

International Basketball Tour 2024 Itinerary Grand Valley State Women's Basketball Italy – Rome, Florence and Venice

Travel dates:

Late July of 2024. Exact dates TBD.

Itinerary:

- Day 1 Departure from Chicago-O'hare airport.
- Day 2 Arrival Rome airport and transfer to your accommodation.
- Day 3 Sightseeing Rome. Visit the Colosseum, 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 club.
- Day 4 Additional sightseeing Rome – visit the Vatican 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. Evening game vs. a local club.
- Day 5 Transfer to your accommodation in Montecatini, near Florence.
- Day 6 Sightseeing 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.
- Day 7 Day trip to Pisa, known for its Torre Pendente (Leaning Tower) and Viareggio, a popular seaside resort on the Mediterranean. Optional evening cooking class.
- Day 8 Transfer to your accommodation in Venice.
- Day 9 Day trip Venice. The famous city of gondolas built on small islands connected by bridges. See the famous Rialto bridge and the San Marco church and its vibrant plaza. Possible evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 10 Transfer to Venice or Bologna airport and return flight.



Vatican City



Wartburg College



Milan



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*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.

Price per person*:

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$3,997	\$3,754	\$3,591	\$3,471	\$3,380	\$3,309

* Prices are based on 2023 tour pricing. We should be able to quote 2024 tour pricing around spring of 2023.

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.
- Accommodations 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 4 games per team.

Accommodation and meals included:

Rome: 4-star Hotel accommodation in Rome.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Not far from the center of Rome.
- All rooms, triple rooms (3 people) have private shower, toilet and TV. The hotel has a lounge, restaurant and bar.
- Double rooms 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.
- Rooms for 3 people (triple rooms) include TV, telephone, bathroom with shower and toilet.
- Double rooms are available at a supplement of \$15.00 per person per night.

Venice: 3-star Hotel accommodation in Venice.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Approx. 5-10 kilometers from the center of Venice.
- All rooms, triple rooms (3 people) have private shower, toilet and TV. The hotel has a lounge, restaurant and bar.
- Double rooms are available as well 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.

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. This applies to per person admissions for sights and attractions as well as city admission fees (called ZTL fees) for the touring bus in Italy. These ZTL fees are approx. \$100.00 - \$250.00 when you enter a city ZTL zone. There are options to avoid these fees – consult us for more information on this.
- Single rooms in hotels. 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.

Touristic information Rome

Rome, Italy's capital, is a sprawling, cosmopolitan city with nearly 3,000 years of globally influential art, architecture and culture on display. Ancient ruins such as the Forum and the Colosseum evoke the power of the former Roman Empire. Vatican City, headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church, has St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican Museums, which house masterpieces such as Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel frescoes.

Coliseum: 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.

The Pantheon: Dedicated to the worship of every god, the Pantheon was built by the Emperor Hadrian between 118 and 125 A.D. over the ruins of another temple dating back to 27 A.D. Statesman and General Marcus Agrippa were responsible for the construction of the original church, to which a dedicatory inscription is clearly visible over today's magnificent portico.



Vatican City



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Milan



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The Roman Forum: The Roman Forum is a rectangular forum (plaza) surrounded by the ruins of several important ancient government buildings at the center of the city of Rome. Citizens of the ancient city referred to this space, originally a marketplace, as the Forum Magnum, or simply the Forum. Located in the small valley between the Palatine and Capitoline Hills, the Forum today is a sprawling ruin of architectural fragments and intermittent archaeological excavations attracting 4.5 million sightseers each year.

St. Peters and Vatican City: 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.

Touristic information Florence

Florence is the capital city of the Italian region of Tuscany and of the Metropolitan City of Florence. It is the most populous city in Tuscany, with 383,083 inhabitants, expanding to over 1,520,000 in the metropolitan area.

Leaning Tower of Pisa: 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.

The Ponte Vecchio: 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; the present tenants are jewelers, art dealers and souvenir sellers. The Ponte Vecchio's two neighboring bridges are the Ponte Santa Trinita and the Ponte alle Grazie.

