

CWRU Football Tour

Italy & Greece – May 6- 14, 2022



Rome & Vatican City



Amalfi Coast & Pompeii



Spartans Compete in Rome!



Athens & Delphi



Greek Islands

9 Day, 8 Nights Italy & Greece Tour - May 2022

Day 1 – Friday, May 6th – Departure to Italy

- ❖ Departure from Cleveland International Airport in the late afternoon or early evening with destination Rome, Italy. This first evening will involve on-board dinner, entertainment options and we recommend some sleep on this overnight flight. A light breakfast will be served before arrival.

Day 2 – Saturday, May 7th – Introduction to Rome & Vatican City Touring

- ❖ Arrive at **Rome's** international airport. Proceed through Passport Control, collect luggage and equipment then meet your multi-lingual tour manager who will be at your service as needed over the duration of your journey in Italy and Greece.
- ❖ Refresh as needed then load the team and tour group's motor coach transferring to Rome's city center taking in some famous sites along the way. You will disembark near the distinctive **Navona Square** area where you be oriented then released to explore and have lunch in small groups. Cafes, pizzerias and restaurants will be plentiful for you to enjoy your first authentic Italian meal – and hopefully your first gelato!
- ❖ Depending on airport arrival and allowable time we plan to provide a brief walking tour of some of Rome's famous architectural sites near Navona Square. By mid- to later afternoon the group will transfer to nearby Vatican City where you will receive a **guided visit of the Vatican Museums**, including the incomparable **Sistine Chapel and the impressive St. Peter's Basilica & Square**. (admission ticket included, closed on Sunday)
- ❖ For those who are interested, there will be some time to shop for religious relics.
- ❖ The group will then transfer to enjoy dinner at a nearby restaurant in Rome or possibly at your Rome area hotel. Check-in will take place before or after dinner.
- ❖ This evening it is suggested that all get some much-needed overnight rest in anticipation of additional touring and the international game the following day. (Rome - 2 nights)



Day 3 - Sunday, May 8th – More of the "Imperial City, the Incomparable Roman Coliseum & International Game Day

- ❖ After breakfast, transfer back to Rome's city centre where a local bilingual tour guide will complete your fascinating and efficient **guided walking tour** of the city's famous architectural highlights including the **Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, the Spanish Steps, the Victor Emmanuel Monument and more!**
- ❖ Your walking tour will then proceed past the awe-inspiring **Roman Forum** and lead up to the **incomparable Roman Coliseum** where the original gladiators did battle years ago. At the Colosseum professional bi-lingual guides will take you through the awe-inspiring facility and continue to educate you as to one of the most recognizable structures in the world (admission ticket included).
- ❖ When this special tour is completed, you will go to a nearby restaurant to enjoy a pre-game meal and be off your feet some time. The team will then proceed to a sport facility



to represent the USA and CWRU in a special **international game of American football against** one of the American football club teams from the top-level Italian Football League. **Represent and play Spartans' football in Rome!**

- ❖ After the game we will seek to arrange a fun **social of Italian food, drink and laughter with your Italian opponents and hosts**. Hopefully some will be able to join us on this Sunday night as it is always a highlight of a foreign competition tour.
- ❖ Return to your hotel to rest and prepare for morning departure heading south of Rome.



Day 4 – Monday, May 9th – Amalfi Coast: Naples, Pompeii & Sorrento

- ❖ After breakfast load your motor coach heading south on 'the Italian boot' to historically fascinating Pompeii and the stunning Amalfi Coast.
- ❖ Lunch will be "traveler choice" in small groups en-route or upon your arrival.
- ❖ Early in the afternoon, the team and tour group will receive a **guided visit to Pompeii** – one of Europe's most compelling archaeological sites. Once a thriving, sophisticated Roman city, visitors are awed and can be a bit haunted of what became of this sprawling metropolis when Mount Vesuvius erupted - *an amazing 50 times* in 79 A.D. effectively burying the area and the populace in pumice and ash. Rediscovered only in 1748 the uncovering of Pompeii has taught us a great deal about life in the ancient Roman world.
- ❖ After an amazing day, the tour group will transfer to your select hotel in beautiful **Sorrento** along the Mediterranean coast where you will check-in, have dinner together then in groups enjoy a pleasant Italian spring evening – for student-athletes at the coach's instruction. (Naples/Sorrento - 2 nights)



