

## International Soccer Tour 2023-2024 Itinerary

### Grand Oaks High School

### Spain – Barcelona

#### Travel dates:

December 27, 2023-January 4, 2024. We can adjust the tour dates by some days if necessary.

#### Itinerary:

- Dec. 27 Departure from Houston airport.
- Dec. 28 Arrival Barcelona airport. Transfer to your accommodation.
- Dec. 29 Bus or boat tour Tossa de Mar: visit the beautiful old fishing town made famous in the 1950's by Ava Gardner and James Mason in the film Pandora and the Flying Dutchman. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Dec. 30 Visit Barcelona by bus, covering the Bullring, the Gaudi buildings, Casa Batlló and the Pedrera, Plaza Francesc Masia, the Nou Camp - home of FC Barcelona, followed by Gaudi's unfinished Sagrada Familia Cathedral and lastly Parque Guell.
- Dec. 31 Visit the city of Girona. Sightseeing possibilities include St. Mary's Cathedral, built between the 11th and 17th centuries, Passeig de la Muralla, Monastery of Saint Pere de Galligants and Chapel of Sant Nicolau, the Arab Baths, Cases de l'Onyar, etc. Evening game vs. a local team.
- January 1 Visit the sacred mountain-top monastery of Montserrat with its breathtaking views.
- January 2 Free day in Barcelona visiting the places the bus cannot reach. Drop off and pick up point in the central Plaza Catalunya. Recommended are the: Ramblas with its human statues and street artists, Palau de la Musica, Barrio Gotico with its maze of narrow streets, Plaza Real, Cathedral. Evening game vs. a local team.
- January 3 More sightseeing in Barcelona. Visit Montjuic, a prominent hill overlooking Barcelona with amazing views of the city and visit the Olympic facilities.
- January 4 Transfer to Barcelona airport and return flight.

\*The above itinerary is a provisional/suggested itinerary and can/will change depending on your group's specific wishes, the final game schedule for your team(s) and any pro game visit(s) incorporated for your group. Sightseeing admission fees are not included in the prices but can be added and pre-booked based on your group's specific wishes. Consult us for more information.



Wartburg College



Camp Nou



University of Mary



La Sagrada Familia

**Price per person\*:**

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$2,997	\$2,844	\$2,737	\$2,658	\$2,559	\$2,526

\* Prices are based on contracted airline fares for 2023. We will know more about fares for 2024 approx. 11 months prior to departure date, when airlines publish flights, and can confirm pricing then.

**Price inclusions:**

- Round trip airfare, including airport taxes and fuel surcharges. Prices are always subject to availability of flights and fares at time of booking.
- Accommodations and meals as specified in this proposal – see below.
- Ground transportation – see below.
- Costs for arranging the sport program – see below.
- Services of a local tour assistant – see below.

**Sport program included:**

We will arrange three friendly games per team.

**Accommodation and meals included:**

4-star Hotel accommodation in the Costa Brava region in a seaside town like Santa Susanna, Calella, etc.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- The accommodation is situated near the town center and/or beach.
- Distance to Barcelona is approx. 30-35 miles. All rooms (3 bedded rooms) have a private bathroom as well as air-conditioning.
- The hotel has a restaurant, bar, lounge, reception and an outdoor swimming pool.
- Double rooms are available as well at a supplement of \$ 15.00 per person per night.

**Ground transportation included:**

During your entire stay a private bus will be available exclusively for your group – 10 hours a day.

**Local guide services included:**

A local tour assistant will be assigned to be exclusively with your group full time each day during your stay in each destination to provide you with any assistance when necessary, and help plan or amend your daily schedule as needed.

## Options available (not included in prices)

### Sport program options:

- We can arrange tickets to pro games, subject to availability. Ticket costs will depend on the game, but usually ticket costs range from approx. \$75-\$150 per person depending on the game.
- A 2-hour training session with your own coaching staff – costs approx. \$300.00 per 2 hours.
- Training sessions with coaches from a Barcelona area pro club like RCD Espanyol – costs approx. \$1,050.00 total per 2 hours, including field hire. Consult us for more information.
- Visit and tour of a pro team stadium – approx. \$ 35.00 per person for Camp Nou Stadium Tour.