Palazzo Vecchio: The Palazzo Vecchio ("Old Palace") is the town hall of Florence. This massive, Romanesque, crenellated fortress-palace is among the most impressive town halls of Tuscany.

Viareggio: Viareggio is a city and commune in northern Tuscany, Italy, on the coast of the Tyrrhenian Sea. It is known as a seaside resort as well as being the home of the famous carnival of Viareggio (dating back to 1873), and its papier-mâché floats, which (since 1925), parade along the promenade known as "Passeggiata a mare", in the weeks preceding Easter.

SIENA - Piazza del Campo in Siena: Piazza del Campo in Siena is considered one of the most beautiful places of the world. It has a characteristic shell-shape divided in 9 slices, you can admire this particular form from the top of the tower del Mangia.



Florence



Wartburg College Men's Soccer



Leaning Tower of Pisa



Lake Hill Storm SC

Touristic information Venice

Venice is the capital of the Veneto region in Italy. It is situated across a group of 117 small islands that are separated by canals and linked by bridges. These are located in the shallow Venetian Lagoon, an enclosed bay that lies between the mouths of the Po and the Piave Rivers. Parts of Venice are renowned for the beauty of their settings, their architecture, and artwork. The lagoon and a part of the city are listed as a World Heritage Site.

Basilica di San Marco (Saint Mark's Church): This elaborate church sits on the popular piazza by the same name. The church was built in honor of Saint Mark the evangelist, whose remains were stolen from their home in Alexandria, Egypt, and hidden in barrels of pork by a couple crafty Venetians, intent on bringing him to rest in Venice.

Piazza San Marco (St. Mark's Square): St. Mark's Square, or Piazza San Marco, is considered by many to be the heart of Venice. As the largest square in Venice, St. Mark's Square is the only "piazza" in the city. All other squares are campis or campielli. Lining the square are multiple historical sites including St. Mark's Basilica, St. Mark's Campanile and Doge's Palace, as well as a number of restaurants, making it the perfect spot for leisurely people-watching and wine sipping. Along with intricate architecture and hearty plates of spaghetti carbonara, visitors will also be met with throngs of tourists, pigeons and vendors selling souvenirs. If you hoped to pick up a gondola hat or a carnival mask during your trip, this is the place you will find them.

Rialto Bridge (Ponte di Rialto): Several centuries ago, if you wanted to cross the Grand Canal, the Rialto Bridge was the only way. Now there are other options, including the Accademia Bridge. The bridge's current incarnation is the handiwork of Antonio da Ponte, whose name translates to "Anthony of the Bridge," is built entirely of marble after collapsing multiple times from previous wooden designs. Predicted to fail by critics, the bridge still stands and is considered an engineering marvel.

Grand Canal: Considered to be the main street of Venice, the 2-mile-long Grand Canal is one of the city's most popular and highly photographed attractions. Recent travelers recommend hiring a gondolier for a romantic (but expensive) row along the canal.

Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale): Views from the Venetian Lagoon give the Doge's Palace an ethereal look — almost like it's floating on top of water. But it's fitting, as the Doge's Palace (or Palazzo Ducale) has witnessed an intriguing history in its role as the residence of the doge (leader), the seat of government and the palace of justice. Everything from execution orders to the affairs of Venetian leaders was carried out here; and a web of secret passageways and hidden doors reveals a decidedly mysterious past.

International Basketball Tour 2024 Itinerary Grand Valley State Women’s Basketball Greece – Athens and Thessaloniki

Travel dates:

Late July of 2024. Exact dates TBD.