Day 5 – Tuesday, May 10th – Positano & Boat Excursion to Amalfi

- ❖ After breakfast, depart for a full day excursion on the famous **Amalfi Coast** one of the most beautiful and photographed shorelines in the world. Smaller buses that can navigate the narrow roads will transport you through the scenic peninsula which is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- ❖ The first stop will be a **guided visit of Positano** where there will be time to enjoy lunch in small groups possibly **overlooking the Tyrrhenian Sea** which is an extension of the Mediterranean Sea.
- ❖ The team and tour group will then embark on a boat **cruise to Amalfi** looking back on this visually striking coast that centuries ago became a popular tourist destination for Europe's aristocracy and artists - and remains so for people from around the world. In Amalfi you will receive an efficient tour then be able to explore in small groups.
- ❖ In the late afternoon you will be transported back to Sorrento to refresh. Dinner in this distinctively beautiful place will be on your own this one evening. Choose the atmosphere and meal you will enjoy most. The later evening is at coach's instruction.



Day 6 – Wednesday, May 11th – Athens “The Cradle of Western Civilization”

- ❖ Breakfast at hotel and check-out as needed to **transfer to Naples Airport for a morning flight to Athens** through Rome. Farewell compliments to your Italian bus driver though your guide and AFW tour manager will remain with you on to Athens.
- ❖ Upon arrival in Athens, load your new motor coach and be transferred into **Athens** – home to Plato and Aristotle as well as **the birthplace of democracy**. You will experience another city steeped in history as you receive a combined **driving and walking overview** of the city.
- ❖ During the early afternoon there will be lunch on your own in small groups and after an orientation some free time to explore Athens city centre.
- ❖ At the dinner hour, transfer to your Athens accommodations, refresh for dinner and the evening in Athens is at coach’s instruction. (Athens 3 nights)



Day 7 – Thursday, May 12th – the Acropolis, Temple of Nike & Free Time

- ❖ After breakfast, depart for a **guided visit of the famous Acropolis** where you will also view the **Parthenon and Temple of Athena Nike** amongst other structures of historical significance. You will also have access to the relatively new **Acropolis Museum**. Here you will see and feel the excitement in the 5th century B.C. when the Greeks fresh from their victory over the Persians established the first democracy with Athens becoming a leading city-state in the ancient world.
- ❖ Afterward lunch will be on your own in small groups with this afternoon free to explore further treasures of this historically-rich city. Your tour manager and AFW representative will be on hand to provide recommendations and guidance.
- ❖ Dinner will be arranged for the group with the evening open but at your coach’s instruction.



Day 8 – Friday, May 13th – Boat Tour & Time on Some Greek Islands

- ❖ Regular or potentially boxed breakfast in order to make the boat launch for **a full day excursion of the nearby Greek islands** of Hydra, Poros and Aegina.
- ❖ In **Hydra** wander the narrow-paved streets or take the traditional mode of transportation – the saddled donkey – to explore this quaint harbour town. Also enjoy the walk on the attractive seaside promenade witnessing the crystal-clear waters and fine craft shops.
- ❖ Approaching **Poros**, the smallest of the three islands, be stunned by brightly colored houses and buildings. This is an especially enchanting place.
- ❖ The last stop will be in **Aegina** the largest of the three islands. You are encouraged to take in the Temple of Afea and Church of Saint Nektarios.
- ❖ Your island-hopping tour concludes about 7:00pm when you will transfer back to your hotel to refresh to enjoy a **celebratory dinner** with final recognitions and toasts to the CWRU Spartans journey to this historically special and beautiful part of Europe. Much will be learned, accomplished and enjoyed on this adventure.
- ❖ Night is at the coach’s instruction but be certain to be packed and prepared for early morning departure to the airport.



