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**Italy #3**  
**Field Hockey Tour**  
*Rome, Florence, Venice*  
**9 Day / 7 Night Program**

**SUGGESTED PROGRAM**

**IMPORTANT:** The dates and times of the activities below will likely be adjusted to accommodate your game schedules, which will be finalized in the weeks prior to your team’s arrival at its destination. All times are approximate and may vary according to flight schedules and other logistical factors.

**ALL FIELD HOCKEY ACTIVITIES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN RED.**

**Day 1** **USA – FLIGHTS**

Fly overnight to Rome. Possible change of plane enroute. Dinner and breakfast served aloft.

**Day 2** **ROME** **(D)**

Morning arrival at Rome’s Fiumicino International Airport.

Greeting by your Tour Manager.

Transfer by private motorcoach to Rome, one of the world’s most historic cities.

Check in to your Three-Star Hotel.

**PRACTICE SESSION**

Overnight: Rome

**Day 3** **ROME** **(B,D)**

**Ancient Rome Half-Day Tour** (admission included)



**Coliseum**



**Roman Forum**



**Palatine Stadium**

The juxtaposition between Rome’s ancient landmarks and monuments beside its modern buildings and other structures makes for a fascinating contrast between old and new.

- **Coliseum** – One of the world’s most iconic ancient buildings dating back to 80 AD.
- **Palatine Hill** – The most famous of Rome’s “Seven Hills.” was the site of early Roman settlements.
- **Roman Forum** – A plaza that was the center of Roman public life for centuries.
- **“Via Sacra”** – This was the main street of ancient Rome and led to the Forum.

Free time for lunch, relax and to explore the city.

**MATCH # 1 vs. an ITALIAN FIELD HOCKEY TEAM**

Overnight: Rome

## Day 4

## ROME

(B,D)

### Vatican Half-Day Tour (admission included)



**St. Peter's Basilica**



**Vatican Museum**



**Sistine Chapel**

Start your tour of the Vatican, the world's smallest country and home to many great works of art.

- **Vatican Museums** - Holding the largest art collection in Europe with over 65,000 masterpieces.
- **Sistine Chapel** - Fabulous frescoes by Renaissance artists and the famed ceiling by **Michelangelo**
- **St. Peters Basilica** - The world's largest Christian Church and burial place of many popes.
- **Pietà** - Michelangelo's famous sculpture of Jesus on the lap of his mother Mary after the crucifixion.

Free time for lunch, relax and to explore the city.

Overnight: Rome

## Day 5

## FLORENCE

(B,D)

Check out of hotel.

Transfer to **Montecatini** by private motorcoach (30 miles west of Florence). Enjoy viewing vineyards and olive trees.

Check in to your Three-Star Hotel.

### Florence City Tour



**Ponte Vecchio**



**Florence skyline**



**"Il Duomo"**

Tour Florence, "the capital of arts", and one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

- **Cathedral (Duomo)** – Dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century with its massive "Cupola del Brunelleschi," possibly the largest dome every built, and its bell tower.
- **Ponte Vecchio** – Admire the arched stone bridge, which has spanned the **Arno River** since the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Overnight: Montecatini

## Day 6

## FLORENCE

(B,D)

### Uffizi & Accademia Galleries



**Uffizi Gallery on Arno River**



**"David" Sculpture**



**Uffizi Gallery by Night**

Visit one or both of two of the world's most famous museums.

- **Uffizi Gallery** – Originally a 16<sup>th</sup> century palace, this gallery contains many famous works of art including “The Birth of Venus” by Botticelli.
- **Accademia Gallery** – This gallery houses pieces from Donatello as well as the original “David” by Michelangelo, the world’s most famous sculpture.

Free time for lunch, relax or to explore the city.

**MATCH # 2 vs. an ITALIAN FIELD HOCKEY TEAM**

Overnight: Montecatini

**Day 7**

**MONTECATINI – VERONA – PADUA**

**(B,D)**

Check out of hotel.

Transfer by private motorcoach to **Verona**.

**Verona – Free Time**



**Romeo & Juliet Balcony**



**Verona Coliseum**



**Castelvecchio**

- **“Romeo & Juliet”**– Known for the setting of Shakespeare’s play, view the balcony said to be where the famous scene between Romeo and Juliet played out.
- **Verona Coliseum** – Smaller than Rome’s but still impressive and used even today for musical and other events. (optional - admission approx. US\$ 12)
- **Castelvecchio** (Old Castle) – Built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, this castle-fortress is also an art museum. (optional – admission approx. US\$ 12)

Lunch on your own in one of the cafés or restaurants on **Plaza Bra** adjacent to the Coliseum. Arrive in Padua and check in to your Three-Star hotel.