Itinerary:

- Day 1 Departure from Chicago-O’Hare airport.
- Day 2 Arrival Athens airport and transfer to your accommodation. Sightseeing Athens. Options include sights like the Roman Temple of Zeus, Agora, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, etc.
- Day 3 Optional tour of the Acropolis. Additional sightseeing in Athens if any free time. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 4 Day excursion to Argolis to tour Mycenae and then continue to Epidaurus to visit the marvelous Ancient Theatre (4th century B.C.), famous for the perfect design and acoustics.
- Day 5 More sightseeing Athens and/or final shopping in Athens. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 6 Transfer to Thessaloniki.
- Day 7 Guided tour of Thessaloniki. Thessaloniki is a Greek port city on the Thermaic Gulf of the Aegean Sea. Evidence of Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman history remains, especially around Ano Poli, the upper town. The ruins of Roman Emperor Galerius’ 4th-century palace include the Rotunda that has been both a church and a mosque. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 8 Visit ancient cities of Vergina and Pella. Get to know the imperial capital, the ancient city where Alexander the Great was born and raised. The excursion travels you to the ancient Greek, byzantine and modern history bringing back in light the lost prestige of Aigai, the first city of the Macedonians. Discover the museum of Aigai; a World Heritage site of UNESCO, against the natural beauty of the area and the view of the Macedonian plain that travels our eye till the end of the horizon.
- Day 9 Visit famous beaches of Halkidiki. Halkidiki is a region in northern Greece known for its jutting peninsulas, which feature Mediterranean forests that give way to sandy beaches in sheltered bays. Cassandra, the westernmost peninsula, is the most developed, offering modern resorts and nightclubs. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 10 Transfer to Thessaloniki or Athens airport and 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.

Price per person*:

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$4,130	\$3,980	\$3,912	\$3,862	\$3,808	\$3,774

* Prices are based on 2023 tour pricing. We should be able to quote 2024 tour pricing around spring of 2023.

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.
- Accommodations 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.

Accommodation and meals included:

Athens: 3 or 4-star Hotel accommodation in Athens.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Not far from the center of Athens.
- All rooms, double/twin rooms (2 people per room) have private shower, toilet and TV. The hotel has a lounge, restaurant and bar.

Thessaloniki: 3 or 4-star Hotel accommodation in Thessaloniki.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Not far from the center of Thessaloniki.
- All rooms, double/twin rooms (2 people per room) have private shower, toilet and TV. The hotel has a lounge, restaurant and bar.

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:

- A 2-hour practice session with your own coaching staff – costs approx. \$300.00 per 2 hours.
- Tickets to a pro game – cost approx. \$60.00 - \$100.00+ per person, depending on the game.

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.
- Single rooms in hotels. 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.

Touristic information Athens

Athens is the historical capital of Europe, with a long history, dating from the first settlement in the Neolithic age. In the 5th Century BC (the “Golden Age of Pericles”) – the culmination of Athens’ long, fascinating history – the city’s values and civilization acquired a universal significance. Over the years, a multitude of conquerors occupied Athens, and erected unique, splendid monuments - a rare historical palimpsest. In 1834, it became the capital of the modern Greek state and in two centuries since it has become an attractive modern metropolis with unrivalled charm.

The Acropolis: The Acropolis is the most important ancient site in the Western world. Crowned by the Parthenon, it stands sentinel over Athens, visible from almost everywhere within the city. Its monuments and sanctuaries of Pentelic marble gleam white in the midday sun and gradually take on a honey hue as the sun sinks, while at night they stand brilliantly illuminated above the city. A glimpse of this magnificent sight cannot fail to exalt your spirit.

The Acropolis Museum: This dazzling modernist museum at the foot of the Acropolis' southern slope showcases its surviving treasures still in Greek possession. While the collection covers the Archaic and Roman periods, the emphasis is on the Acropolis of the 5th century BC, considered the apotheosis of Greece's artistic achievement. The museum cleverly reveals layers of history, floating over ruins with the Acropolis visible above, showing the masterpieces in context. The surprisingly good-value restaurant has superb views; there’s also a fine museum shop.

Olympic Stadium/Panathenaic Stadium:

The Panathenaic Stadium is a classical cultural and touristic monument of Greece and one of the most significant monuments not only for Athens, but for the whole Greece.

It is one of our city’s most popular touristic attractions and one of Athens’ landmarks.

Its rich history is directly connected to the Modern Olympic Games as from their revival in 1896 until the Athens Olympic Games in 2004. It is also the place from where the Olympic flame sets up its journey to the cities of the Olympic Games, both Winter, Summer and Youth.

