

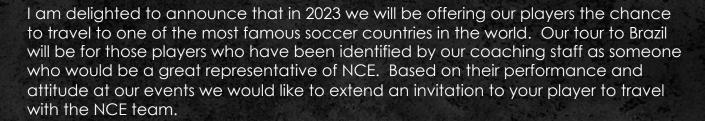
#### **National Center of Excellence**

324 Cooper River Drive Mount Pleasant CS 29464 203.349.1115 www.ncesoccer.com

From: John Curtis

**Re:** Pro Academy Pathway – Brazil Tour 2023

#### Dear Parent:



This event has been established to take the best of our 2008 and 2010 boys to play against and train with top professional club's academy programs including some of our international partners.

During our tour we will play and train against top academy programs, attend live professional games, stay in top class hotels and see some of the most famous sights this incredible country has to offer. This promises to be a great event for our players and the opportunity to truly experience a world-famous soccer culture.

## **Trip Particulars**

**Dates:** Our plan is to depart on Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> and return on Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Registration:** We expect this tour to be sold out with massive interest across our programs so we would suggest if you are interested to go to your family portal and register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

In the following pages you will find additional information on the itinerary for the tour, payment schedule, refund policy, and travel insurance information. We hope that you, your player, and even your family will join us on this opportunity of a lifetime. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

John Curtis

John Curtis Technical Director National Center of Excellence



# **BASIC TRIP INFORMATION**

#### Who is invited:

Selected players with the 2008 and 2010 birth year and their respective supporters.

#### **Squad Sizes:**

2010 - 18 Players

2008 – 18 Players

Squads will be developed based on a consideration to have 2 goalkeepers and 16 outfield players.

#### Player's commitment:

Spots will be filled on a first come first served basis from the pool of invited players.

#### How do you commit:

Complete the online registration, by clicking on the link in your family portal and pay the deposit payment.

## How do parents and supporters sign up for the tour?

You will need to add any additional travelers to your family portal then contact Nick Dunbar our Chief Operating Officer at <a href="mailto:nick@ncesoccer.com">nick@ncesoccer.com</a> once done. Nick will then be able to assign you to the tour providing there is available space and you can then complete the registration process. We also welcome those supporters who choose to travel independently to the group and attend the matches our teams play but please note we can not provide tickets to live games, transportation or access to other events unless you are on the official NCE Supporters tour.

#### Land cost per person:

**\$2,650** per player includes everything listed in the tour itinerary. Additional travelers and supporters' price is only **\$2,350** per person. Discount of \$250 for the 4th member from the same family and any additional.

#### **Payment Plan:**

Outlined on the next page.

#### Flight bookings and prices:

Flights are not included in the above prices. See page titled 'Flight Information'. Travelers are responsible for booking their own flights but must use Consolidator Webfares if you want to access our group flight. If you want to fly independently you will be responsible for meeting up with the group in the UK. We ask that any players travelling by themselves travel on the group flight with NCE Coaching staff members.

## **Extra Training:**

Due to club commitments additional squad training will be limited but we hope to provide the opportunity to play together as a group before we travel.

# **ITINERARY 2023**

#### Friday March 31st

PPM - Depart New York/New Jersey airport and fly to Rio de Janeiro.

#### Saturday April 1st

AM - Arrive at Rio de Janeiro airport and transfer to hotel for lunch.

PM – Free time to explore the beaches of Rio de Janeiro and shake off the jetlag.

#### Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>

AM – Morning session at the beach then visit Ipanema open market and explore Ipanema Beach, Leblon and Copacabana. Transfer to tour the famous Christ the Redeemer statue. PM - Watch a Professional Game at Maracanã Stadium, home of the 2014 World Cup Finals.

#### Monday April 3rd

AM – Professional Training Session #1at Fluminense FC followed by lunch.

PM - Game #1 Vs. Fluminense FC Academy.

#### Tuesday April 4th

AM – Free time to explore Rio de Janeiro beaches.

PM - Game #2 Vs. Madureia EC Academy.

