



# Italy College Soccer Tour

## Rome • Florence • Como

### Spring 2018



For nearly 26 years United Soccer Academy has been providing college players and teams from across the United States with quality opportunities and experiences to travel and compete internationally. The Italy Soccer Tour is specially designed for international soccer travel and competition.

The goal of the Italy College Tour is to provide players with an excellent soccer playing experience and opportunity to travel and compete in Italy. This program will provide players with a magnificent experience, both on and off the soccer field, from playing friendly matches to a training session with professional coaches to attending Serie A games to experiencing the history and culture of Italy while travel from Rome through Tuscany to Milan and Como.



## GENERAL ITINERARY



### Day 1

Excitement builds as soccer players, coaches, and family members depart from a US gateway on an overnight flight to Rome, Italy for participation in their 11-days (9-nights) soccer tour to Italy. Due to the time differences between Europe and the United States the group will arrive in Italy the following day.

### Day 2

Upon arrival in Rome at the Leonardo de Vinci International Airport (FCO) their full-time bilingual tour manager will meet the group. Following check-in at the hotel the group will have a guided tour of the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica. Late afternoon light training session prior to returning to the hotel. Welcome dinner at the hotel. (Rome)



St. Peter's Basilica



Trevi Fountain

### Day 3

The day will begin with a guided tour of "classic Rome" to such sites as the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Coliseum, and Roman Forums. In the afternoon the group will attend a Serie A game at Olympic Stadium, home to AS Roma and SS Lazio. Dinner at the hotel. Evening at leisure. (Rome)

### Day 4

In the morning the group will transfer north to the region of Tuscany, the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Upon arrival, the team will have a training session at Coverciano, the technical headquarters of the Federazione Italiana Giuoco Calcio (FIGC), with a FIGC staff coach. Following the session a short drive to Montecatini Terme, a spa town located between Florence and Pisa. Diner at the hotel and evening free to explore Montecatini. (Montecatini Terme)

### Day 5

After breakfast at the hotel the group will have a morning excursion to Pisa for a guided tour of the Campo dei Miracoli (Square of Miracles) that includes The Duomo, The Leaning Tower, and the Baptistery. Following lunch in Pisa, short transfer to Sarzana where the team will have their first taste of international competition on tour with a game (1) versus a professional team in Sarzana. Dinner at the hotel following the game. (Montecatini Terme)

### Day 6

The day will begin with a guided tour of Florence that will include such sights as the Gothic Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, the Ponte Vecchio Bridge, and Signoria Square. Following lunch, free time for shopping and sightseeing in this beautiful and historic city. Early evening game (2) versus a Florentine professional club. Dinner at the hotel following the match. (Montecatini Terme)



Florence

### Day 7

Following breakfast the group will transfer to Como, which is located just north of Milan and on the Italian-Swiss border. Stop in Milan, the main city in Lombardy and the capital of the fashion world, for a guided tour the famous gothic duomo, the world's second largest church, the Galleria, and Sforza Castle. Late afternoon transfer to Como. Dinner at the hotel and evening at leisure. (Como)



Lake Como

### Day 8

Morning and afternoon at leisure to explore the medieval town center of Como. Pre-game dinner at the hotel. Evening game (3) versus a club in Como. (Como)

### Day 9

Free day in Como to sightsee and enjoy the majestic Lake Como from taking a ferry to Bellagio or a tram (funicular) to the mountain top of Brunate that overlooks Como and Lake

Como. For lunch the group will learn the culinary secrets of making a true authentic Italian pizza with a local chef. Reminder the day free to explore Como. Dinner at the hotel. (Como)

### Day 10

Following breakfast the group will have the morning and early afternoon at leisure in Milan for sightseeing and shopping. In the afternoon the group will attend a second Serie A match at San Siro Stadium, home to AC Milan and Inter Milan. Farewell dinner at local Milanese. (Como)



San Siro Stadium

### Day 11

Following breakfast the players, staff, and boosters will transfer to Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP) for the return flight back to the United States with same day arrival in the USA.



## TOUR INCLUSIONS



- One (1) free tour spot for coaches and staff for every 15 full paying participants.
- Tour price guaranteed in US Dollars at time of deposit.
- Round trip international air transportation/flights from US gateway city to Italy. Airline taxes and fuel (yq) are not included.
- Meal package: Two meals per day, breakfast and dinner. Dinners will be at local restaurants and at the hotel(s). Pre-game dinners will be arranged according to game times.
- Accommodations:
  - 2-nights - Rome (3-star superior/4-star hotel)
  - 3-nights - Montecatini Terme (3-star superior/4-star hotel)
  - 4-nights - Como (3-star superior/4-star hotel)
- Transportation: Full time motor coach throughout the tour.
- Guided sightseeing tours of Rome, Florence, and Pisa.
- Admission to the Vatican Museums.
- Private pizza cooking lesson in Como.
- Soccer program:
  - Three (3) friendly match against Italian youth/professional clubs
  - Two (2) training sessions, one with a FIGC staff coach
  - Two (2) Serie A games - tickets for regular season games
- Fulltime, bilingual Italian tour manager.
- All land fees and taxes as related to the land program.
- Extensive pre-trip assistance including fundraising, newsletters, packing details, detailed final itinerary, and travel details.



## TOUR EXCLUSIONS



- Meals as noted in the meal package (lunches)
- Passport fees
- Travel Insurance
- Health insurance
- Items of personal nature



## TOUR COSTS



Tour costs are based on the overall number of participants (players, staff, family members) traveling on tour and the originating US gateway city. Contact United Soccer Academy for an exact tour proposal and price for your team.



## PROGRAM FOR BOOSTERS (Parents & Family Members)



The “Booster Program” is for parents and family members interested in participating on the tour. The program and itinerary is the same for parents and family members. Additional tour inclusions can be added such as wine and food tastings, golf outings, and in-depth sightseeing excursions. Exact tour costs are based on the overall number of participants (players, staff, family members) traveling on tour and the originating US gateway city. Tour prices are based on single, double, or triple occupancy.



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## FUNDRAISING

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In conjunction with our fundraising partner, Reaching Our Goal ([www.reachingourgoal.org](http://www.reachingourgoal.org)) will provide players with a fundraising program that can raise a large percentage of the tour costs. Interested players and families should contact Jon Goldman at Reaching Our Goal at 914-364-4311 or via email at [jon@reachingourgoal.org](mailto:jon@reachingourgoal.org).



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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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United Soccer Academy can customize tours that fit within the needs and desires of your team. The tour proposal will include a detailed itinerary, terms and conditions, and registration information. Also, please contact United Soccer Academy if you are interested in a group meeting where one of our representatives can meet with your coaches, players, and team parents to review and discuss the tour and international soccer travel and competition.

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