

Sports Travel Experience Designed Especially for Seacoast United



Soccer in Barcelona April 23 - May 1, 2020

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

- DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM BOSTON
- DAY 2 ARRIVE BARCELONA AREA (7 NIGHTS)
- DAY 3 PROFESSIONAL COACHING CLINIC & BARCELONA
- DAY 4 CAMP NOU STADIUM TOUR & FIRST INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY
- DAY 5 GIRONA & SECOND INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY
- DAY 6 TRAINING SESSION & ATTEND PROFESSIONAL MATCH
- DAY 7 MONTSERRAT & BARCELONA BEACH TIME
- DAY 8 TARRAGONA & THIRD INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY
- DAY 9 DEPARTURE FROM BARCELONA

ITINERARY

The most successful side of the past decade, the Spanish National Team (La Roja), has won two European Championships and a World Cup. Spain also boasts the most dominant club teams in Europe headed by FC Barcelona and Real Madrid. The two sides form the most famous rivalry in the world. The derby is referred to as "El Clasico" and is underlined with decades of political and cultural tensions. The Spanish way of soccer is renowned for its "total football" approach.

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



DAY 1 Thursday, 23 April 2020

- Relax and enjoy our scheduled flight from Boston to Barcelona, Spain
- * 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 Friday, 24 April 2020

- Our 24-hour Tour Director will meet us at the airport and remain with us until our final airport departure.
- We will have use of a private coach and driver, while touring for the next seven days.
- Our base for the next seven nights will be in the Barcelona area (Costa Brava to Costa Dorada). Breakfast and dinner (or lunch) will be included at the hotel.
Barcelona is the heart and soul of Cataluña, and, with one of Spain's largest ports, has grown through trade and tourism. The city is characterized by the work of Antonio Gaudí, whose unique worldview created some of Europe's most distinctive architecture. This beautiful city charms visitors at every turn with its vibrant spirit.
- We will begin with a welcome meeting and orientation. Afterwards, enjoy free time to explore the area around the hotel.
- TRAINING SESSION**
Participate in a Training Session 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. (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 have dinner in the hotel restaurant.



DAY 3 Saturday, 25 April 2020

- This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- PROFESSIONAL COACHING CLINIC**
Participate in a special Professional Coaching Clinic in the Barcelona area. The clinic will be led by 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 Saturday, 25 April 2020



BARCELONA CITY TOUR

Take an introductory City Tour of Barcelona, which will highlight many of the top sights and landmarks. Our tour will be both on our private bus and on foot. Highlights may include Las Ramblas, the Gothic Quarter, La Sagrada Familia, Montjuic, and the Quadrat d'Or.



BASILICA DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA

Visit La Sagrada Familia, the symbol of Barcelona and the vision of Antoni Gaudí, whom from 1912 forward made the design of this soaring basilica his life's work. If it is not the grandest church in all of Spain, it is certainly the grandest constructed within living memory. The grand church of the Holy Family, based on stories from the New Testament, is a strange and wonderful building that represents the intersection of the imaginative style of Modernisme with the medieval faith that drove construction of the great Gothic cathedrals.



BARCELONA FREE TIME

We will have some free time for shopping and exploration.



This evening we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 4 Sunday, 26 April 2020



This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.



CAMP NOU STADIUM TOUR

Take a visit to Camp Nou, the home ground for Barcelona's biggest and most popular team, and one of Europe's greatest footballing 'cathedrals'. FC Barcelona is the only major football club in the world that doesn't sell advertising space on its strip, and this is because the club does not want to spoil the aesthetics of its famous red and blue jersey. Camp Nou is the biggest stadium in Europe with a capacity of 98,600 people, and it also has shops and a museum of the club's history.



PARC GÜELL

Spend time in Parc Güell, part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, 'Works of Antoni Gaudí'. Designed primarily by Gaudí, particularly interesting areas of the park include a mosaic pagoda, a lizard fountain spitting water, an undulating bench decorated with ceramic fragments, and an array of unique Doric columns, which are hollow and serve as part of Gaudí's drainage system.



FIRST FRIENDLY MATCH

Play an International Friendly Match against a local club or academy team in the Barcelona area. 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 have dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 5 Monday, 27 April 2020



This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.



Today we will take an excursion to Girona.



Girona is a beautiful medieval city that stands out from the local landscape. Populated at one point by Romans, Arabs, and Jews, the city has a unique archeological heritage that is well worth a visit.