#### Wednesday April 5th

AM – Visit the CBF Museum, home of Brazilian football then go behind the scenes with a tour of the Maracanã Stadium.

PM - Visit the world-famous Sugar Loaf Mountain followed by a visit to a social project in Rio de Janeiro. End the day with your second Professional Game #2\_Maracanã Stadium

## Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>

AM – Visit some of the most beautiful beaches in Rio: Prainha, Grumari, Recerio and Barra PM - Game #3 Vs. Boa Vista Academy.

### Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>

AM - Free morning to explore the Beach da Tijuca and play some beach soccer!

PM - Game #4 Vs. Botafogo Academy.

# Saturday April 8th

AM - Free morning to relax at the Beach or sightseeing around Rio.

PM – Option to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> Professional Soccer Game at Maracanã Stadium.

# Sunday April 9th

AM - Free morning to relax at the Beach before checking out hotel.

PM - Depart to airport for your return flight home.

# Monday April 10th

AM - Arrive in the USA.

(This schedule may be subject to change based on fixtures and availability of other events)

# WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE?

We will receive our final schedule approximately 2 weeks prior to travel dates. All details on the confirmed itinerary will be communicated to travel group along with further information such as packing lists, FAQ's and general information.

#### Meals and Accommodations

- ▶ 8 nights accommodation in Rio de Janeiro hotel based on twin, triple or quad rooms in the Barra da Tijuca or Copacabana area.
- 2 meals per day Breakfast and lunch OR Dinner daily.
- Players will be assigned a room mate and will be in double occupancy with other players or with their respective supporters.
- Individual rooms are available for an additional \$500 per person for any parents and supporters who want their own room.

#### Transportation and Assistance

- Transfer to and from all activities in Brazil.
- > Full time experienced NCE Staff and Bi-lingual speaking tour Liaison Officer in permanent attendance.

#### Events

- > 1 x Admission ticket to CBF Museum Tour.
- > 2 x Admission tickets to Professional Games with option to add more.
- Admission ticket to Christ the Redeemer
- > Admission ticket to Sugar Loaf in Rio de Janeiro

#### Soccer Program

- > 1 x Training session in Brazil at a Youth Academy
- > 4 x Games in Brazil vs local competitive clubs including at least 2 of the top four clubs

#### Players Kit

- ➤ Players will receive a gift voucher for soccer.com to purchase a complete NIKE team uniform of 2 shirts, 1 pair of shorts and socks. This gift voucher will also allow players to purchase an NCE Polo Shirt, warm up pants and jacket for travel to games and training sessions.
- We recommend purchasing additional kit in case of bad weather.

#### General Expenses

- All your Tour Manager expenses;
- > All your Driver, Bus & Transportation expenses as per your itinerary;
- All taxes & VAT included.

#### Not Included

- International Flight
- Spending money for souvenirs and lunch (note the tour includes 2 meals a day).
- Travel Insurance
- Other entry tickets at visits
- > Everything not included above
- Cancelation Insurance
- > Tips for driver

# PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND REFUND POLICY

# The payment schedule is as follows:

Cost is \$2,650 per player (Please note that for this trip players will stay together in rooms of 2 or 3.) Additional Traveler Package is \$2,350 per person with discount of \$250 for the 4th member from the same family and any additional. Prices are based on double occupancy with individual rooms available for an additional fee of \$500.

\*Please note a \$500 deposit is required per traveler to secure a spot. Spots are not confirmed without receipt of the deposit.

#### **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

DATE	PAYMENT	AMOUNT DUE
Now	Deposit Due	\$500pp*
Aug 1	2nd payment due	\$500pp
Oct 1	3rd payment due	\$500pp
Nov 1	4th payment due	\$500pp
Dec 1	5th Payment due	\$Balance pp

# What happens if plans change, and we need to cancel?

We understand that situations may change, so we offer a generous refund policy for the land package. These refund dates only apply to the land portion of the tour. Flights are booked separately and the responsibility of the player or supporter.

