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NCE

## NATIONAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE NCE SELECT ITALY TOUR 2023 APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 and 2011 Boys



Selected players are invited to attend the tournament in Milan each year. This amazing event provides players with an unparalleled international soccer experience, playing a multitude of games versus high level teams from across the world.

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"NCE is committed to providing the best possible development opportunities for our players and we hope that the experience of competing at the international level will provide selected players with the inspiration necessary to greatly accelerate their own development." John Curtis, Founder



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National Center of Excellence 324 Cooper River Drive Mount Pleasant CS 29464 203.349.1115 www.ncesoccer.com

From:John CurtisRe:National Center of Excellence Select Squad Invitation Italy 2023

Dear Parent:

I am delighted to invite your son to represent the National Center of Excellence program in the 2023 edition of the Milan Football Festival in Italy from April 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 10th, 2023.

Your son has been selected based on his performances in NCE programs over the previous 12 months.

Our annual Milan Tournament Tour is one of the highlights of the NCE calendar and provides selected players from the 2009 and 2011 age group with a fantastic opportunity to test themselves against opponents from across Europe.

In addition to the soccer, this tour also provides an amazing cultural experience for the players and their families, exposing them to some of the worlds most famous cities and historical landmarks.

## Trip Particulars:

Dates: Depart USA on Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup> and return Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>

**Registration:** Our 2022 tour was sold out 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



## **TRIP INFORMATION**

#### Who is invited:

Select Squad players from the 2009 & 2011 age groups and their respective supporters.

Tour Info Web Page: https://ncesoccer.com/italian-tour-boys-info-page/

Squad Sizes: 2011 – 14 Players 2009 – 18 Players

## Player's commitment:

Spots will be filled on a first come first served basis from the select 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 as 'FANS' which will then allow you to register for the respective 'PARENTS AND SUPPORTERS TOUR' providing there is still space available. Please note that any siblings who might already be players within the NCE programs will need to be added as a FAN in your family portal to see the supporter tour option. 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.

## Location of the events:

Milan, Lake Garda, Venice and Verona

## 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**

#### Sunday April 2nd

Depart to Milan, Italy to arrive the next day.

#### Monday April 3rd

Arrival at Milan international airport and meet our our bilingual tour manager and board our private bus for the week. After collecting luggage depart to Lake Garda area for free time and visit some of the lakeside towns such as Sirmione or Peschiera del Garda.

At the end of the day transfer to our hotel in Verona/Lake Garda area for check in and dinner.

#### Tuesday April 4th

After breakfast players have an early transfer to Chievo Verona Serie A Youth headquarter for a training session with their qualified coaches. After training we depart to visit Venice with free time to stop for lunch on way. After arrival at the bus parking area, we will transfer to the city center by private boat. Once there, free time to enjoy the beautiful city with its many canals and bridges. Midafternoon we will return to our hotel for dinner.

#### Wednesday April 5th

After breakfast players will participate in a practice session at the hotel fields with the NCE Coaching staff. Parents have free time to enjoy Lake Garda. After the session we will travel to Verona city center for free time in the city of Romeo and Juliet. Lunch on your own then in the mid-afternoon we play our first friendly games against local opponents. At the end of the games return to our hotel for dinner

#### Thursday April 6th

After breakfast early training session at the hotel fields then depart to Milan with a stop at lake garda for lunch. Arrival at our Milan hotel for check in and evening meal with team meetings for players and free time for parents and supporters.

#### Friday April 7th

After breakfast we transfer to the tournament fields to play in qualifications games. Lunch will be at the hotel or a local restaurant for the group. In the afternoon we may have more group games depending on our schedule. According to the tournament schedule, free time to enjoy Milan City Center. Dinner will be on your own at the hotel or Milan city center depending on schedule.

#### Saturday April 8th

After breakfast, transfer to the sport center to see and to play our final group matches. Lunch will be at the hotel or a local restaurant then transfer to the San Siro stadium to attend a pro game involving AC Milan or FC Inter.

Dinner on your own at San Siro Stadium or Milan city center based on schedule.

#### Sunday April 9th

After breakfast head to the tournament where we will hope to compete in the Finals! After award ceremonies transfer to the VIP Lake Como for free time to enjoy this wonderful setting before transfer back to the hotel for our final group dinner.

