



Educational Travel Experience Designed Especially for Your Group














Soccer in London

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

- DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM NORTH AMERICA
- DAY 2 ARRIVE LONDON AREA (7 NIGHTS)
- DAY 3 LONDON & FIRST FRIENDLY MATCH
- DAY 4 LONDON
- DAY 5 WINDSOR & SECOND FRIENDLY MATCH
- DAY 6 DAY TRIP TO OXFORD
- DAY 7 THIRD FRIENDLY MATCH & ATTEND A PROFESSIONAL GAME
- DAY 8 FOURTH FRIENDLY MATCH & LONDON
- DAY 9 DEPARTURE FROM LONDON

ITINERARY

Soccer is home to England where "association rules football" was first drawn up amongst public school teams. The sport has become the passion of England where the national team, The Three Lions, won the World Cup in 1966. England also boasts the most famous soccer league in the world, The Premier League. World renowned soccer clubs Manchester United, Arsenal FC, Liverpool FC and Manchester City are just a few of the teams that call the Premier league home.

 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.

* 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



Our 24-hour Tour Director will meet us at the airport and remain with us until our final airport departure. We will transfer by private coach and driver to our London area hotel. During our tour we will have the use of a private bus for all transfers and matches as required.



Our base for the next seven nights will be in the greater London area. Breakfast and dinner (or lunch) will be included at the hotel each day.



We begin with a welcome meeting and orientation. Afterwards, enjoy free time to explore the area around 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.)



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



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

DAY 3



This morning we will have 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 travel into central London.



London is the largest city in Europe: quite a feat, considering its location on a relatively small island. London's location is perfect for an administrative, communications and trade center, as the Romans realized when they founded their city in AD 43. London is filled with countless historic and cultural treasures that meld seamlessly in this exciting, contemporary city.



In London, the cost of public transport is included for all group sightseeing. Escorted by our Tour Director, we will be able to experience the city in the same manner as the local people.



DAY 3



LONDON CITY TOUR

We will enjoy an introductory tour of London on our private bus and on foot. We will see St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge, Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Trafalgar Square, St. James's Park and Buckingham Palace, where we will see the Changing of the Guard ceremonies. (Subject to final tour schedule)



We will have some free time for shopping this afternoon.



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.)



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 have 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 return to central London.



TOWER OF LONDON

Visit the Tower of London, one of Britain's most fascinating and important historical structures. Begun as a fortress by William the Conqueror, the Tower is now primarily associated with the legendary figures imprisoned and executed here over the centuries. Our visit includes the armories, a display of instruments of torture and execution and the breathtaking Crown Jewels Exhibit.



LONDON EYE

Enjoy a ride on the London Eye, which opened in March 2001 to celebrate the new millennium with fantastic views of the city.



We will have some free time for shopping this afternoon.



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



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

DAY 5



This morning we will have breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will travel to nearby Windsor.



WINDSOR CASTLE

Visit Windsor Castle, the world's largest inhabited castle, and one of the official royal residences of the British monarch. Our visit will include the richly decorated State Apartments and St. George's Chapel, a pantheon of English monarchs.

Whilst visiting Windsor Castle view the fascinating Changing of the Guard ceremony. Two hallmarks of English culture are the monarchy and a marked degree of pomp and circumstance. Today, we will see both as we witness the daily changing of the guard in the Castle's quadrangle at 11:30am (subject to Guard schedule).



You will have some free time to explore the area.



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.)



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 have 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 travel to Oxford.

Oxford has long been an important stopping point on central routes from the north of England to London, but it is more well-known as the home of England's first university. With its spectacular architecture and famous scholars, including some of the world's most important writers, the university is a uniquely integral part of Oxford and of England as a whole.



OXFORD WALKING TOUR

Take a Walking Tour to view many of the colleges that make up Oxford, as well as the Sheldonian Theater and the Bodleian Library. Each of the buildings we pass has a long history and is associated with notable literary alumni, including Geoffrey Chaucer, Lewis Carroll, Oscar Wilde, C.S. Lewis and Evelyn Waugh.



CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE

Visit Christ Church College, Oxford's largest and grandest Renaissance College, which was founded in 1525 by Cardinal Wolsey. The college's Christ Church Cathedral is the smallest in England.



You will have some free time to explore the area.



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



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

DAY 7



This morning we will have breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will travel to our match and attend a professional match.



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.)



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. (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 have breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will travel to our final match and return to central London.



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.)



DAY 8



STADIUM TOUR

Visit the home of one of the world's best football (soccer) teams, the Arsenal Gunners. We will take a Stadium Tour, before visiting the Arsenal Museum, which claims to house the largest collection of club memorabilia in Britain. Situated on the second floor of the North Bank stand, the museum traces the Gunners' history back to 1886, when a group of munitions workers clubbed together to buy a football. An eclectic range of exhibits includes a "life-like" wax model of George Graham, the red bus that Arsenal once used to parade their trophies around north London's streets, and items telling the story of the club's other great manager, Herbert Chapman.



We will have some free time for shopping this afternoon.



Tonight we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



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



DAY 9



This morning we will have breakfast at the hotel.



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 with a major carrier on scheduled flights and guaranteed dates
- All airport taxes and fuel surcharges (which will not change after time of enrollment for any participant)
- Accommodation in three star hotels in twin rooms 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 and touring, except in London, where public transport will be used (cost included) for group sightseeing
- All excursions, cultural activities and (several pre-booked) admissions as per your itinerary
- All sporting arrangements, including matches, training sessions or clinics (as per itinerary)
- One pro soccer match ticket (subject to travel dates and schedule)
- Three free college credits for high school students (option 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 fundraiser
- Industry leading Professional Liability Insurance of \$50,000,000 in coverage, which extends to certain individuals acting on behalf of Excel Sports as Coaches and Chaperones
- One free place in a single room throughout
- Free Professional Development Points/Credits (35 points or equivalent) for all faculty chaperones

This Does Not Include:

- Any items not mentioned above or in the detailed itinerary
- Single rooms for adults (will be available at a supplement of \$50 per night)
- Third daily meal or personal beverages with meals
- Laundry services on tour
- Visas (if required)
- Tips and gratuities for the guide and driver
- 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

Don't Just Take Our Word for it. Here is What Our Participants Had to Say:



"I would highly recommend WorldStrides Excel to anyone thinking about doing an international tour. The professionalism was outstanding but what set this trip apart from others was the personal attention paid to our group. WorldStrides Excel made every participant feel like they were important. WorldStrides Excel made a really good trip become really great."

Terri Spurgeon, Liverpool FC America, England



"The trip was fantastic. The boys really had a ball; all smiles the entire time. Our tour manager was AWESOME and took care of everything. He was really on top of it all. Once against you and your staff are great and I thank you for a great experience. I'll be planning the next one soon!"

Ben Ossei, England



"The team and parents had a great time on our England and Scotland tour. The friendlies with local clubs, trainings and tours of stadiums and castles went off without a hitch. Our tour guide, Jack, was incredibly informative and entertaining. We hope to tour again with WorldStrides Excel in the future!"

Jeanne Salas, Carolina Railhawks, England/Scotland



"It was an absolutely amazing experience. We had an outstanding time and got to play some of our best soccer. Thank you so much for all of your work in organizing this trip for us. I highly recommend a tour to England and WorldStrides Excel. Our tour manager was an asset in London and was extremely knowledgeable and personable. I can speak for all the parents and say that we all thoroughly enjoyed every part of this tour."

Debra Stranaghan, England

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 at the 3-Star Willowbank Hotel in Manchester
- Two tickets to see Manchester United's final season home game at Old Trafford



"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

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)