GIRONA CITY TOUR

Enjoy a Walking Tour of Girona. We begin along the Riu Onyar, admiring Girona's best-known view, before exploring the Rambla de la Libertat and El Call, the medieval Jewish Quarter, where the first Hanukkah celebration since the Jewish expulsion of 1482 was celebrated in 1998.



SECOND FRIENDLY MATCH




Play an International Friendly Match against a local club or academy team in the Barcelona area. 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 have dinner in the hotel restaurant.







DAY 6 Tuesday, 28 April 2020

-  This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
-  **TRAINING SESSION**
Participate in a Training Session 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. (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.)
-  **BARCELONA FREE TIME**
We will have some free time for shopping and exploration.
-  **ATTEND PROFESSIONAL MATCH**
Attend a professional soccer match in the Barcelona area 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 be adjusted to accommodate attending a match.)
-  This evening we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 7 Wednesday, 29 April 2020

-  This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
-  **MONTSERRAT NATURAL PARK**
Montserrat is the mountain most representative of Catalonia and, in fact, thanks to its amazing features has become a Catalan symbol. Its peculiar morphology, its natural and its ancient traditions make it an incomparable reference, a place that welcomes millions of visitors from all over the world. Montserrat massif is unique and unparalleled. The highest peak of the mountain of Montserrat is the peak of Sant Jeroni (St. Jerome) (1236 m), from where visitors can admire a wonderful view from the Pyrenees to the sea and on clear days even they get to see the island of Mallorca.
-  **MONTSERRAT RACK RAILWAY**
The Montserrat Rack railway is the only transport that reaches the center of the Sanctuary of Montserrat Mountain. In 15 minute train ride up the mountain allows you to enjoy the magnificent views of the mountain. Through the panoramic views of the train, you can see the great beauty of the landscape that surrounds us from Monistrol to Montserrat.
-  **FREE TIME AT THE BEACH**
Spend some time relaxing on one of Barcelona's magnificent beaches, such as Barceloneta Beach or Icaria Beach. The beaches are accessible by metro, and there are numerous activities available for everyone to enjoy the beautiful Mediterranean.
-  This evening we will have dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 8 Thursday, 30 April 2020

-  This morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
-  Tarragona is an ancient Roman port city that was home to Julius Caesar. The Romans sheltered a million people behind this city's walls and were the first to designate it as a resort. The town's importance has remained through the years as one of four capitals of Cataluña spurring continued growth.
-  **TARRAGONA CITY TOUR**
Take an introductory City Tour of Tarragona, which will highlight many of the top sights and landmarks. Our tour will be both on our private bus and on foot. We will focus on the historic old quarter and the Roman remains of the city.
-  **BARCELONA FREE TIME**
We will have some free time for shopping and exploration.



DAY 8 Thursday, 30 April 2020



THIRD FRIENDLY MATCH

Play an International Friendly Match against a local club or academy team in the Barcelona area. 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 have dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 9 Friday, 01 May 2020



This morning we will enjoy 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.



Seacoast United Express U15 Boys (59050-0-16)

30 +	Participants	\$3,179
25 - 29	Participants	\$3,309
20 - 24	Participants	\$3,509

Tour Prices Guaranteed at Time of Enrollment!

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).

****Final tour price will be determined by the total number of participants registered at 60 days prior to departure.**

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

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
- 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)
- US Soccer Permission to Travel \$50 Application Fee, which is to be paid by the club/team for each team that is traveling. This is not an individual participant's responsibility. This does not pertain to college or high school teams.



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:



"The trip to Barcelona was the experience of a lifetime for our boys' soccer team – a perfect mix of sport and cultural activities. The training arranged was excellent with high caliber coaches from the Espanyol and Barcelona youth teams. The matches against local Spanish teams were challenging and a great learning experience. Thank you WorldStrides Excel for arranging this once in a lifetime trip! Given the chance, we would do it all again!"

Dennis Cowley, Head Coach, Spain



"The trip was amazing and so well organized. Your folks on the ground that led the groups were excellent and so impressive. The schedule was full of wonderful events and the boys had an awesome time. Thank you so much for everything you do to make these trips happen! All of your hard work and organization really pays off on the user end when the trip goes as great as this one!"

Gabi Koeppel, Chaperone, Spain



"Our trip was spectacular from start to finish. The opportunity to train, play and experience Barcelona is something that will not soon be forgotten. The cultural influences we encountered will be lasting and the memories will last a lifetime."

Mark Biagi, Head Coach, Spain



"Simply outstanding. The entire experience. From pre-trip planning, WorldStrides Excel did a fantastic job covering all the details, to the trip itself – was truly exceptional."

Rich Ruiz, Board Member, Spain