Olympeion: Temple of Olympian Zeus: Dedicated to Zeus, the Olympeion was the largest temple in ancient Greece. Though the Parthenon is better preserved, the Temple of Olympian Zeus was an even more monumental structure in its day. The temple dates to the sixth century BC but was not completed until the second century AD by the Emperor Hadrian. It's easy to imagine the grand impression this temple made in its complete form. More than a hundred enormous marble columns once supported the grandiose sanctuary. Only 15 columns remain standing, and another surviving column lies on the ground, but the ruins' monumental presence gives a sense of the massive size of the original building. The gigantic structure was a befitting shrine to Zeus, the ancient Greeks' most all-powerful God, known as the King of Gods. Nearby, just north of the Olympeion, is a small park containing the ruins of Themistokles' wall and the ancient Roman baths.

Touristic information Thessaloniki

Thessaloniki is a Greek port city on the Thermaic Gulf of the Aegean Sea. Evidence of Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman history remains, especially around Ano Poli, the upper town. The ruins of Roman Emperor Galerius' 4th-century palace include the Rotunda that has been both a church and a mosque. Much of the city center was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1917. The rebuilt 20th-century city has a modern European layout.

Church of Saint Demetrius: The Church of Saint Demetrius, or Hagios Demetrios is the main sanctuary dedicated to Saint Demetrius, the patron saint of Thessaloniki (in Central Macedonia, Greece), dating from a time when it was the second largest city of the Byzantine Empire.

Ladadika District: Ladadika is the name of a historic district and a landmark area of the city of Thessaloniki, Greece. It locates near the Port of Thessaloniki and for centuries was one of the most important market places of the city. Its name came about from the many olive oil shops of the area.

Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki: The Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki is a museum in Thessaloniki, Central Macedonia, Greece. It holds and interprets artifacts from the Prehistoric, Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic and Roman periods, mostly from the city of Thessaloniki but also from the region of Macedonia in general.

White Tower of Thessaloniki: The White Tower of Thessaloniki is a monument and museum on the waterfront of the city of Thessaloniki, capital of the region of Macedonia in northern Greece.

International Basketball Tour 2024 Itinerary Grand Valley State Women’s Basketball Spain – Barcelona

Travel dates:

Late July of 2024. Exact dates TBD.

Itinerary:

- Day 1 Departure from Chicago-O’Hare airport.
- Day 2 Arrival Barcelona airport. Transfer to your accommodation.
- Day 3 Bus or boat tour Tossa de Mar: visit the beautiful old fishing town made famous in the 1950’s by Ava Gardner and James Mason in the film Pandora and the Flying Dutchman. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 4 Visit Barcelona by bus, covering the Bullring, the Gaudi buildings, Casa Battlló and the Pedrera, Plaza Francesc Masia, the Nou Camp - home of FC Barcelona, followed by Gaudi’s unfinished Sagrada Familia Cathedral and lastly Parque Guell.
- Day 5 Visit the city of Girona. Sightseeing possibilities include St. Mary's Cathedral, built between the 11th and 17th centuries, Passeig de la Muralla, Monastery of Saint Pere de Galligants and Chapel of Sant Nicolau, the Arab Baths, Cases de l'Onyar, etc. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 6 Visit the sacred mountain-top monastery of Montserrat with its breathtaking views.
- Day 7 Free day in Barcelona visiting the places the bus cannot reach. Drop off and pick up point in the central Plaza Catalunya. Recommended are the: Ramblas with its human statues and street artists, Palau de la Musica, Barrio Gotico with its maze of narrow streets, Plaza Real, Cathedral. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 8 More sightseeing in Barcelona. Visit Montjuic, a prominent hill overlooking Barcelona with amazing views of the city and visit the Olympic facilities.
- Day 9 Transfer to Barcelona airport and 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.



Wartburg College



Camp Nou



University of Mary



La Sagrada Familia

Price per person* :

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$3,494	\$3,323	\$3,203	\$3,114	\$3,003	\$2,967

* Prices are based on 2023 tour pricing. We should be able to quote 2024 tour pricing around spring of 2023.

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.
- Accommodations 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 three games per team.

Accommodation and meals included:

4-star Hotel accommodation in the Costa Brava region in a seaside town like Santa Susanna, Calella, etc.

