

SWISS TO ROME TEAM

June 28th – July 16th (19 days)

Mixed team in ability level, with both school varsity players and ranked players, combining sanctioned tournaments and club friendly matches.

Bern & Biel, Switzerland, June 29th – July 6th

- We begin our tennis circuit with practice days and friendly matches at the Swiss Tennis Academy in the attractive town of Biel, Switzerland, arranged by a past Tennis: Europe Coach now working for the Swiss Tennis Federation. This will prepare us for an upcoming Swiss tournament.
- Located on Lake Biel with scenic hiking trails and home to the Omega Watch Museum, which we tour and see the history of watch-making in Switzerland.
- Biel is also known for the Maison Cailler Chocolate Factory, where we see how chocolate is made and even try our own hand at doing so.
- Biel is also home to Laser Game Biel which can be played either individually or in teams in the surreal labyrinth.
- We then enter a weekend tournament in nearby Bern, the Capital of the country, with singles and a consolation singles by ability level. In Bern, we see the Old Town, the medieval clock tower, Parliament House and Rosengarten Bern. Notably, we visit the famous “Bear Pits” with its animal inhabitants after whom the city, according to legend, is named.

Bergamo, Florence and Rome, Italy, July 7th – July 15th

Our visit to one of our favorite countries will include friendly matches

In 3 Italian cities: Bergamo, 35 minutes from Milan; Florence (Firenze), preserved from the Renaissance, and Rome, the eternal city. In each location we will play friendly matches against local clubs, singles and doubles with no elimination and USA versus Italy team scoring. This will give us a high volume of match play against good competition and besides the tennis, we have the opportunity to socialize with Italian teenagers.

- Our first Italian location **July 7-10, Bergamo** is one of the hidden gems of northern Italy. La Citta Alta, the Old City, is located on the hill overlooking the city. We also visit Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore which is best known for its stunning Interior. Bergamo is also home to a number of museums and churches, along with Piazza Vecchia, a historic square. We also plan a visit to Milan, the Capital of fashion and design of Italy. Milan is home to da Vinci's "Last Supper" artwork, located in the piazza Santa Maria delle Grazie Convent, and the spectacular Milan Cathedral (Duomo).
- Our second Italian location, **July 10-12**, a short train ride away, is **Florence**, the home of the Renaissance, with friendly matches at a prominent tennis club we have played at for many summers. The red claycourt matches should be challenging and have usually been close. The club has a swimming pool and we often take our lunches there.
- We will visit Michaelangelo's Statue of David at the "Academia," the Duomo Gothic and the Baptistry doors, among other Firenze sites.
- Our housing will be at a 3 or 4 star apartments or hotel, conveniently located in the heart of the city.
- Florence is a great shopping town for designer clothing and leather goods. Busy street and markets abound. This is one of the favorite cities of Europe For Americans.
- We conclude our tennis trip in **The Eternal City, Rome, July 12-16**, with matches at two tennis clubs as well as a social lunch with our Italian

teenage competitors. The matches will include both singles and doubles for each player.

- We visit many historical and cultural sights such as the Roman Forum, Colosseum and the Vatican, including St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. Rome is for walking, so we will be based at a centrally located hotel, where we can walk to the sites, except for the Vatican. Several Piazzas are nearby, also the Spanish steps and the Trevi Fountain.

We fly back to the USA from Rome on Wednesday July 16.

Pricing:

\$ 7,999 (19 days)