Overnight: Padua

**Day 8**

**PADUA – VENICE**

**(B,D)**

Transfer to Venice for a full day touring this legendary city.

**Venice Walking Tour**



**Piazza San Marco**



**Cannaregio District**



**Grand Canal**

- **Piazza San Marco** – An iconic square watched over by St. Mark’s Basilica, a masterpiece of Byzantine architecture.
- **Campo Santa Maria Formosa** – One of Venice’s largest squares bordered by small shops and residential areas.
- **Cannaregio** – A small district filled with local shops and restaurants, also home to the Church of San Giovanni de Paolo.

Lunch on your own in one of Venice's many eateries.

Free time to explore this city’s many quaint alleyways and hidden charms.

### **Grand Canal Boat Tour** (boat ticket included)



Enjoy a one-hour boat ride in a traditional gondola along the **Grand Canal**, Venice's main "street"! Palaces, churches, and picturesque and charming houses, shops, and other structures make for a fairy tale landscape taking you back to another time. (boat ticket included)

Free time to explore Venice on your own.

Return to your hotel in Padua.

### **MATCH # 3 vs. an ITALIAN FIELD HOCKEY TEAM**

Overnight: Padua

**Day 9**

### **VENICE – USA**

**(B)**

Fly back to the USA, arriving the same afternoon. Possible change of plane enroute.

**Your Italian Adventure comes to a close with great memories to cherish for a lifetime!**

### **TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

#### **Travel Services:**

- Economy-class Air Transportation USA – Italy round-trip
- Intercity Transportation Rome – Montecatini – Verona – Padua – Venice by private motorcoach
- 3 nights at a Three-Star Hotel in Rome or near the game facilities
- 2 nights at a Three-Star Hotel in Montecatini or near the game facilities
- 2 nights at a Three-Star Hotel in Padua or near the game facilities
- Airport / Hotel / Airport transfers by private motorcoach
- Breakfast and one other meal daily (lunch, dinner or post-match get-together with opposition, personal beverages not included)
- Ancient Rome Half-Day Tour (admission included)
- Vatican Half-Day Tour (admission included)
- Florence City Tour
- Morning Tour of Uffizi and Accademia galleries (admission included)
- Verona – Free Time
- Venice Walking Tour
- Grand Canal Boat Tour (boat tickets included)
- English-speaking Guides for all of the above tours
- Transfers for all of the above activities by private motorcoach or local transportation
- **Tour Manager** available as necessary in Italy and 24/7 access in case of emergency
- 24/7 Emergency Support from **Victory Sports Tours'** Operations office

#### **Field Hockey Program:**

- **3 Games vs. Italian club / school / university teams at your level**
- **1 Practice Session**
- **Opponent Matching Services**
- **Water at Games & Practices**
- **Round-trip transfers to above sports activities by private motorcoach**

### **Summary of Included Meals:**

- 7 Breakfasts
- 7 Other Meals (lunch, dinner or post-match get-together with opposition, personal beverages not included)

### **Tour Price:**

Click on [Victory Sports Tours - Sample Tours](#) select your sport and find **Italy #3** for pricing

- One **FREE COACH'S TRIP** is included in all of the above price ranges.
- Coach would share twin room with a paying traveler and pay **only taxes/fees**.
- Tour Price is subject to increase if there are fewer than 20 paying travelers.
- Taxes/fees/fuel charge are subject to change according to government and airline increases, which will be finalized approx. 45 days prior to departure.

### **Not Included:**

- Any items not listed as included in the above sections under "TOUR INCLUSIONS"
- Passport fees - Passports are required to travel internationally
- Visa fees - If visas are required, typically in the case of non-US citizens
- Personal beverages at meals
- Uniform laundry - Your tour manager will assist you in finding laundromats (most hotels in foreign countries do not have laundry facilities)
- Tips for tour manager, city tour guides and motorcoach drivers (recommended **US\$ 25-30 per traveler** to cover all tour staff)
- Any fees imposed by the airlines at the airport for checked baggage that exceed the number of pieces allowed or size/weight allowances, such as Goalie Bags
- Travel insurance - We will offer you the option to purchase travel insurance through an independent travel insurance specialist
- Optional Activities as noted in the itinerary

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