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- The accommodation is situated near the town center and/or beach.
- Distance to Barcelona is approx. 30-35 miles. All rooms (3 bedded rooms) have a shower and toilet as well as air-conditioning.
- The hotel has a restaurant, bar, lounge, reception and sometimes an outdoor swimming pool.
- Double rooms are available as well 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 tour assistant 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 to pro games, subject to availability. Ticket costs will depend on the game, but usually ticket costs range from approx. \$75-\$150 per person depending on the game.
- A 2-hour practice session with your own coaching staff – costs approx. \$300.00 per 2 hours.

Accommodation option Barcelona:

On request, we can accommodate the group in a 3 or 4-star hotel in Barcelona, close to the city center while in Spain instead. Hotel is within walking distance of a train station and not far from the Sagrada Familia. All rooms have private facilities/bathroom, satellite TV, phone and climate control. Hotel has a bar, lounge, workout room and small outdoor pool. Supplemental cost for this hotel option is approx. \$40.00 - \$60.00 per person per night (to be confirmed – depends on time of the year).

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.
- Single rooms in hotels. 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.

Touristic information Barcelona

Barcelona is the capital city of the autonomous community of Catalonia in Spain, as well as the country's second most populous municipality, with a population of 1.6 million within city limits. It is the largest metropolis on the Mediterranean Sea. Barcelona has a rich cultural heritage and is today an important cultural center and a major tourist destination. Particularly renowned are the architectural works of Antoni Gaudí and Lluís Domènech i Montaner, which have been designated UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Barcelona is also home to two top pro clubs in Spain, FC Barcelona and RCD Espanyol.

CAMP NOU: Visit the Home of Barcelona FC, the away team changing room and the players' tunnel, the dugouts, the press room, commentators box and of course the Museum. The Museum is the most modern football museum thanks to its interactive wall spaces, large scale audiovisual displays and an extensive display of objects to explain the history of FC Barcelona and understand the values that make Barça "més que un club" -- "more than a club".

SAGRADA FAMILIA: The unfinished Cathedral by Gaudi, The expiatory church of La Sagrada Família is a work on a grand scale which was begun on 19 March 1882 from a project by the diocesan architect, Francisco de Paula del Villar (1828-1901). At the end of 1883 Gaudí was commissioned to carry on the works, a task which he did not abandon until his death in 1926. Since then different architects have continued the work after his original idea.

MONTSERRAT: Montserrat is a multi-peaked mountain located near the city of Barcelona. It is well known as the site of the Benedictine abbey, Santa Maria de Montserrat, which hosts the Virgin of Montserrat sanctuary and which is identified by some with the location of the Holy Grail in Arthurian myth. The mountain is composed of strikingly pink conglomerate, a form of sedimentary rock. Montserrat is Spain's first National Park.

CASTELL DE MONTJUIC: Barcelona's Montjuïc is a broad shallow hill to the southwest of the city center. The eastern side of the hill is almost a sheer cliff, giving it a commanding view over the city's harbor immediately below. The top of the hill (a height of 184,8 m) was the site of several fortifications, the latest of which the Castle of Montjuïc remains today. The fortress largely dates from the 17th century, with 18th-century additions. It served as a prison, often holding political prisoners, until the time of General Franco. The castle was also the site of numerous executions. On different occasions during the Spanish Civil War, both Nationalists and Republicans were executed there, each at the time when the site was held by their opponents. The Catalan nationalist leader Lluís Companys i Jover was also executed there in 1940, having been extradited to the Franco government by the Nazis.

LA RAMBLA & BOQUERIA MARKET: This busy street is just for pedestrians and is lined with outdoor markets, shops, restaurants and cafes. La Boqueria is a large public market in the Ciutat Vella district of Barcelona, and one of the city's foremost tourist landmarks, with an entrance from La Rambla, not far from the Liceu, Barcelona's opera house. The market has a very diverse selection of goods.

International Basketball Tour 2024 Itinerary Grand Valley State Women's Basketball England and France – London and Paris

Travel dates:

Late July of 2024. Exact dates TBD.

