

East-West Global Travel

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Itinerary Outline for YOUR TEAM

Home stay and friendly games/Copenhagen, Denmark; Gothia Cup Tournament/Gothenburg, Sweden. July 10-23, 2017.

July 10: Depart your gateway city for an overnight flight to Copenhagen, Denmark. Arrival will be in the morning of the next day, local time.

July 11-15: Upon your arrival in Copenhagen you will be met by representatives from a local club, along with a privately chartered motor coach. You will be transferred to your hosts' clubhouse, and after a brief welcoming reception, the players will be paired with host families, and everyone will have the chance to go "home" and rest following the trans-Atlantic journey. Any adults and boosters who accompany the group will be accommodated in a nearby hotel.

Your stay in the Copenhagen area is sure to be a trip highlight, as the team will play at least three friendly games against your hosts and other local teams. In addition, we will arrange training sessions with Danish coaches for your team, so that you can get a different perspective on the game.

Aside from the soccer part of your visit, your itinerary will include several sightseeing excursions in and around Copenhagen, which is one of Europe's most lively cities. Both as a group and with your host families, you will have the chance to see the famous Tivoli Garden amusement park, go shopping on the renowned Strøget Street where only pedestrians can go, see the Christiansborg Palace, and much more. In addition, your hosts will go all out to make sure that your group has a great time, planning many social events and activities together. All host families will speak English and have soccer players from the host club who are the same age and gender as your players.

While here, the players will receive three meals daily, and those in hotels will have breakfast included daily.

Alternative for July 7-11:

If the idea of host homes does not appeal to you, we can arrange a stay in the Copenhagen area at a sports hotel. You will be transferred to your accommodations just outside the city center of Copenhagen, the Brøndby Park Hotel. This hotel has its own soccer field, and is located next to the famous Danish professional team, Brøndby IF. During your stay here, the players will be accommodated in 3-4 bedded rooms, and any accompanying adults will be in

double rooms. Two meals per day (breakfast and dinner) will be provided for all group members.

During your stay in the Copenhagen area, your team will have the chance to participate in a special mini-camp organized by Brøndby IF. Coaches of their youth teams will organize a series of training sessions, designed to provide the players with a different perspective on the game. In addition to the training sessions, we will arrange for two friendly games to be played during the time in Copenhagen, against local youth teams.

July 16-22: After four days of soccer and fun with your host families, it will be time to transfer to Gothenburg, Sweden, site of the famous Gothia World Youth Cup. From Copenhagen, your group will transfer by bus to Sweden, and on up the Swedish coast to Gothenburg.

Gothenburg is home to one of the world's largest and most prestigious events in all of youth soccer, the Gothia World Youth Cup. This event annually attracts some of the best teams from all corners of the globe, and over 1,000 teams from more than 50 different countries are expected to participate in this year's event. All will come together for a week of soccer and fun in Sweden's second largest city of Gothenburg.

The tournament is played on more than 50 grass fields located in and around the city. Opening and closing ceremonies, along with each age group's finals, are conducted at the famous Ullevi Stadium, home to the local professional team

You will be transferred to your accommodations (either schools or hotels, please refer to detailed descriptions below), and have the rest of the evening to settle in before the tournament begins.

The games of the Gothia Cup begin on Monday, and the finals will be on Saturday. There will be plenty of time and opportunity to see and experience the many sights and sounds of Gothenburg and the surrounding areas as well. During the tournament, special shuttle transportation is provided for all participants and boosters.

Your team will be guaranteed a minimum of four games, and teams finishing in the top three positions of their bracket (of 4 or 5 teams) all move on for additional games. The Gothia Cup also offers many forms of entertainment for the teams and players involved with the tournament during the times when your team is not playing. In addition, the city of Gothenburg offers many interesting and fun opportunities for sightseeing and shopping.

July 23: Following eleven days of soccer, sightseeing and fun, it will be time to return home. A bus will transfer you to the airport in Gothenburg, where you will catch your return flight back to the USA.

Accommodations at the Gothia Cup

As you might expect, a tournament the size of the Gothia Cup offers various different levels of accommodations, and we can offer your group a choice. While we will always accommodate any adults or boosters who may be accompanying the group in hotels (double occupancy), the players and coaches can choose between school accommodations and hotels. Listed below is a brief overview of each accommodation.

Schools: A popular type of accommodations for lots of visiting teams is in the schools located in and around the city of Gothenburg. During the tournament week, teams choosing this type of accommodation will be assigned a school, and within the school will be one team (and at least one adult/chaperon) per classroom. In the classrooms you will have cots and bedding provided by the tournament. In any one school there may be as many as fifteen different teams, from all over the world. Each school has bathroom and shower facilities which are centrally located, and they all are strictly supervised, have security and tournament personnel on duty 24 hours a day.

By staying in a school, your team will have the best possible opportunity to interact with teams and players from various different cultures and countries. Living in the classroom next door, for example, might be a team from Italy or Spain, and when living in such close quarters, the players are sure to make lots of friends and get a great idea of how their peers from around the world live. The quarters are close, and it's not as comfortable as a hotel, but the experience for the players is great.

All players and coaches who are accommodated in the schools during the tournament will have three meals each day included, and these meals will be served at the school.

Hotels: An alternative to the schools will be local, tourist class hotels. In this case, all members of the group will be accommodated in the same property (players, coaches, parents, etc.). The parents and boosters will be accommodated in double rooms, while the players will be in triple and quad rooms. All rooms will have private bathroom and shower facilities. While the hotels here are generally not as elaborate nor as well appointed as those in the US (the rooms are generally smaller and the hotel lobbies often have little more than a restaurant/cafe), you can count on cleanliness and safety.

The hotels offered by the tournament only serve breakfasts each day, and this is an important difference when considering the two levels of accommodations. If the team chooses to stay in a hotel, only 1 meal per day will be included.

Whichever accommodation is chosen, tournament shuttle transportation will be easily accessible for everyone.