

European Soccer Tour 2026 Western NY All Stars



Athens, Greece

EuroSports Network

All-Star Soccer Team

2026

European Soccer Tour



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Congratulations!

You have been selected to join the prestigious *EuroSports Network Select Soccer Program* in Europe during Spring Break 2026—a true honor that reflects your talent, dedication, and potential as a rising soccer star.

As one of a select group of elite athletes, you will proudly represent *New York State* on an international stage. The EuroSports Network has a proud tradition of assembling outstanding players to compete abroad, and you are now part of that legacy.

This upcoming journey marks the **Thirty-Third All-Star Tour to Europe**. Over the years, our teams have made lasting impressions in matches against top clubs from Germany, Italy, England, France, Spain, Sweden, and many other soccer powerhouses across the continent.

But this tour is about more than just competition. It's about ambassadorship. You'll represent not only your school and region, but also the spirit of American youth soccer. You'll forge friendships with players from different cultures, deepen your understanding of the global game, and create lifelong memories through the universal language of soccer.

Inside this message, you'll find important information about the program, travel details, and required forms. Please review everything carefully and return all documents promptly. If you have any questions, I welcome you to contact me directly by text at (585) 354-6225 or via email at eurosoccertours@gmail.com

I hope you join us on this remarkable adventure.

Warm regards,

Nino Pilato

Director, EuroSports Network

1.1

The Spirit of International Sportsmanship

Since 1987, the EuroSports Network Select Soccer Program has offered America's most promising athletes the unique opportunity to challenge themselves against elite European teams.

In 2026, we continue that legacy with an unforgettable tour to Greece, where our players will immerse themselves in the heart of European soccer. This journey promises not only thrilling competition but also an enriching cultural experience. Players will gain firsthand insight into the customs, lifestyles, and sporting values of one of the world's most passionate soccer nations.

Beyond the pitch, the team will explore Greece's iconic landmarks, enjoy authentic cuisine, and engage in activities designed to deepen their appreciation for global diversity and sportsmanship.

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Team

The Organizers

Mike Balducci -The Founder of EuroSports Network - Rochester, NY

Mike Balducci was the head soccer coach at Greece Arcadia and Greece Athena High School. During his years in Greece, NY, his teams won 12 league titles. Coach Balducci compiled a record of 274-52-43, winning seven Section V titles and four trips to the state finals with two state championships. Coach Balducci is a member of the New York State Soccer Hall of Fame. And with his roots originating in Italy, Mike Balducci knows the ins and outs of Europe and European Soccer. The All-County Soccer Team program started in 1987. Each year, Mike has sent many young athletes to Europe in close cooperation with the European Soccer federations and Dream Team Italy.

Nino Pilato

Tour Director and Head Coach – Rochester, NY

Coach Pilato is currently the Head Women's coach at Hilton High School. He previously coached at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, NY. Over his 6 seasons at McQuaid, he compiled a record of 90-7-4, with 3 Section V titles and 2 NY State Championship appearances, with a championship in 2017. For the previous 17 years, he was the Girls' Varsity Head Coach at Odyssey Academy in Greece, having Won Sectional Titles 8 times, in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2014. His teams have made four trips to the State Finals, winning it all in 2012. His dedication to his players' overall development has been rewarded by his being selected as coach of the year in Monroe County Division III 6 times, Section V Class AA, CC once, CCC once, and Class B 3 times, and Section V All-Greater Rochester Coach of the Year in 2005, 2012, and 2017. He was a four-year college starter and an All-American sweeper at Canisius College. After his college career ended, he played four years of professional soccer both in Europe and the USA. Deciding it was time to settle down, he began his teaching career as a physical education instructor in the Rochester City School District. He is married and has two children.

Dream Team Sports Tours

Dream Team Sports is the largest tour operator in Italy that specializes in sporting events. Based in Como, very close to Switzerland and close to Milan, the economic capital of Italy. As founding partners of Dream Team Sports Tours have more than 19 years of experience in the sport-travel sector, working closely with amateur clubs, semi-professional and professional clubs' national teams, college teams, associations, and federations.

1.3

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Tour

Saturday, March 28th, 2026

Today, we start our Trip with a Charter bus from Greece, NY to Toronto Airport. We will board an Air Canada Flight # AC416 departing at 3:00 PM to Athens, Greece.

Sunday, March 29th Welcome to Athens!

Upon your arrival at 11:10 AM at the Athens International Airport, you'll be warmly greeted by your bilingual tour manager, who will guide and accompany you throughout your journey. Today, we'll begin your tour with an inspiring exploration of **Olympic Dreams**.

