



# **AFW ELITE TEAM**

## **To Make History in Spain**



### **DAY 1 – Saturday – *Departure to Spain***

- ❖ Departure **from US** either with AFW group flights out of New York, Chicago or LA or with family members from another city with destination **Barcelona, Spain**. Overnight flight with meals and entertainment programming. Sleep encouraged as we are on the go upon arrival.

### **DAY 2 – Sunday – *Introduction to Catalonia & Barcelona***

- ❖ Arrive at Barcelona's **El Prat International Airport**. Meet your bilingual tour manager who will be at your service 24/7 for the duration of your stay in Spain.
- ❖ Load your private motor coach and transfer into Barcelona to receive an introduction to this impressively beautiful and diverse capital of the independent-minded state of Catalonia. With the Mediterranean providing expansive coastline and beaches to its east, within Barcelona you will discover a dynamic cosmopolitan metropolitan area with Roman remains, medieval quarters, influences of Northern Africa and the most impressive examples of 20th century Modernism with its avant-garde art and architecture. With its unique beauty, Barcelona has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.
- ❖ From the airport your group will first take in **Montjuic**, the magnificent mountain perch that overlooks Barcelona from the south. Montjuic also hosts many scenic venues from the 1992 Summer Olympics.
- ❖ Descending from Montjuic and entering Barcelona you will be introduced to one of the most famous streets in the world, **Las Ramblas**, and from here provided time for lunch in small groups. A visit to the impressive **Boqueria** is recommended. This is a great time for your first experience with authentic tapas.
- ❖ Following your meal, the group will gather for a **guided, walking tour of Barcelona** highlighted by its remarkably preserved medieval center known as **Barri Gotic**. Walk its narrow streets, discover magnificent hidden courtyards, visit the Barcelona Cathedral taking in the abundant and impressive Gothic architecture. The tour group will finish either in the beautiful Placa Reial or back on Las Rambla providing you more time to explore Barcelona's enamoring presentation.
- ❖ Afterward the group will proceed to its hotel for check-in, refresh and dinner. A brief team meeting will follow. Rest will be in order.



### **DAY 3 – Monday – *Modernisma Barcelona and Sagrada Familia***

- ❖ The team and staff will be up early for breakfast then proceed to a nearby field for its **first USA-AFW ELITE team practice**. Lacing up your cleats and putting on your football 'shells' will make you feel uniquely 'at home' in distant Spain. General position drill work and the first installation of offensive and defensive schemes will establish our foundation.
- ❖ Parents and family members can arise a little later and enjoy breakfast and a local stroll.
- ❖ When the players return, a quick shower is in order and then the group will head out to see some of the beautiful sites of Barcelona including Passeig de Gracia including Casa Mila and Casa Batilo, Parc Guell and Tibidabo.
- ❖ The group will then enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.



- ❖ After a nourishing meal the group will transfer to receive a **guided tour** of the incomparable **Sagrada Familia** – one of the most famous Basilicas and arguably the most compelling and studied structure in the world.
- ❖ Depending on the timing of the Sagrada Familia visit, in the late afternoon travelers will either be released for some free time. Afterward the group may have an opportunity to return to the hotel to refresh.
- ❖ Near the dinner hour the group will be taken to the Olympic Harbor area for some social time and dinner in small groups on their own.
- ❖ By 9:30pm the group will regather to return to the team hotel and prepare for departure south along the Mediterranean coast.



#### **DAY 4 – Tuesday – Morning Practice, Tarragona and Knights Templar Castle**

- ❖ Early breakfast for players and staff before transferring to a nearby athletic facility for its second team practice as play and scheme installation increases.
- ❖ Family members can rest in or look to enjoy a stroll as the sun rises over the Mediterranean.
- ❖ After practice and returning to the hotel, the group will checkout and head south on its way to Peniscola with a stop in fascinating Tarragona.
- ❖ Upon arrival in **Tarragona** lunch will be provided in a local restaurant.
- ❖ Following lunch the group will gather for a guided tour of this small city that once flourished during the Roman Empire and beyond. Within the old Roman walls see its well-preserved amphitheater, the remains of a Roman chariot track and other fascinating ruins along the Mediterranean Sea – all designated as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.
- ❖ After the tour we hope for some free time “outside the walls” in modern Tarragona on Rambla Nova and the “Mediterranean Balcony”.
- ❖ In the later afternoon the group will continue on to Peniscola, referred to as “the city in the sea”, where you can enjoy the evening in the village located within this Knights of Templar castle that was featured in many works of cinema including *El Cid* as well as recently during the 6<sup>th</sup> season of *Game of Thrones*.
- ❖ Check in at your selected hotel, dinner and enjoy the evening in this unique place.



#### **DAY 5 – Wednesday – Peniscola Beach & Relaxation Day**

- ❖ Breakfast available at your hotel with the players transferring to Practice #3.
- ❖ Afterward, this is a free day for all travelers to enjoy as they wish on this fascinating peninsula ([Peniscola](#)). There is plenty to explore within the walls of the nearby fortress – that some refer to as the “Gibraltar of Valencia” – which hosts a village with charming restaurants and shops – along with an imposing castle. This is a great place to enjoy lunch learning of how the castle served as a base for the Templar Knights as well as the Crown of Aragon – and at one time a Pope. You may want to return here in small groups for dinner as well.