### Accommodation option Barcelona:

On request, we can accommodate the group in a 3/4-star hotel in Barcelona, close to the city center while in Spain instead. Hotel is within walking distance of a train station and not far from the Sagrada Familia. All rooms have private facilities/bathroom, satellite TV, phone and climate control. Hotel has a bar, lounge, workout room and small outdoor pool. Supplemental cost for this hotel option is approx. \$40.00 - \$60.00 per person per night (to be confirmed – depends on time of the year).

### Travel insurance option:

Your participants have the option to purchase accident, illness and trip cancellation/interruption insurance, including a Cancel for Any Reason Coverage (CFAR) – more information about this insurance is included on your team website page.

### Not included in prices:

- Beverages (soda) with meals.
- Gratuities for representatives and bus drivers.
- Admission fees to attractions.
- Single rooms in hotels. Single rooms are available at a supplement of \$40.00 per person per night on top of the double room supplements outlined in the accommodation description.

## Touristic information Barcelona

Barcelona is the capital city of the autonomous community of Catalonia in Spain, as well as the country's second most populous municipality, with a population of 1.6 million within city limits. It is the largest metropolis on the Mediterranean Sea. Barcelona has a rich cultural heritage and is an important cultural center and a major tourist destination. Particularly renowned are the architectural works of Antoni Gaudí and Lluís Domènech i Montaner, which have been designated UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Barcelona is also home to two top pro clubs in Spain, FC Barcelona and RCD Espanyol.

**CAMP NOU:** Visit the Home of Barcelona FC, the away team changing room and the players' tunnel, the dugouts, the press room, commentators box and of course the Museum. The Museum is the most modern football museum thanks to its interactive wall spaces, large scale audiovisual displays and an extensive display of objects to explain the history of FC Barcelona and understand the values that make Barça "més que un club" -- "more than a club".

**SAGRADA FAMILIA:** The unfinished Cathedral by Gaudi, The expiatory church of La Sagrada Família is a work on a grand scale which was begun on 19 March 1882 from a project by the diocesan architect, Francisco de Paula del Villar (1828-1901). At the end of 1883 Gaudí was commissioned to carry on the works, a task which he did not abandon until his death in 1926. Since then different architects have continued the work after his original idea.

**MONTSERRAT:** Montserrat is a multi-peaked mountain located near the city of Barcelona. It is well known as the site of the Benedictine abbey, Santa Maria de Montserrat, which hosts the Virgin of Montserrat sanctuary and which is identified by some with the location of the Holy Grail in Arthurian myth. The mountain is composed of strikingly pink conglomerate, a form of sedimentary rock. Montserrat is Spain's first National Park.

**CASTELL DE MONTJUIC:** Barcelona's Montjuïc is a broad shallow hill to the southwest of the city center. The eastern side of the hill is almost a sheer cliff, giving it a commanding view over the city's harbor immediately below. The top of the hill (a height of 184,8 m) was the site of several fortifications, the latest of which the Castle of Montjuïc remains today. The fortress largely dates from the 17th century, with 18th-century additions. It served as a prison, often holding political prisoners, until the time of General Franco. The castle was also the site of numerous executions. On different occasions during the Spanish Civil War, both Nationalists and Republicans were executed there, each at the time when the site was held by their opponents. The Catalan nationalist leader Lluís Companys i Jover was also executed there in 1940, having been extradited to the Franco government by the Nazis.

**LA RAMBLA & BOQUERIA MARKET:** This busy street is just for pedestrians and is lined with outdoor markets, shops, restaurants and cafes. La Boqueria is a large public market in the Ciutat Vella district of Barcelona, and one of the city's foremost tourist landmarks, with an entrance from La Rambla, not far from the Liceu, Barcelona's opera house. The market has a very diverse selection of goods.