The Panathenaic Stadium, the only stadium in the world made entirely of white marble. This historic venue hosted the first modern Olympic Games in 1896, and its grandeur still captivates visitors today. Since 2004, the stadium's image has been featured on all Olympic medals. As you walk through this iconic site, imagine the world's greatest athletes who once competed here, and let yourself be swept away by the Olympic spirit.



After our visit, we will watch the Changing of the Guards at Syntagma Square, a ceremonial display of precision and tradition.

Then you'll be transferred to your hotel, the luxurious ***Dolce Attica Riviera***, nestled along the stunning West Coast. Check in, unwind, and savor a delightful dinner as you settle in for your first night in Greece. Your stay here, with all its modern comforts and sea views, promises to be unforgettable.



<https://www.dolceatticariviera.com>

Monday, March 30th Exploring the Heart of Athens

After a hearty breakfast, venture into the historic center of **Athens, *the historical capital of Europe***, for a guided tour that will transport you back in time. Athens, the cradle of Western civilization, is a city where every corner tells a story. Marvel at the blend of ancient and modern as you stroll through the pedestrian zone, the largest in Europe, leading you to the city's most significant archaeological sites. Your journey through history continues with a visit to the National Museum, home to an astonishing collection of artifacts that chronicle Greece's illustrious past.



In the afternoon, channel yourself for your **First friendly soccer match** at a local sports center. This is your chance to connect with local teams, share in the spirit of friendly competition, and experience the joy of the game.

Afterward, enjoy a well-earned dinner at the clubhouse and connect with your Greek competitors. As the day winds down, enjoy dinner and another restful night at Dolce Attica Riviera.

Tuesday, March 31st

Full-Day Excursion to Argolis

After a delightful breakfast, we embark on an unforgettable journey through the Argolis region, a land rich with ancient legends and awe-inspiring history. The Argolis Peninsula, separating the shimmering Saronic and Argolis Gulfs, is a treasure trove of Greek mythology and archaeological marvels. Our first stop is the legendary town of Argos, believed to be the oldest continuously inhabited town in Greece. As the heart of the powerful Mycenaean Empire, Argolis is home to remnants of a civilization that shaped Greece over 3,000 years ago. Throughout the day, we will discover ancient tombs, imposing citadels, and majestic theatres that speak to the grandeur of this era.



Our scenic drive takes us along the sparkling coastline to the iconic Corinth Canal, where we'll pause to capture stunning photos of this engineering marvel. From there, we venture to the ancient city of Mycenae, where a local guide will bring to life the fascinating history of its archaeological treasures, including the famous Lion's Gate and royal tombs.



Next, we journey to the picturesque Venetian town of Nafplio. Nestled along the coast beneath the formidable Palamidi fortress, Nafplio enchants visitors with its elegant Venetian architecture and vibrant neoclassical mansions.

Our adventure continues as we head to Epidavros, renowned throughout antiquity as a sanctuary of healing. Set among tranquil, pine-covered hills, the Sanctuary of Asclepius attracted visitors from across the ancient world seeking miraculous cures. We'll also visit the magnificent Ancient Theatre of Epidavros, world-famous for its incredible acoustics, where even a whisper can be heard from the top row.

As the sun sets, we return to Athens, where a delicious dinner awaits, rounding off a day filled with history, culture, and unforgettable sights.

Wednesday, April 1st

This morning, after a hearty breakfast, you will be transferred to **AEK Stadium** for a **guided visit**.



The Agia Sophia Stadium, also known as OPAP Arena and as AEK Arena for UEFA competitions, was originally built in 1924 and is the home stadium of AEK Athens, which has won 13 top championships, 16 cups, 2 domestic super cups, and one league cup, for a total of 32 domestic trophies.

During our tour, we will have lunch on our own in Syntagma Square or Monastiraki.

In the afternoon, from 03:00 pm to 06:00 pm, we have our 2nd **friendly game#2 for all 4 teams**
After the matches, we will return to your hotel for dinner and rest!

Thursday, April 2nd · The Acropolis and Beyond

Today, after breakfast, you'll visit one of the world's most iconic sites: the Acropolis. Your guided tour will take you through this UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you'll stand in awe before the Parthenon, a symbol of ancient Greece's grandeur. As you explore the Acropolis and its museum, you'll gain insight into the classical spirit and civilization that have shaped the world as we know it.

Athens is the historical capital of Europe, with a long history. Over the years, a multitude of conquerors occupied Athens and erected unique, splendid monuments. In 1834, it became the capital of the modern Greek state, and in two centuries since it has become an attractive modern metropolis with unrivaled charm.



