

## Educational Travel Experience Designed Especially for Your Group



## Soccer in Buenos Aires












### ITINERARY OVERVIEW

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- DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM NORTH AMERICA
- DAY 2 ARRIVE BUENOS AIRES (6 NIGHTS)
- DAY 3 COACHING CLINIC, LA BOCA & FIRST FRIENDLY MATCH
- DAY 4 COACHING CLINIC, TIGRE DELTA TOUR & SECOND FRIENDLY MATCH
- DAY 5 TRAINING SESSION & ESTANCIA
- DAY 6 TRAINING SESSION, EXCURSION TO COLONIA & THIRD FRIENDLY MATCH
- DAY 7 FOURTH FRIENDLY MATCH & ATTEND A PROFESSIONAL MATCH
- DAY 8 VIEW A PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SESSION - DEPART BUENOS AIRES
- DAY 9 ARRIVE NORTH AMERICA

## ITINERARY

Football is like a religion in Argentina and it is part of the identity of almost everybody and it is by far the most popular sport, the one with the most players (2,658,811 total). There are 3,377 clubs and 37,161 officials according to FIFA, and it is the most popular recreational sport, played from childhood into old age. The Argentine national team is one of the eight to have won the football World Cup, having done so in 1978 and 1986.

 Educational Tour/Visit	 Cultural Experience	 Festival/Performance/Workshop	Tour Services
 Recreational Activity	 LEAP Enrichment	 Match/Training Session	    











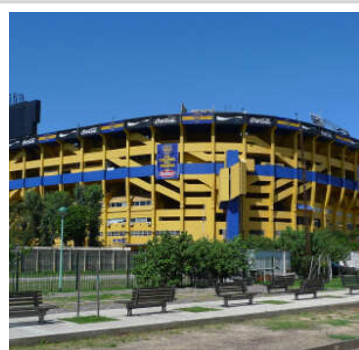
### DAY 1

-  Relax and enjoy our scheduled flight from North America.

### DAY 2

Our bi-lingual Tour Director will meet us at the airport and will accompany our group 24 hours per day throughout our time in Argentina.

-  Our private coach will be waiting to transfer us to our hotel in Argentina. We will have a private bus and driver for all sightseeing, excursions and soccer activities as the itinerary dictates.
-  Buenos Aires is the capital of the Argentine Republic. The name means fair winds in Spanish. It is one of the largest cities in Latin America with a lot of cultural offerings and is the point of departure for travelling to the rest of the country. Inhabitants of Buenos Aires are called porteños, "people from the port". Buenos Aires is a destination that allows the visitor not only to view the city but also to have an exceptional urban adventure.
-  Our base for the next six nights will be in the greater Buenos Aires area. While here breakfast and dinner (or lunch depending on soccer schedule) will be included at the hotel restaurant.
-  Today we will enjoy lunch in the hotel restaurant.
-  **BUENOS AIRES CITY TOUR**  
We will take a comprehensive Buenos Aires City Tour, highlighting many of the important landmarks and buildings in the city, as well as the various neighborhoods including La Boca, San Telmo, La Recoleta and Palermo. During our tour we will explore the Colonial Center including Plaza de Mayo, the Cabildo, Casa Rosada, the Cathedral, the Obelisk, the Congress, Government House, the Colonial Theater and the wide 9 de Julio Avenue, as well as the Puerto Madero Riverfront.
-  **CASA ROSADO**  
Explore the exterior of Casa Rosada, which is perhaps the most photographed building in Buenos Aires. It is from a balcony of the north wing of this building that Eva Perón addressed adoring crowds. During our visit we will watch the Changing of the Guard in front of the palace every hour on the hour. In the back of the building, we can visit the Presidential Museum, with information on the history of the building and items owned by various presidents over the centuries.
-  **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).
-  Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



### DAY 3



This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will travel to our clinic and then to the La Boca neighborhood of Buenos Aires.