Day 9 – Saturday, May 14th 2022

- ❖ Regular or boxed breakfast, check-out from the hotel and receive transportation to the Athens airport for departure back home to the USA. End of services.

Bye Italy, αντίο Ελλάδα!

For Current Tour Pricing – Contact AFW

jb@americanfootballworldwide.com / 309-781-7274

All pricing is per person based on double occupancy rooms 9-day/8-night tour

**AFW has typically been very accurate with estimated pricing but conditions exiting the pandemic when we have not been able to run tours for two seasons make this process less certain. After additional factors become more solidified and a new pricing quote is set in the early summer, registered travellers will be given an opportunity for a set period of time to confirm their tour participation or cancel.*

For single occupancy for the entire week there is a supplemental charge of \$400

Note (1): prices are based on a rate exchange of 1Euro vs. 1.20US\$. AFW will absorb a change in exchange rate up to 1.22US\$. Any further increase will cause a supplement to the pricing.

Note (2): all prices are quoted at a cash payment; payments made by credit card or electronically (after deposit amount) will have a finance charge (.031) assessed

Note (3): prices typically include round trip airfare from Cleveland to Rome with a return from Athens. Pricing also includes an internal flight from Naples, Italy to Athens, Greece. Both include a quote for air taxes which can only be estimated. Air taxes can go up or down and will be added to the first quoted amount after ticketing. Land Only pricing is available upon request.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- **Round-trip overnight flight from Cleveland** (*air taxes/surcharges additional and estimated*)
- **Domestic flight from Naples to Athens via Rome**
- **7 nights in selected hotels** in Rome area (2 nights), Sorrento (2 nights), and Athens (3 nights)
- **Two-third board accommodation** – breakfast and dinner are covered daily with one exception of dinner on your own in Sorrento (*dinners will be served by hotel's restaurant or in local restaurant depending on daily itinerary – water at meals is included*)
- **Pre-Game Lunch & Lunch One Day in Greece** (lunch on own except provided these two days)
- **Full time experienced multi-lingual tour manager**
- **AFW tour coordinator**
- **63 seat Motor Coach service** (max. 8/9 hrs per day per Italian law)
 - 2 days in Rome, Italy
 - from Rome to Sorrento
 - In Sorrento/Amalfi may need to substitute smaller buses due to narrow roads
 - from Sorrento to Naples Airport
- **Minivan for extra luggage and sports equipment** for airport transfer
- **Walking educational tours of Rome, Amalfi and Positano** with local professional guides
- **Coliseum and Roman Forum admission ticket and guided visit**
- **Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica admission & guided tour**
- **Admission ticket and guided visit to Pompeii Excavations**
- **Excursion to/free time in Sorrento**



- **Full-day excursion to Positano-Amalfi** by boat then return by local small buses
- **Athens orientation tour by motor coach**
- **Admission ticket to Acropolis and Museum in Athens**
- **Full-day mini-cruises to islands of Hydra, Poros and Aegina**
- Tour manager and motor coach driver expenses
- City entries fee, land taxes and parking costs
- **Bus drive and tour manager expenses**
- Passenger basic travel insurance (baggage/delays-this is NOT medical or trip cancellation insurance)
- **AFW Tour Gifts** (international electrical converter, player drawstring bag & TBD)

SPORTS PACKAGE:

- **International Game** vs. Italian Football League team in Rome area
- Supply of game day water bottles

Not Included

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft drinks or wine at dinners • Tips for manager, guides and motor coach driver • Individual Player Medical/Accident Insurance • Motor coach wifi • All Lunches - (Exception: pre-game lunch) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot American breakfast (eggs, sausages, bacon) not guaranteed daily • All optional activities • Trip cancellation policy • Everything not specified in inclusions |
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