ARGENTINA SOCCER TOUR



Day One

• Depart on an overnight flight to Buenos Aires International Airport.

Day Two

- Arrive in Buenos Aires Airport where you are met by your Excel International Sports Representative.
- Deluxe coach transfer to your 3* accommodations in the Buenos Aires area, where you will be staying for the following seven nights.
- Welcome meeting and orientation.
- You will have the rest of the day to settle in and get to know Buenos Aires.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Evening practice session.



Day Three

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Morning practices session.
- Enjoy a two hour walking tour of Buenos Aires with a guide, visit Plaza de Mayo (the main square where the city of Buenos Aires was first successfully founded and grew outwards from), Avenida de Mayo (the grand boulevard of Buenos Aires), Avenida 9 de Julio (the widest avenue in the world), the Buenos Aires Obelisk, Plaza Congreso, The Buenos Aires Cathedral (a fantastic work of religious architecture, and last resting place of Argentina's independence hero, General San Martin), The Pink House (Casa Rosada) (where the president and executive government go around their daily business), Cafe Tortoni (the oldest cafe in Buenos Aires, founded in 1858), Palacio Barolo building (a tribute to Dante's Divine Comedy, and once the tallest building in South America), finally take a short ride on Buenos Aires Subway Line A, the oldest subway in the southern hemisphere, with its original 1913 wooden carriages.
- Afternoon free for sightseeing on own in Buenos Aires.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your first international friendly game vs. an Argentinean team.

Day Four

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Today, tour Estadio Alberto J. Armando, commonly called La Bombonera Stadium. The stadium is owned by Boca Juniors, one of Argentina's most famous football clubs. The unusual shape of the stadium has led to it having excellent acoustics and the Boca support being nicknamed "La Doce" (The 12th man). Three sides of the Bombonera are made up of traditional stands. However, the fourth side had to be built vertically, with several seating areas stacked one on top of the other, to stay within the stadium's property. La Bombonera is renowned for vibrating when fans start to jump in rhythm. In particular, the unique vertical side will sway slightly, leading to the phrase "La Bombonera doesn't shake: it beats (like a heart)."
- Afternoon free for sightseeing on own in Buenos Aires.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your second international friendly game vs. an Argentinean side.

Day Five

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Morning practice session.
- Perhaps enjoy a relaxing afternoon in a Milonga. A milonga is both a place where a
 Tango dance will take place, as well as a specific type of tango dance. Milongas take
 place either during the day or late at night. "Matinée Milongas" usually start in the
 early afternoon and go until 8-10PM. They are popular with tourists who may
 struggle staying up until 5AM every night. Inside a milongas, you will find many
 locals who will be more than willing to show you how to dance.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Evening free for social activities.



Day Six

- Breakfast at hotel.
- This morning participate in a community service project. Past projects have included cleaning up a local park, helping at a retirement community, and fundraising for a local charity.
- Afternoon free for sightseeing and lunch in Buenos Aires.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your third international friendly game vs. an Argentinean side.

Day Seven

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Morning practice session.
- Perhaps this afternoon enjoy another typical Argentinean past time, horseback riding. Hop on horseback and enjoy a trail ride through the countryside right outside the city. Or enjoy tasting the wide variety of wines that the area has to offer. Argentina is renowned for its excellent selection of wine. The most popular being Mendoza which is rated amongst the worlds most popular regions due to its high altitude, volcanic soils and proximity to the Andes Mountains.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your fourth international friendly game vs. an Argentinean side.

Day Eight

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Free day for last minute sightseeing and shopping in Buenos Aires. Perhaps visit the La Boca district. La Boca has the *Caminito* pedestrian street with arts and crafts. There is also a river cruise you can take from there where you can see a huge picturesque metal structure across the river. La Boca is famous for Tango and you can often catch glimpses of Tango dancers practicing in the streets.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Possible visit to a professional soccer game this evening. Buenos Aires has the highest concentration of football teams of any city in the world (featuring no fewer than 24 professional football teams), with many of its teams playing in the major league. Major clubs include River Plate, Boca Juniors, San Lorenzo de Almagro, Asociación Atlética Argentinos Juniors, Club Atlético Huracán, Club Ferro Carril Oeste and Vélez Sársfield.

Dav Nine

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Depart Buenos Aires Airport on your return flight to the US.

ABOUT ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires - is the capital of the Argentine Republic. The name means *fair winds* in Spanish. It is one of the largest cities in Latin America, with a lot of cultural offerings, and is the point of departure for travelling to the rest of the country. Inhabitants of Buenos Aires are called *porteños*, "people from the port". Buenos Aires is a singular, open and integrating destination that allows the visitor not only to view the city but also to have an exceptional urban adventure.

TESTIMONIALS

"The whole experience was one the players and parents will never forget. The soccer, the sightseeing and the cultural environment; the balance between soccer and social sightseeing was great."

Barry Christmas, Coach, FC Wheeling United

