

International Soccer Tour 2023 Itinerary

BVU Men's Soccer

Spain – Barcelona and Madrid

Travel dates:

Early August of 2023 - Exact dates TBD.

Itinerary:

- Day 1 Departure from Chicago/O'Hare airport.
- Day 2 Arrival Barcelona airport. Transfer to your accommodation.
- Day 3 Visit Barcelona by bus and see sights like the Bullring, the Gaudi buildings, Casa Battlló 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. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 4 Morning optional training session. Visit the sacred mountain-top monastery of Montserrat with its breathtaking views. Or, do a bus or boat tour of 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.
- Day 5 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.
- Day 6 Transfer to your accommodation in Madrid.
- Day 7 Sightseeing Madrid; Puerta del Sol, the Plaza Mayor, the Royal Palace and the Bernabéu stadium, home of Real Madrid. Morning Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 8 Optional morning training session. Experience two UNESCO World Heritage cities in one day on this tour to Toledo and Segovia. See Segovia's narrow streets and preserved Roman aqueduct. Uncover ancient mysteries during a guided tour of the ancient fortress, the Alcázar. In Toledo—the city of three cultures—discover the architecture and history of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian societies who once lived here and take a guided tour of the Cathedral of Toledo (optional).
- Day 9 More sightseeing in Madrid. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 10 Transfer to Madrid airport and return flight.



Wartburg College



Camp Nou



University of Mary



La Sagrada Familia

*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.

Price per person*:

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$3,592	\$3,338	\$3,163	\$3,046	\$2,952	\$2,881

* Prices are based on contracted airline fares for 2022. We will know more about fares for 2023 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:

Barcelona: We will arrange 2 games per team.

Madrid: We will arrange 2 games per team.

Accommodation and meals included:

Barcelona: 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 shower and toilet as well as air-conditioning.
- The hotel has a restaurant, bar, lounge, reception and sometimes an outdoor swimming pool.

Madrid: 3-star plus hotel accommodation on the outskirts of Madrid.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Hotel in Madrid just outside the city center.
- The hotel has a restaurant and bar/lounge.
- Accommodation in triple rooms (3 people). All rooms have TV, telephone, private bathroom with shower and toilet.
- Double rooms (2 people) available at a supplement of \$12.00 per person per night.
- 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 and/or Madrid area pro club like RCD Espanyol or Atletico Madrid, etc. – 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.

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 today 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.

Touristic information Madrid

Madrid is the capital city of Spain and the largest city in Spain. The city has a population of almost 3.2 million with a metropolitan area population of approximately 6.5 million. It is the third-largest city in the European Union, after London and Berlin, and its metropolitan area is the third-largest in the European Union after those of London and Paris.

BERNABEU FOOTBALL STADIUM: The Estadio Santiago Bernabéu is an all-seater football stadium in Madrid, Spain. It was inaugurated on 14 December 1947 and is owned by Real Madrid Club de Fútbol. It has a current capacity of 85454 spectators. El Bernabéu, renamed in honor of their former chairman Santiago Bernabéu Yeste, is one of the world's most famous and prestigious football venues. It has hosted the European Cup final on four occasions: in 1957, 1969, 1980, and the UEFA Champions League Final in 2010. The Bernabéu is both the second-largest stadium in Spain and the second-largest stadium home to a top-flight European club, behind only Camp Nou, home to rival Barcelona.

ROYAL PALACE: The Palacio Real de Madrid is the official residence of the Spanish Royal Family at the city of Madrid, but is only used for state ceremonies. King Felipe VI and the Royal Family do not reside in the palace, choosing instead the more modest Palacio de la Zarzuela on the outskirts of Madrid. The palace is owned by the Spanish State and administered by the Patrimonio Nacional, a public agency of the Ministry of the Presidency. The palace is located on Calle de Bailén (Bailén Street), in the Western part of downtown Madrid, East of the Manzanares River. Several rooms in the palace are regularly open to the public except during state functions.

PRADO MUSEUM: The Museo del Prado is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Madrid. The 18th century structure designed by architect Juan de Villanueva houses one of the world's finest art collections. A 2007 expansion has made the famed museum easier to navigate. With more than 7,000 works of art representing culture and history from the 12th century to the early 19th century, however, it's impossible to see everything in a single visit. Visitors may wish to focus on the museum's collection of Spanish artists, including Goya, El Greco, da Ribera and Velázquez, which is inarguably the best collection of Spanish paintings in the world.

PLAZA DE LA VILLA: The Plaza de la Villa is a picturesque small square in the heart of Madrid, not far from the much larger Plaza Mayor. In contrary to the latter, the buildings at the Plaza de la Villa all have contrasting styles. The largest building at the square is the former Town Hall or Casa de la Villa (ayuntamiento). Construction started in 1644 by Juan Gómez de Mora, the architect of the Plaza Mayor.

LAS VANTAS: The Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas is a famous bullring in Madrid, Spain. Situated in the Guindalera quarter of the district of Salamanca, it was inaugurated on June 17, 1931. It has a seating capacity of 25,000 and is regarded as the home of bullfighting in Spain. This bullring was designed by the architect José Espeliú in the Neo-Mudéjar (Moorish) style with ceramic incrustations. The seats are situated in ten "tendidos". The price of the seats depends upon how close they are to the arena and whether they are in the sun or the shade (the latter being more expensive).