



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

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From: John Curtis

**Re:** Pro Academy Pathway – Brazil Tour 2024



I am delighted to announce that again in 2024 we will be offering our players the chance to travel to one of the most famous soccer countries in the world. Our tour to Brazil is for players identified by NCE coaching staff, based on their performance and attitude at scouted events. We are delighted to extend an invitation to your son to join this exceptional group of players to represent NCE IN Brazil.

This event has been established to take the best of our 2008/09 and 2010/11 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 22<sup>nd</sup> and return on Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.

**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 Founder & CEO National Center of Excellence



# **BASIC TRIP INFORMATION**

#### Who is invited:

Selected players with the 2008/09 and 2010/11 birth year and their respective supporters.

Tour Info Web Page: <a href="https://ncesoccer.com/brazil-tour-info-page/">https://ncesoccer.com/brazil-tour-info-page/</a>

#### **Squad Sizes:**

2010/11 – 18 Players 2008/09 – 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 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:

**\$2,750** per player includes everything listed in the tour itinerary. Additional travelers and supporters' price is only **\$2,450** 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 following the process listed. If you want to fly independently you will be responsible for meeting up with the group in Brazil. 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 2024**

#### Friday March 22nd

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

#### Saturday March 23rd

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

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

#### Sunday March 24th

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 March 25th

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

PM - Game #1 Vs. Fluminense FC Academy.

#### Tuesday March 26th

AM – Training Session and free time for parents to explore Rio de Janeiro beaches.

PM - Game #2 Vs. Madureia EC Academy.

#### Wednesday March 27th

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 March 28th

AM – Training session and opportunity for parents to visit some of the most beautiful beaches in Rio: Prainha, Grumari, Recerio and Barra

PM - Game #3 Vs. Boa Vista Academy.

#### Friday March 29th

AM – Training Session free time for parents to explore Rio de Janeiro beaches.

PM - Game #4 Vs. Botafogo Academy.

#### Saturday March 30th

AM – Futsal session at Club Libano in Rio

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

#### Sunday March 31st

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

PM – Depart to airport for your return flight home.

#### Monday April 1st

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 \$2,750 per player (Please note that for this trip players will stay together in rooms of 2 or 3.) Additional Traveler Package is \$2,450 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*
Oct 1	2nd payment due	\$500pp
Nov 1	3rd payment due	\$500pp
Dec 1	4th payment due	\$500pp
Feb 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	
90-149 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.

# TRAVEL INSURANCE INFORMATION

#### TRIPMATE AND NCE SOCCER

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. For that reason, we have chosen to partner with TripMate who are an industry leader in providing high-quality travel protection products and services for the traveling public. They work with renowned organizations such as Tourism Cares, the United States Tour Operators Association and are a founding member of the US Travel Insurance Association.

In addition to offering industry leading travel protection plans, they provide administrative services for claims, product design and underwriting, while helping customers with our state-of-the-art claims handling.

They offer policies that include trip cancellation, trip interruption, trip delays and even cancel for any reason. The coverage can include coverage for medical expenses, 24-hour travel assistance services as well as plans for issues with baggage and personal effects.

Please note that other insurance providers are available, and we recommend you review all opportunities but remember to confirm 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 and other expenses.

#### SIGN UP FOR TRIPMATE INSURANCE

To register for the NCE approved plans and coverage please click on the following link;

https://gamer.tripmate.com/?welcome=SELE0324SC

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

You can also find out more information on the various plans and what coverage can include by clicking on the following link:

https://gamer.tripmate.com/our-plans/



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# CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SELECTION NCE PRO ACADEMY PATHWAY BRAZIL 2024