Itinerary:

- Day 1 Departure from Chicago-O'Hare airport.
- Day 2 Arrival London airport. Transfer to your accommodation.
- Day 3 Sightseeing London. Options include The Tower of London, The Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace and The London Eye, with its spectacular views over London. Afternoon or evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 4 Morning optional training session with your own coaching staff. Visit Hampton Court Palace and Windsor Castle. For almost 200 years, Hampton Court Palace was at the center of court life, politics and national history. Windsor Castle is an official residence of The Queen and the largest occupied castle in the world.
- Day 5 Enjoy the day sightseeing in London. Options include the Chelsea Village MegaShop, Trafalgar Square and Covent Garden shopping precinct and Wembley Stadium. Evening game vs. a local team.



Norco



Tower of London



Wisconsin Lutheran College



Thames River

- Day 6 Transfer to your accommodation in Paris via ferry and bus.
- Day 7 Sightseeing Paris. Options include the Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, Notre Dame, Place de la Concorde and The Quartier Latin (Latin Quarter). Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 8 Morning optional training session with your own coaching staff.
Afternoon: sightseeing, suggestion: visit to Paris Montmartre/Place du Tertre. Situated in the very heart of Montmartre, one of the most famous squares of all of Paris is that of Place du Tertre, which is world-famous for its painters, cafés, and ambiance. Only a few streets away from Montmartre's Basilica of the Sacré Cœur and the Lapin Agile, it is near the summit of the city's elevated Montmartre quarter. At an altitude of 130 metres, the Place du Tertre is the highest square of Paris. All over the square, various artists set up their easels in the afternoon, tempting the visitors with their works of art: personalised charcoal portraits, water-paintings, drawings, sculptures, etc.
- Day 9 Visit Versailles, France's most magnificent chateau, 13 miles (20 km) southwest of Paris. Evening game vs. a local team.
- Day 10 Transfer to Paris airport. Return flight.



The Louvre



North Stars



Beach in Cannes



Concordia University

*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.

Price per person*:

Number of people traveling	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Participant prices	\$3,896	\$3,677	\$3,532	\$3,413	\$3,322	\$3,249

* Prices are based on 2023 tour pricing. We should be able to quote 2024 tour pricing around spring of 2023.

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.
- Accommodations 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:

London: we will arrange 2 games per team.

Paris: we will arrange 2 games per team.

Accommodation and meals included:

London: 4-star Hotel accommodation in the suburbs of London

- Daily breakfast and dinner included.
- Hotel accommodation in Watford or Heathrow, just 12-15 miles from London.
- Rooms for 3 people with en-suite bathroom, trouser press, hairdryer, tea/coffee maker and TV.
- The hotel offers lounge, bar and restaurant.
- Double rooms are available as well at a supplement of \$ 25.00 per person per night.

Paris: 4-star hotel accommodation in the Paris area.

- Daily breakfast and dinner is included.
- Hotel located in the Paris area approx. 16 miles from the city center
- All triple rooms (3 people per room) with private bathroom, satellite TV, phone and air-conditioning.
- The hotel has a restaurant, lounge/bar, reception area and Wi-Fi.
- Double rooms are available as well at a supplement of \$ 20.00 per person per night.

Ground transportation included:

During your entire stay a private bus will be available exclusively for your group each day – 10 hours a day.

Local guide services included:

A local bi-lingual tour assistant 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 to pro games, subject to availability. Ticket costs will depend on the game, but usually ticket costs range from approx. \$75-\$150 per person depending on the game.
- A 2-hour practice session with your own coaching staff – costs approx. \$300.00 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.
- Single rooms in hotels. 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.

Touristic information London

London is the capital and most populous city of England and the United Kingdom. Standing on the River Thames in the south east of the island of Great Britain, London has been a major settlement for two millennia. London is a leading global city in the arts, commerce, education, entertainment, fashion, finance, healthcare, media, professional services, research and development, tourism, and transport. It is one of the world's leading financial centers and has the fifth-or sixth-largest metropolitan area GDP in the world. As of 2016-2017 there are 13 pro soccer teams in London, including EPL clubs Chelsea FC, Arsenal FC, Tottenham Hotspurs, Crystal Palace and West Ham United.

