

International Soccer Tour 2024 Itinerary University of Southern Indiana Women's Soccer Italy – Rome and Florence

Travel dates:

March 1-10, 2024 (we can shift these dates to March 2-11, 2024 if needed)

Itinerary:

- March 1 Departure from St. Louis airport.
- March 2 Arrival Rome airport. Transfer to your accommodation in Rome.
- March 3 Sightseeing Rome. Visit the Colosseum, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, the Arch of Constantine, the Palatine Hill, the most famous of the seven hills of Rome. Then, take a walk along the Via Sacra or 'Sacred Way', the main path through the Roman Forum that was used for triumphal processions, and visit the temple which houses the altar where Julius Caesar was cremated. **Evening game vs. a local team.**
- March 4 Additional sightseeing Rome – visit the Vatican and museum and tour Stadio Olimpico, home of pro team's Roma and Lazio. Visit other famous sights as well (Roman Forum, St. Peter's Basilica, Catacombs of San Callisto, Pantheon, etc.), or day trip to Tivoli where you will find two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Villa d'Este and Hadrian's Villa.
- March 5 Free day in Rome to see sights you haven't had time to see yet or for final shopping, or make a day trip to the town of Tivoli (or another town like Capri, Assisi or Calcata).
Evening game vs. a local team.
- March 6 Transfer to your accommodation in Montecatini, near Florence.
- March 7 Day trip to Sienna - distinguished by its medieval brick buildings. The fan-shaped central square, Piazza del Campo, is the site of the Palazzo Pubblico, the Gothic town hall, and Torre del Mangia, a slender 14th-century tower with sweeping views from its distinctive white crown. The city's 17 historic "contrade" (districts) extend outward from the piazza.
Evening game vs. a local team.
- March 8 Sightseeing tour in Florence. You will visit major sights such as the Duomo, Ponte Vecchio, the Oltrarno, the Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria and of course Piazza Michelangelo. **Evening game vs. a local team.**
- March 9 Day trip to Pisa, known for its Torre Pendente (Leaning Tower) and Viareggio, a popular seaside resort on the Mediterranean.
- March 10 Transfer to Florence, Pisa, Bologna, or Milan airport. 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.



Venice



Wartburg College Men's Soccer



Leaning Tower of Pisa



Lake Hill Storm SC

Tour price estimate per person:

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$3,297	\$3,231	\$3,094	\$2,985	\$2,900	\$2,841

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.
- Accommodation 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 a total of 4 games per team (2 in each destination).

Accommodation and meals included:

Rome: 4-star Hotel accommodation in Rome.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Not far from the center of Rome.
- Accommodation in triple rooms (3 people sharing a room) and all rooms have a private bathroom, TV, and air-conditioning. The hotel has a lounge, restaurant, and bar.
- Double/twin rooms (2 people per room) are available as well at a supplement of \$12.00 per person per night.

Florence: 4-star Hotel accommodation in Montecatini near Florence.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Montecatini is a tourist resort 30 miles from Florence.
- The hotel has a restaurant, bar, and lounge with TV.
- Accommodation in triple rooms (3 people sharing a room) and all rooms include TV, telephone, a private bathroom, and air-conditioning.
- Double/twin rooms (2 people per room) are available 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 bi-lingual tour manager 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 for pro games, subject to availability. Ticket costs will depend on the game, but usually ticket costs range from approx. \$75.00-\$150.00 per person depending on the game.
- Visit and tour of a pro team stadium – between \$25.00 and \$30.00 per person.
- A 2-hour training session with your own coaching staff – costs \$260.00 per 2 hours.

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 unless specified above.
- Single rooms in hotels (1 person per room). 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.

SIGHTSEEING IN ROME AND SURROUNDINGS 2024

Recommend excursion(s) to pre-book:

- The Colosseum – **Fee**
- the Vatican Museum & Sistine chapel - **Fee**
- St. Peters & the Vatican City

1) **THE COLOSSEUM**

Full price: \$24.00 per person. Includes The Roman Forum & The Palatine.

The Coliseum in Rome is a grand structure which was built over 2,000 years ago as an amphitheater to host legendary gladiator contests and other public spectacles. The Coliseum has been partly destroyed and damaged through the years, however, impressive ruins have been preserved and are open to visitors. This grand historic arena was originally built to hold over 50,000 and many of the original outer walls and facade still stand tall today. Please note that the Colosseum allows us to pre-book this excursion only 12 days before arrival of the group – subject to availability.

2) **THE VATICAN MUSEUM & SISTINE CHAPEL**

Full price: \$23.00 per person

Reduced price: \$12.00 per person – this is for young people, 6 to 25 years old. Must bring Student ID Cards.

A Guided tour of Vatican Museums hold a treasure to be discovered in active and creative ways thanks to the extraordinary richness and variety of the art collections, which embrace the history of human civilization, from the Ancient Egyptians and Etruscans to the Greeks and Romans, from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance up to contemporary times. Schools can choose a didactic activity which is compatible with the school syllabus.

3) **ST. PETERS SQUARE & THE BASILICA**

Price: Free of charge

St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City is an iconic and popular landmark of Rome.

Regarded as one of the holiest sites in the Christian world, many make a pilgrimage to the cathedral every year to celebrate Mass with the Pope. Building work for this grand structure originally began in 1506 and is the burial site of its namesake Saint Peter, one of the 12 apostles of Jesus. One of the key architects of the Basilica was Michelangelo and some of his original drawings for a section of the Dome were found as recently as 2007.

SIGHTSEEING IN FLORENCE 2024

Recommend excursion(s) to pre-book:

- Tower of Pisa - **Fee**
- Uffizi Gallery - **Fee**

1) **Tower of Pisa**

Prices: Leaning Tower \$38.00 - Cathedral admission free

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is the campanile, or freestanding bell tower, of the cathedral of the Italian city of Pisa, known worldwide for its unintended tilt to one side. It is situated behind the Cathedral and is the third oldest structure in Pisa's Cathedral Square after the Cathedral and the Baptistry. The tower's tilt began during construction, caused by an inadequate foundation on ground too soft on one side to properly support the structure's weight. The tilt increased in the decades before the structure was completed, and gradually increased until the structure was stabilized (and the tilt partially corrected) by efforts in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

2) **Uffizi Gallery**

Prices: Adults: \$27.00 per person.

The Uffizi Gallery is an art museum located in Florence, and among the oldest and most famous art museums of Europe. In high season (particularly in July), waiting times can be up to five hours. Visitors who reserve a ticket in advance have a substantially shorter wait. Tickets can also be purchased from a lesser-used ticket window at the Orsanmichele that serves multiple museums.

Optional:

3) **The Ponte Vecchio**

Prices: Free of charge.

The Ponte Vecchio ("Old Bridge") is a Medieval stone closed-spandrel segmental arch bridge over the Arno River, in Florence, Italy, noted for still having shops built along it, as was once common. Butchers initially occupied the shops, but the present tenants are jewelers, art dealers and souvenir sellers. The Ponte Vecchio's two neighbouring bridges are the Ponte Santa Trinita and the Ponte alle Grazie.

4) **Siena - Piazza del Campo in Siena**

Prices: Free of charge.

Piazza del Campo in Siena is considered one of the most beautiful places in the world. It has a characteristic shell-shape divided in 9 slices; you can admire this form from the top of the tower del Mangia. The Torre del Mangia in Siena requires an admission fee of \$14.00 - U11s Free.

Prices and availability for these excursions may change a little at the time of booking.