The Acropolis of Athens and its monuments are universal symbols of the classical spirit and civilization and form the greatest architectural and artistic complex bequeathed by Greek Antiquity to the world. In the second half of the fifth century BC, Athens, following the victory against the Persians and the establishment of democracy, took a leading position amongst the other city-states of the ancient world.

In the afternoon, ***Your Third soccer game*** awaits. Engage in spirited matches with local teams, forging memories that will last a lifetime. After the game, unwind with a delicious dinner at the hotel. Retreat to the comfort of your room at the Dolce Attica Riviera for peaceful sleep.

Friday, April 3rd

This morning, after a hearty breakfast, we will travel to **Cape Sounion**, located at the southern tip of the Attica peninsula, which is a breathtaking fusion of history, mythology, and natural beauty. Dominated by the ancient Temple of Poseidon, built in the 5th century BC, this site offers visitors a glimpse into Greece's storied past. Standing tall above the Aegean Sea, the temple's marble columns echo with tales of gods and heroes, including the legend of King Aegeus, who gave his name to the surrounding waters. The panoramic views from the cliffs, with the endless sea stretching to the horizon, provide a perfect setting to explore the rich history of the area. As the sun sets, Cape Sounion becomes even more magical.

The sky fills with brilliant colors, framing the temple in a stunning display that has enchanted travelers for centuries. Whether wandering through the ancient ruins or simply enjoying the serene beauty of the landscape, Cape Sounion is a place where the wonders of Greece come alive, leaving visitors with unforgettable memories.



As the Day winds down, enjoy dinner and another restful night at Dolce Attica Riviera.

Saturday, April 4th

Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to the airport of Athens in time to take your Air Canada Airlines flight # AC 416 departing at 3:00 PM and arriving at Toronto Airport at 6:44 PM.



Αντίο Ελλάδα
Goodbye Greece

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Tour

Arrangements 2026 Spring Break Tour

Air Transportation – Air Canada Airlines



Transportation - Land

Designated Area to the Airport on a privately chartered bus

In Europe, a Private Touring bus is equipped for long distances. The tour bus will also be available for local transportation.

Accommodation/Meals

Athens, Greece March 29th- April 4th 2026

Hotel A tourist class hotel, with Double and Triple bedded rooms, all with private facilities,
TV, and phone

Meals: Daily breakfast and dinner are included.
Lunches and drinks during dinner are not included.



Sport Program

In Athens, the teams will play in friendly games versus top-level local Greek clubs.

Sightseeing/Excursions

The tour will include visits to the cultural and tourist highlights of **Athens, Argolis, Cape Sounion, and Delphi.**

1.5

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Team

EuroSports Network has a special outfit for the Spring Tour.
Nike is our Official Players' Outfit. This outfit is included in the tour fee.

Red shirt, Blue shorts, Red socks

If you wish, you can order the following accessories.

Extra **Nike Uniform** set (Jersey, shorts, socks)

Price: \$ 70.00 per set



EuroSports Network Select Soccer.... **Nike Academy Drill Top 19 Navy jacket**

Price: \$ 50.00



EuroSports Network Select Soccer... **Nike Academy Drill 19 Pant**

Price: \$ 35.00

EuroSports Network Soccer.... **Nike Brasilia 6 Travel Bag:**

Medium Size (24x12x13) Price \$ 35.00



EuroSports Network.... **Nike Club Team Backpack**

Price \$ 44.00



EuroSports Network.... **Nike Pitch Soccer Ball**

Price \$ 21.00



EuroSports Network.... **Nike Nike Brasilia Sackpack**

Price \$ 20.00



Extra Socks.... **Price \$9.00 per pair**

1.6

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Team

Coaching Staff *(Present and Past)*

Michael Balducci	Greece Athena High School
Jen Bektas	Greece Odyssey
Nelson Cupelo	Monroe Community College
Nick Christou	Frontier High School
Tom Davieu	Chittenango High School
Phil De Nuncio	Buffalo State College
Larry Disatuels	Nichols School
Jennifer Debronski	Alfred University
Tracy Britton	Monroe Community College
Jerry Forton	University of Buffalo
Bill Garno	Rochester Institute of Technology
Betsy George	Gananda HS
Dan Gorham	Alfred State College
Chris Grafton	SUNY Broome CC
Ann Haggerty	William Smith College
Shane Cook	United F.C., B.C.C.
Steven Locker	Harvard University
Jill Mc Cabe	St. John Fisher University
Vince Lupinetti	West Virginia University
Tim Mc Nally	Broome Community College
Donny Ousterout	Broome Community College
Kathy Moss	SUNY Plattsburgh
Carlos Obiano	Canisius College
Mark Palma	Roberts Wesleyan College
Mike Pilger	University of Rochester
Nino Pilato	Hilton High School
Bill Rich	Broome Community College
Emily Rich	United F.C. Soccer Club
Jill Rich	Broome Community College
Paul Van Hooydonk	Misericordia College
Matt Vergamini	Greece Odyssey

