departed. Our representatives were so welcoming and did a great job to adapt to the scheduled events. The competition was perfect and we were able to hang out with the opposing team after each match to socialize. I’m so glad the girls were able to attend a Serie A game, going to the stadium to watch a top-not club play felt like a special treat. All of us can’t stop talking about the fun time we had. Thank you again for organizing such a wonderful trip!”

Jill Rutten, Head Coach, MSYSA ODP Girls, Italy

“This trip far surpassed my expectations. Our tour guide did a fantastic job with both the players and the parents. Attending the Hellas Verona vs. Inter Milan professional match was top notch. But for me the best part was being able to watch my child play soccer in Italy. Thank you for all of your hard work and efforts that went into this trip.”

Jim Hott, Parent, MSYSA Girls ODP, Italy

“We just returned from another successful and very satisfying trip with WorldStrides Excel. The transportation and hotel services, soccer competitions, sightseeing, tour representatives and support staff are always top notch.”

Rich Fabrizio, Board Member, MSYSA Girls ODP Italy