#### 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).



#### LA BOCA WALK

We will take a Walking Tour of La Boca, on the banks of the Río Riachuelo, originally developed as a trading center and shipyard. It was the city's first Little Italy, the main point of entry for Italians at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries, giving the neighborhood the distinct flavor it still maintains. Literally, La Boca means "the mouth," taking its name from a natural harbor formed by a twist in the Río Riachuelo, a tributary that feeds into the Río de la Plata. La Boca is most famous for giving birth to tango. The focus of La Boca is the Caminito, a pedestrian walkway lined with humorously sculpted statues and murals explaining its history. Surrounding the cobblestone street are corrugated metal houses painted a hodgepodge of colors, recalling a time when the poor locals decorated with whatever paint was left over from ship maintenance in the harbor. Today, many artists live or set up their studios in these houses.



#### LA BOMBONERA

Take a guided tour of Estadio de Boca Juniors (Boca Juniors Stadium and Museum) and enter one of the most important stages of the country, La Bombonera. Inside the Boca Juniors stadium we will be able to visit the preferential seats, the popular sector and local costumes. We will be able to get our own photos on the field and finish in a stand where you'll have the opportunity to see the private box of Diego Maradona. Then we go to the Museum of the Passion Boquense where we will learn the history of the club, its players and the evolution of the shirt. Also, you'll be able to see a film that recreates firsthand what it feels like to play at the club and go to the field with the team. Finally, we will have free time to visit the museum shop.



#### FRIENDLY MATCH

We will play a Friendly Match against a local club or school 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).



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



This evening will be free to enjoy social activities around the hotel area.

### DAY 4



This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will travel to our clinic and then to the Tigre Delta.



#### 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).



#### TIGRE DELTA TOUR

We journey just north of the city to explore the Parana River Delta, and extraordinary ecological zone. We will board the picturesque Tren de la Costa (riverside train) and take a scenic ride along the Río de la Plata coast. We will stop at San Isidro station to visit its attractive shopping center. A short walk around the town takes us to the San Isidro Cathedral before returning to the train which will depart for Tigre. Upon arrival at Tigre we will enjoy the natural scene and crafts at the Fruit Dock in Tigre.



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#### DAY 4



This evening will be free to enjoy social activities around the hotel area.

#### DAY 5



This morning we 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 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).



Today we will travel to an Estancia ranch in the nearby Pampas region.



##### DAY AT THE ESTANCIA

Today we will enjoy an excursion to the Pampas and visit a typical "Estancia" or farm. The Pampas is one of the most important economical areas in Argentina. On the Estancia, the gaucho traditions are kept alive and we will spend a wonderful day in the countryside getting to know a typical Argentine ranch. On arrival we will visit the Estancia House (museum) before sampling local homemade empanada pastries. There will be activities such as horseback riding and sulky rides (one-horse carriages) before a typical Asado lunch. We will also enjoy a Gaucho Dance and Music Show and this is followed by viewing the gaucho's skills on their horses as we view Cuadreras and Ring Races.



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



This evening will be free to enjoy social activities around the hotel area.

#### DAY 6



This morning we 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 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).



Today we will travel to Uruguay and the historic town of Colonia.



We will take a fast-ferry from Buenos Aires to Colonia in Uruguay. We will return to Buenos Aires by fast-ferry later this afternoon.



##### COLONIA DEL SACRAMENTO

The tiny gem of Colonia del Sacramento, declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO, appears untouched by time. Dating from the 17th century, the Old City has beautifully preserved colonial artistry down its dusty streets. A leisurely stroll from the Puerta de Campo into the Barrio Histórico (Old, or Historic, Neighborhood) leads under flower-laden windowsills to churches dating from the 1680s, past exquisite single-story homes from Colonia's time as a Portuguese settlement and on to local museums detailing the riches of the town's past. The Barrio Histórico contains brilliant examples of colonial wealth and many of Uruguay's oldest structures. Yet while the city resides happily in tradition, a mix of lovely shops, delicious cafes, and thoughtful museums make the town more than a history lesson.



##### BARRIO HISTORICO WALK

We will take a guide walking tour in the Barrio Histórico (Old Neighborhood), on the coast at the far southwestern corner of town. The sights, which are all within a few blocks, can easily be visited on foot in a few hours. Highlights will include; Plaza Mayor, the principal square that served as the center of the colonial establishment; the Iglesia Matriz, among the oldest churches in the country and a good example of 17th-century architecture and design; the Ruinas Convento San Francisco dating from 1696; the Casa de Brown; the Ruinas Casa del Gobernador; and the UNESCO-Colonia headquarters.