1.7 SUPERVISION

The EuroSports Network group leader and coaches are in charge of supervision. The group leader is responsible for the proper administration of the program. The coaches will make sure everyone is doing his or her assigned job.

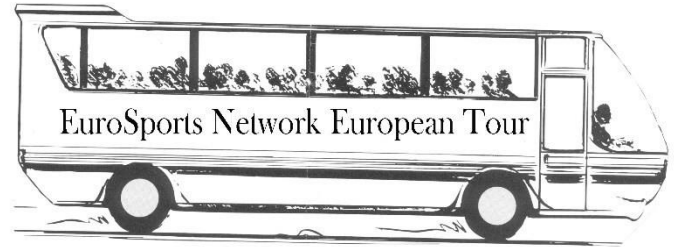
The following rules and regulations apply to all participants:

1. **The possession or use of any alcoholic beverages and non-prescribed drugs is forbidden.**
2. Players must get permission from the coaching staff before ever leaving the group.
3. All players must participate in the activities described in the program, including training, games, receptions, sightseeing, and excursions.
4. Each player is responsible for contributing to team spirit by exhibiting a positive attitude and loyalty toward teammates, coaches, and tour leaders.
5. Each player will respect the property of the other tour members and the suppliers providing the tour.

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Team

TOUR COSTS

Tour fee **\$ 3,600.00**



Including

- Airfares
- Bus transportation
- Accommodations
- Meals
- Uniform
- Sightseeing Program
- Sports Program
- Tour Staff

Excluding Lunches and Beverages during dinner

Payment schedule

Deposit **\$ 500.00** deposit (non-refundable)

January 22nd, 2026 **\$ 1,500.00**

February 26, 2026 **\$ 1,600.00 (Balance)**

The last check should include all monies owed as well as monies for extra Uniforms, travel bags, and Insurance. Etc.

Payments by checks payable to:

Please mail all Checks to

EuroSports Network

EuroSports Network

Nino Pilato

PO Box 16201

Rochester, NY 14612

eurosoccertours@gmail.com



Passports

Everyone traveling in our group must have a valid passport from their country of citizenship. United States passport applications are available at U.S. post offices, clerical courts, local passport offices, and some DMV offices. An application for a new passport must be made in person. The following documents are necessary:

Obtaining a new passport is a seven-step process:

1. **Complete the passport application** form DS-11. Passport applications can be acquired at the DMV. (Note: Do not sign the application until the clerk instructs you to do so.)
2. **Present proof of U.S. Citizenship.** You may prove citizenship by presenting one of the following:
 - Previous U.S. passport
 - Naturalization certificate
 - Birth certificate
 - Certificate of citizenship

Present proof of identity. You may verify your identity with the following documents:

- Previous U.S. passport
- Naturalization certificate
- Driver's license
- Military identification

Please note: Your Social Security card does not verify your identity.

3. **Provide two passport photos.** It is highly advised that passport photos be taken by a professional agency. You can also try an online service to save time and money <http://www.epassportphoto.com/>
4. **Pay the applicable fee.** Total fees are \$130. for applicants 16 years of age or older, and \$100. for applicants under 16 years of age.
5. Provide your Social Security number.

If you are not an American citizen, then go to this website for further Information:

Foreign Embassies' websites in the U.S. for all the countries in the World,

Passport and Visa information <http://www.embassy.org/embassies/>

How to Get a Visa http://travel.state.gov/visa/americans/americans_1252.html



You must apply for your Passport Immediately. For the past year, it has been taking three to four months before the passport process is completed. Please start the process today.

The Town Clerk's office offers Passport Application services.