WITHDRAWAL DATE	REFUND AMOUNT OWED	
150+ days out	100% refund	
90-140 days prior to departure	75% refund	
60-89 days prior to departure	50% refund	
less than 60 days prior to departure	0% refund	

<sup>\*\*</sup>All refunds will be issued less \$250 per person, which will act as the service fee.

# **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

#### **TEAM FLIGHT**

All independent travelers are required to meet up with the group at their own expense and need to confirm travel details as soon as possible with the NCE team. Players travelling alone will be required to travel with the NCE staff <u>coaches</u>.

#### **GROUP FLIGHT DETAILS**

NCE will be managing the group flight option to Brazil so you will need to e-mail Nick Dunbar at <a href="mick@ncesoccer.com">nick@ncesoccer.com</a> with the names of the individuals as they appear in the passport following the dates outlined below. Group flights are available on a first come first served basis with a limited number available. If you choose to take the group option this cost will be added to your tour registration fee. We have reserved blocks of seats across 2 flights and families will be assigned to flight 1 then once all seats are taken we will

#### **Group Flight Departure**

AA1706 departs JFK Airport on Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> at 1.00pm and arrives Miami Int. at 4.14pm. AA0905 departs Miami International at 7.50pm March 31<sup>st</sup> and arrives at Galeao International in Rio de Janeiro at 5.10am on Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Group Flight Return**

AA0904 departs Galeao International on Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 11.00pm and arrives Miami International at 6.45am on Monday April 10th.

AA1199 departs Miami International at 9.00am April 10th and arrives at JFK airport at 12.10pm.

Total with taxes and fees are \$1,100 per person and includes checked bag. Please note that airlines reserve the right to change times of departure and return.

# Important Dates and Flight Provider Information

\$100 deposit per person is due on registration

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - last chance to cancel or join group flight providing available seats. February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – All required passenger information and full payment are due or deposit will be lost and seat cancelled.

To request a seat on the group option contact Nick Dunbar at <a href="mailto:nick@ncesoccer.com">nick@ncesoccer.com</a> with names of individuals.

#### CONFIRMING PARTICIPATION FOR PLAYERS

Space is limited to those who register first and to guarantee the roster position players should complete the online registration and pay the deposit as soon as possible with a credit card.

#### CONFIRMING PARTICIPATION FOR ADDIONAL TRAVELERS

If additional travelers and supporters want to join the tour you will need to go into your family portal and add the details of the respective individual. Please then e-mail Nick Dunbar at <a href="mailto:nick@ncesoccer.com">nick@ncesoccer.com</a> with the name of the individuals and if there is space available we will add you to the tour. You will then be required to confirm your registration for this event by paying the deposit.

#### **PASSPORTS**

You must have a current passport which is valid for at least 6 months after your return date. If your passport expires within 6 months of our return date you should immediately look into securing a renewal as there is a current backlog on passports. If you are traveling on a non-U.S. passport you must check with the destination country to clarify if you require a special travel visa.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TRAVEL INSURANCE

We do not provide individual travel insurance coverage as part of the fee. It is strongly suggested that all travelers investigate the various options and consider purchasing travel insurance.

When investigating the many companies that offer travel insurance, we suggest that you ask questions regarding what is specifically included. The cost for coverage can vary based on reasons such as the cost of the trip and the level of coverage for expenses related to:

Trip cancellation
Travel delays or interruption Lost
Stolen or delayed luggage
Medical or dental coverage
Emergency services or expenses

.... and much more.

While we don't endorse any company listed below are links to some of the major company's previous travelers have used for insurance.

AIG Travelguard <u>www.travelguard.com</u>

Allianz Global Assistance <u>www.allianztravelinsurance.com</u>

CSA Travel Protection <u>www.csatravelprotection.com</u>

There are also many websites that compare rates and coverage, or your local travel agent might be able to offer further suggestions. It may also be worthwhile checking with your credit card company to see if they offer travel insurance when you make payment using your card.



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# CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SELECTION NCE PRO ACADEMY PATHWAY BRAZIL 2023