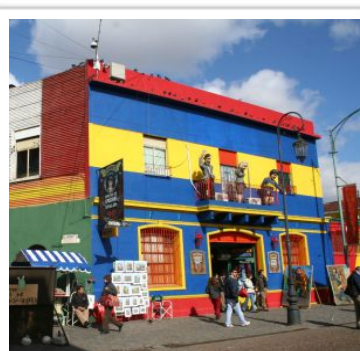
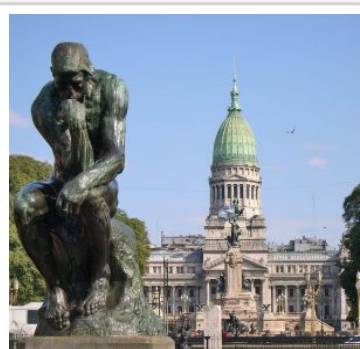


##### FRIENDLY MATCH

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Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



#### DAY 6



This evening will be free to enjoy social activities around the hotel area.

#### DAY 7



This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will travel to our friendly and then to see a professional match.



##### FRIENDLY MATCH

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##### 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 singing, cheering and chanting and you will enter an atmosphere that can only be understood through personal experience. An engaging and entertaining atmosphere, along with incredible skill will make attending a match a highlight of any program. (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 be adjusted to accommodate attending a match).



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



This evening will be free to enjoy social activities around the hotel area.

#### DAY 8



This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will check out of the hotel and travel to a professional club to watch a professional team's training session.



##### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SESSION

We will visit a professional team's training grounds and observe a full training session. We will see how the pros train and ideally learn some new drills and skills to enhance our training when back home. (Training sessions may be in the morning or afternoon and will be determined by the final itinerary and availability).



Enjoy free time to shop and enjoy the beauty of Buenos Aires at your leisure.



This evening we will have an early dinner as a group in a local restaurant.



Our rewarding and enjoyable tour comes to an end as our Tour Director accompanies us to the airport this evening to check-in and then board our flights home. (Most flights depart in the late evening through early morning)

#### DAY 9



We will arrive back in North America today.

**What is Included:**

- Round trip airfare with a major carrier on scheduled flights
- All airport taxes and fuel surcharges (which will not change after time of enrollment for any participant)
- Accommodation in a three or four star hotel in twin rooms (with occasional triples) with private facilities guaranteed throughout
- Full breakfast daily at the hotel
- Lunch or dinner daily (determined by the final sporting arrangements)
- A full-time WorldStrides Excel Sports Tour Director to accompany your group 24 hours a day from arrival to departure
- Transportation by private coach for airport transfers, touring and all soccer content as required throughout
- All excursions, cultural activities and (several pre-booked) admissions as per your itinerary
- All soccer arrangements as per the itinerary ((Traininbg sessions, coaching clinics, matches, viewing session, stadium tour)
- One pro soccer ticket (subject to schedule and avialability at time of booking)
- Three loads of laundry for team uniforms during the trip (20 full uniforms each load)
- Three free college credits for all high school students (this is optional for each participant & post trip course work is required)
- Basic health insurance while on tour (including medical treatment on tour up to \$7,500) and \$50,000 of coverage for emergency evacuation and repatriation
- USTOA Extensive Consumer Protection up to \$1,000,000 in coverage for advance deposits through our USTOA membership
- Manchester United raffle
- One free place in a single room throughout the tour
- Industry leading Professional Liability Insurance of \$50,000,000 in coverage, which extends to the coach and the organization during the tour

**This Does Not Include:**

- Any items not mentioned above or in the detailed itinerary
- Single rooms for adults (will be available at a per night supplement determined by the group's travel dates)
- Third daily meal or personal beverages with meals
- Additional laundry services on tour
- Visas (if required)
- Tips and gratuities for the guide and driver
- Public transport pass in Buenos Aires
- Any fees that might be imposed by the airlines at the airport for checked baggage
- Any costs for the hire of, or transport of, equipment or gear
- Travel insurance - We offer and always recommend our Trip Mate travel insurance policy to all participants. This comprehensive policy includes health, property and cancellation coverage at a cost of \$149