For more Information, call the Binghamton Clerks' Office at (607) 773-2162

For more Information, call the Rochester City Clerk's office at (585) 428-7129

Go to this link to get passport information from the U.S. State Department

http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html

Click here to print out a passport application.

http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms_847.html

Or call the National Passport Information Center at 1-877-487-2778

<http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/>

Go to this link for Information on your Passport Photo

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply/photos.html>

Passport information center: **1-877-487-2778**

(At this Phone number, you can find out the status of your Passport and what Name you may use to place on your Passport.) Or you can check on this website. You may find that the toll-free number is more up-to-date!

www.travel.state.gov

Go to this link to find the closest Passport Office in your area

<http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/>

EuroSports Network Select Soccer Team Application Form

Herewith, we declare that we agree with all terms and conditions as mentioned on pages 1.6 and the rest of this documentation for your tour to Europe from March 28th to April 4th, 2026, organized by EuroSports Network. We fully understand the rules and conditions.

As a parent/guardian, we certify that the participant has no physical and/or mental disability that might, with all reasonable consideration, indicate that participation is not appropriate.

We have enclosed a \$500.00 deposit check and the following Forms:
The Application form, The Letter of Agreement Form.

_____	_____	_____
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
Cell # _____	Home # _____	
Year in School _____		
Position _____		
Student E-mail _____		
Parent E-Mail _____		
_____	_____	
(Signature parent/guardian)	(Signature parent/guardian)	
Date _____		

Embarking on a European Travel adventure offers an incredible opportunity to explore the world. Once we receive your application, we will promptly send you the necessary forms that are crucial for ensuring your child's seamless entry into and exit from Europe. To facilitate a hassle-free experience, we kindly ask you to exercise extreme care when filling out these forms and complete them as soon as possible.

We understand the significance of a smooth travel experience, and we aim to make the journey as enjoyable and trouble-free as possible for you and your child.

Letter of Agreement Affidavit of Parental Consent

For Travel Outside the United States of a Minor Child Without Parents Traveling

I _____ understand that my child.
(Parent's Name)

_____ will be traveling to
(Child's Name)

Destination – Athens, **Greece**, on March 28th, 2026 (date of travel). Aboard Air Canada Airlines Flight # AC 416 departing at 3:00 PM, and on April 4th, Air Canada Airlines Flight # AC 899 departs Athens at 3:00 PM, arriving at Toronto Airport at 3:05 PM with Coach Pilato, and other accompanying Coaches, adults/parent chaperones. Their expected date of return is April 4th, 2026.

Signed: _____
Parent(s) Signature(s) Parent(s) Signature(s)

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Number # _____

Witness Name _____ Witness

Signature _____

Notary Public Signature/Seal:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 20____

Signature of Notary Public _____

Notary Public in and for the County of _____, And the State of _____.

My Commission Expires: _____. Affix the Notary Seal at the Bottom of this page.

STUDENT TRAVEL PROTECTION



**TRAVEL INSURED
INTERNATIONAL**

A CRUM & FORSTER COMPANY

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN FOR STUDENT GROUPS

SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE BENEFITS AND OTHER NON-INSURANCE SERVICES

Benefit	Maximum Benefit Amount
Trip Cancellation** ¹	Up to 100% of Trip Cost*
Trip Interruption*** ¹	Up to 150% of Trip Cost*
Trip Delay- 6 Hours	Up to \$2,500(\$250 per day)
Missed Trip Connection – 3 Hours	Up to \$500
Single Supplement	Included
Baggage and Personal Effects	Up to \$1000 (\$250 per article)
Baggage Delay – 24 Hours	Up to \$300.00
Medical Evacuation & Repatriation of Remains	Up to \$250,000 Accident
& Sickness Medical Expense	Up to \$50,000
Political or Security Evacuation and Natural Disaster Evacuation	Up to \$150,000
Non-Insurance Worldwide Emergency Assistance Services	Included.

The cost for this comprehensive insurance is \$145.00.

There must be a minimum of 10 travelers signing up for this group insurance policy

*Up to the lesser of the Trip Cost paid or the limit of coverage on Your confirmation of coverage **Trip Cancellation is not applicable when \$0 Trip Cost is displayed on Your confirmation of coverage ***\$500 Return air ticket cost only if \$0 Trip Cost displayed for Trip Cancellation on Your confirmation of coverage ****CFAR is optional and available provided: 1. You purchase the Cancel for Any Reason Benefit within the Time Sensitive Period; and 2. You cancel Your Trip no later than 48 hours before the Scheduled Departure Date of Your Trip. This Cancel for Any Reason Benefit does not cover penalties associated with any Travel Arrangements not provided by the Retail Travel Supplier or the failure of the Retail Travel Supplier to provide the bargained-for Travel Arrangements due to cessation of operations for any reason. This benefit is not available to residents of NY State. Additional costs and terms apply. ¹ Trip Cancellation and Trip Interruption coverage only applies if the trip is canceled/interrupted by a covered peril.