THE LONDON EYE: The London Eye is a giant Ferris wheel on the South Bank of the River Thames in London, England. The entire structure is 135 meters (443 ft.) tall and the wheel has a diameter of 120 meters (394 ft.). It is the tallest Ferris wheel in Europe. Includes 30-minute rotation, Samsung interactive capsule guides, entry to 4D cinema experience.

TOWER OF LONDON: The massive White Tower is a typical example of Norman military architecture, whose influence was felt throughout the kingdom. It was built on the Thames by William the Conqueror to protect London and assert his power. The Tower of London – an imposing fortress with many layers of history, which has become one of the symbols of royalty – was built around the White Tower.

WINDSOR CASTLE: A visit to the Castle includes the State Apartments, St George's Chapel and Queen Mary's Dolls' House. Windsor Castle is a royal residence at Windsor in the English county of Berkshire. The castle is notable for its long association with the British royal family and for its architecture.

HAMPTON COURT PALACE: Hampton Court Palace is a royal palace in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Greater London, in the historic county of Middlesex; it has not been inhabited by the British Royal Family since the 18th century.



Arsenal Game Albion College



Buckingham Palace



Glenn Falls High School



London Bridge

Touristic information Paris

LE LOUVRE MUSEUM

The Louvre or Louvre Museum is one of the world's largest museums and a historic monument. Nearly 35,000 objects from prehistory to the 21st century are exhibited over an area of 60,600 square meters (652,300 square feet). With more than 8 million visitors each year, the Louvre is the world's most visited museum

EIFFEL TOWER

The Eiffel Tower is an iron lattice tower located on the Champ de Mars in Paris. It was named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower. Erected in 1889 as the entrance arch to the 1889 World's Fair, it has become both a global cultural icon of France and one of the most recognizable structures in the world. The tower is the tallest structure in Paris.

CHATEAU DE VERSAILLES

The Palace of Versailles is a royal château in Versailles in the Île-de-France region of France. Court of Versailles was the center of political power in France from 1682, when Louis XIV moved from Paris, until the royal family was forced to return to the capital in October 1789 after the beginning of the French Revolution. Versailles is therefore famous not only as a building, but as a symbol of the system of absolute monarchy of the Ancient Régime. In order to get the most of your day in Versailles, we advise you to arrive when the Estate opens. Your visit must be made on the date indicated on the ticket.

CHAMPS ELYSEES AND ARC DE TRIOMPHE

Possibly the most famous road in the world, Champs Elysées is a picturesque tree lined avenue that runs from the Arc de Triomphe towards the Louvre. It is an incredibly romantic place and a real symbol of Paris and France. The Arc de Triomphe is a stunning war monument that was commissioned by Napoleon in 1806 to honor his great victories.

CATACOMBS OF PARIS

Through an in-depth path, the visitors discover the area thoroughly, like Décore's sculptures, the quarries footbath, the Sacellum Crypt, the sepulchral lamp and Gilbert's tomb. The Catacombs of Paris are underground ossuaries in Paris, France which hold the remains of over six million people in a small part of the ancient Mines of Paris tunnel network. Located south of the former city gate "Barrière d'Enfer" (Gate of Hell) beneath Rue de la Tombe-Issoire, the ossuary was founded when city officials were faced with two simultaneous problems: a series of cave-ins starting in 1774 and overflowing cemeteries, particularly Saint Innocents. Booking must be made 8 weeks in advance.

Montmartre/Place du Tertre

Situated in the very heart of Montmartre, one of the most famous squares of all of Paris is that of Place du Tertre, which is world-famous for its painters, cafés, and ambiance.

Only a few streets away from Montmartre's Basilica of the Sacré Cœur and the Lapin Agile, it is near the summit of the city's elevated Montmartre quarter. At an altitude of 130 metres, the Place du Tertre is the highest square of Paris. All over the square, various artists set up their easels in the afternoon, tempting the visitors with their works of art: personalised charcoal portraits, water-paintings, drawings, sculptures, etc.