#### Monday April 11th

Breakfast at our hotel then check out and transfer to Milan airport to return to the USA.

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

## WHATS INCLUDED IN THE LAND PACKAGE?

## Meals and Accommodations

- 3 nights in 4-star hotel in Verona/Lake Garda area
- 4 nights in 4-star hotel in Milan/Como area
- Dinner OR Lunch and breakfast daily

## Transportation and Assistance

- > Full time experienced bi-lingual Tour Manager.
- > Dedicated private luxury bus for the entire tour.

## Excursions

- Free time in Milan City Centre
- Verona, Venice, Lake Garda and lake Como
- Tickets to a home game for either AC Milan or Inter Milan at the San Siro Stadium. (Please note an additional fee might be required based on final fixture list).

## Soccer Program for Players

- > Training sessions prior to the tournament with Serie B Chievo Verona
- > coaches.
- > Friendly matches to prepare for tournament.
- Practice sessions with NCE Staff coaches at hotel fields or local sport center.

## NCE Touring Uniform for Players

- > Full NCE International Tour kit of 2 numbered Shirts, Shorts and socks.
- Complete NCE Tracksuit.
- > NCE Polo Shirt.

## Not Included

- ➢ Flights
- ➤ Travel insurance
- > Lunches
- > Water, soft drinks or wine at meals
- > Tips for guide and driver
- Other entry tickets at visits
- Anything not specifically listed above

## Possible Serie A Game

Information about an optional live pro game will be available when the Serie A schedules are released in Aug 2022.

Please note, the land package is subject to change, with a final schedule expected 2 weeks prior to departure.

## The payment schedule is as follows:

Cost is \$2,650 for players and \$2,350 for supporters. Players room with their family, so a single supplement fee would only apply to a party who requests a single room for an individual. Please reach out to Nick Dunbar at <u>nick@ncesoccer.com</u> to discuss this if it applies to your group.

DATE		
DATE	PAYMENT	AMOUNT DUE
Now	Deposit Due	\$500pp
Oct 1, 2022	2nd payment due	\$500pp
Nov 1, 2022	3rd payment due	\$500pp
Dec 1, 2022	4th payment due	\$500pp
Feb 1, 2023	5th Payment due	\$Balance pp

## PLAYER AND SUPPORTER PAYMENT SCHEDULE

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

## 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

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

\*\* Refunds will also be subject to any costs incurred if NCE uniform has been received.

## **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 coaches.

## **GROUP FLIGHT DETAILS**

If you want to take the group option, you will need to contact Consolidator Webfares. Group flights are available on a first come first served basis with a limited number available.

## **Group Flight Departure**

Airline and Flight Number: American Airlines 198 Departs: JFK Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7.05pm Arrives: Milan Malpensa Airport at 9.05pm

## **Group Flight Return**

Airline and Flight Number: American Airlines 199 Departs: Milan Malpensa Airport Monday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 11.10am Arrives: JFK Monday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.20pm.

Total with taxes and fees are \$892 per person and includes a checked bag. Please note thar 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 February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 - Names as on the passport, TSA information and full payment are due

## **FLIGHT CONTACT**

The group flight option must be booked through our Consolidator Webfares contact Klaus Bieber. Please contact Klaus using the information below to secure the group option.

Klaus Bieber e-mail: klaus@consolidatorwebfares.com or phone 888-316-7514 x7

## **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 ADDITIONAL TRAVELERS**

You will need to add any additional travelers to your family portal as 'FANS' which will then allow you to register for the respective 'PARENTS AND SUPPORTERS TOUR' providing there is still space available. Please note that any siblings who might already be players within the NCE programs will need to be added as a FAN in your family portal to see the supporter tour option. 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 only provide tickets to live games, transportation or access to other events to those on the official NCE Supporters tour.

## 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.

## **TRAVEL INSURANCE INFORMATION**

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	www.travelguard.com	
Allianz Global Assistance	www.allianztravelinsurance.com	
CSA Travel Protection	www.csatravelprotection.com	

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.

# CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN ON BEING SELECTED FOR THE ITALY 2023 SELECT SQUAD