- ❖ Outside the walls there is an expansive beach where with favorable winds travelers can rest and relax enjoying time on the sand and in the surf for a portion of the afternoon.

#### **DAY 6 – Thursday – Valencia to Madrid**

- ❖ After a potential team 'walk through' on the beach, breakfast will take place and the tour group will checkout and head to Madrid with a stop in architecturally stunning **Valencia**.
- ❖ In the late morning arrive in Valencia and receive a guided tour. This remarkable city originating in 138 BC now hosts some of the most beautiful and fascinating avante-garde buildings from this new millennium. With its location mid-way on the east coast of Spain, access to the sea and nearby coastal mountains Valencia is an understated gem.
- ❖ After the tour, you will be freed up for some free time including lunch. Rivaling Barcelona, this may be the best place in Spain to enjoy paella.
- ❖ At an appropriate time in the afternoon the group will gather to continue it's trip to Madrid.
- ❖ Arriving in the early evening the group will check-in, refresh and enjoy dinner at your hotel.



#### **DAY 7 – Friday – Madrid – The Capital and Soul of Spain!**

- ❖ After breakfast the team will have its final pre-game practice polishing up offensive plays, defensive schemes and special team fundamentals.
- ❖ Parents and family members will have breakfast available to them then be able to relax.
- ❖ The players will return to shower then with the group then transferring into Madrid city center receiving an orientation tour of the city.
- ❖ Upon arrival, the group will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant.
- ❖ Afterward the team and family members will enjoy a tour of the highlights of Spain's capital city. You will visit Retiro Park, Plaza Mayor, the Royal Palace be taken by the world-famous Prado museum and of course the Puerta del Sol ('Gateway of the Sun') which is the heartbeat of **Madrid**.
- ❖ Following the tour, the group will have free time to further enjoy the city and possibly look for last-minute souvenirs.
- ❖ In the early evening, the group will transfer back to its hotel for a later dinner and then relax in anticipation of the big international game the following day.
- ❖ The later evening is at your coach's discretion.



#### **DAY 8 – Saturday – International Game Day!**

- ❖ Sleep in a little this am then arise for team meetings followed by breakfast.
- ❖ Parents and family can enjoy breakfast then take in additional touring as they wish.
- ❖ An additional tour opportunity may be scheduled depending on when the game time is confirmed.
- ❖ A pre-game meal will be properly scheduled, then the team will transfer to participate in a rare and special – in this case history-making - **International Game of American football**

# USA-AFW ELITE

vs.

## Spain's National U19 Team



- ❖ Following the game we are seeking to schedule a social – and potentially dinner with the players and staff of the Spanish national team.
- ❖ Either way, that evening we plan to enjoy an outstanding dinner celebrating the day's efforts and results – along with one of the most remarkable weeks of everyone's life.
- ❖ Upon return to the hotel travelers are asked to pack for the following day return to the USA, then the remainder of the evening can be enjoyed at the hotel's facilities.

### **DAY 9 – Sunday – Return Home with Incredible Experiences and Memories**

- ❖ It will likely be a short night's rest with an early breakfast, then check-out departing to board your return flight home to the USA.

***Adios and Gracias España!***

#### **TOUR SERVICES INCLUDED:**

- **Round-trip flight to Barcelona and returning from Madrid** (full package)
- **Meals**
  - **Five of seven Dinners** (one not included in Barcelona and Peniscola)
  - **4 Lunches**
  - **Daily buffet breakfasts** (including juices and coffee)
  - Water at all dinners and lunches
- **7 Nights Accommodations** 4 stars hotel in Barcelona area (2 nights), in Peniscola (2 nights), and in Madrid (3 nights)
- **Motor coach Transportation** available daily (max. 8/ 9 hours per day):
  - *All Driver Expenses (tips recommended)*
- **Full time bilingual tour manager** at your disposal 24 hours daily (*tips recommended*)
- **Up to half-day guided visits with bilingual professional guides:**
  - **Barcelona**
  - **Tarragone**
  - **Valencia**
  - **Madrid**
  - **Admission ticket to and guided tour of Sagrada Familia**
  - **Excursion to Peniscola**
- **Final Evening Celebration Dinner**
- **Medical Insurance for Players**
- **4 practice site rentals**
- **International Game vs. Spanish National 19U Team**
- **AFW Tour Gifts**
- **Standard Travel Insurance** (lost luggage, traveller inconvenience)
- **All tour land taxes, parking costs, all city entries fee, land taxes**

#### **SERVICES/FEES NOT INCLUDED:**

- Drinks at dinners like wine, beer, soft drinks, are customarily not included/billed separate
- Extra guided tours and visits
- Travel Insurance
- Non-player medical insurance
- Touring Tips (*need to budget*)
- Other items not listed in Service Inclusions