

## GLASGOW RANGERS INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

### \*PROPOSED ITINERARY – SCOTLAND

#### Day One

- Depart on overnight flight to Glasgow, Scotland.

#### Day Two

- Upon arrival you are met by a private bus and your Excel Sports Representative.
- Transfer to accommodations and check-in..
- Settle in and unpack – optional light evening practice session.
- Evening free to relax.

#### Day Three

- Enjoy a tour of the stadium of Glasgow Rangers FC, Ibrox Stadium. Tour the stadium, and visit the superstore and museum.
- Sightseeing day in Glasgow, see the magnificent Glasgow Cathedral, Provans' Lordship - the oldest house in the city; Glasgow Green - ideal for walks and visiting the People's Palace; Merchant City - marvel at the mansions, banks and warehouse buildings built by Glasgow's wealthy merchant traders; City Chambers - Glasgow City Council's magnificent headquarters in George Square; Glasgow School of Art - designed by world-famous architect and designer Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the wonderful Victorian architecture - Glasgow's elegant streets are lined with some of the most beautifully preserved Victorian buildings.
- This evening participate in your first international friendly game v a local club team.



#### Day Four

- Morning training session with a Rangers FC pro/academy coach.
- Spend the day sightseeing in Edinburgh. Edinburgh has everything you would expect and more from Scotland's historic Capital. Visit Edinburgh Castle as it stands guard over the city, and then explore the many shops and restaurants on Princess Street, the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Museum of Scotland, and the Royal Botanic Garden are all well worth a visit.
- Evening presentation on being a professional player in Europe by a Rangers FC player.

#### Day Five

- The Rangers FC Invitational games begin today..
- Enjoy free time to explore the city of Glasgow. There is lots to see and do in Glasgow.
- Free evening for social activities.

## Day Six

- Rangers FC Invitational games continue today.
- Enjoy a half day of sightseeing in Stirling. Visit the Stirling Castle and the Wallace Monument. Stirling is the 'Home of Braveheart.'



## Day Seven

- Rangers FC Invitational's final day of games with presentation of awards in the afternoon.
- Free night to enjoy your last night in Scotland.

## Day Eight

- Transfer to the airport for return flight home.

## ABOUT SCOTLAND

**Glasgow** - Glasgow is one of Europe's most exciting and beautiful destinations. It combines the energy and sophistication of a great international city with some of Europe's most spectacular scenery. Glasgow is an architectural dream: Victorian red & honey sandstone, Italianate steeples and medieval spires sit harmoniously with neo-gothic towers. Just beyond the city of Glasgow lies some of England's most beautiful scenery. The local area is rich in history and heritage and each of its delightful country towns and villages has its own fascinating tale to tell.



**Edinburgh** - Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh, is famous for its history, architecture, festivals, friendly people, and city walking. A great way to get a good feel for the city is to take one of the Open Top Bus City Tours. The majority of these tours allow you to hop on an off as you wish at each stop. Edinburgh Castle has stood guard high over the city since 1085. One of the city's most distinctive and most visited landmarks, Edinburgh castle is perched high up in the city centre on the craggy remains of an extinct volcano. It was also the site of an Iron Age fort. Among its attractions are the Great Hall, a great siege gun, Mons Meg, and the tiny room where Mary Queen of Scots gave birth to James VI of Scotland.

Holyrood Palace was founded as a monastery in 1128, the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh is The Queen's official residence is Scotland. Situated at the end of the Royal Mile, the Palace of Holyroodhouse is closely associated with Scotland's turbulent past, including Mary, Queen of Scots, who lived here between 1561 and 1567. Walk the Royal Mile, it is a straight line from Edinburgh Castle all the way down the hill to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, passing the major sights of St. Giles Kirk and Parliament House, and on to Arthur's Seat in Holyrood Park. The main street, is crowded with 'lands' (or tenements) many storeys high, and punctuated by tiny cobbled 'closes' or alleys off to each side.



**Stirling** - Stirling is Scotland's youngest city gaining the status in the summer of 2002. This is Scotland's heritage capital, where the Wars of Independence were fought and won; where, for three centuries, monarchs ruled in regal splendour and where merchants and

\* Subject to Change

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craftsmen plied their trade below the castle rock. Nowadays you can literally touch and feel the sense of history and nationhood which is Stirling's trademark, as you meander through the Old Town, enter the spectacular cliff-top castle or sample the town's unique 'living history' events programme.

## TESTIMONIALS

"Excel Sports is a world class organization running first class tours. Our Olympic Development Program trip to Scotland was educational both on and off the field. Our players experienced a level of soccer that was second to none. They played professional youth teams rated first and second in Scotland. Each game day, the players were given the opportunity to tour professional stadiums such as Rangers, Celtic and Livingston. These stadiums have fields and training facilities we could only dream about. Our accommodations were an old historical castle surrounded by beautiful mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. Off the field, we were very fortunate to attend two professional games and even had enough down time to roam the streets of Glasgow - where our players were amazed with the quality and quantity of soccer stores! The highlights of the week was spending a day at the Edinburgh Castle and seeing the crown jewels. I could not recommend a more professional organization to manage a team's international experience."

**-- L. Caudle, Maryland Olympic Development Program, Scotland**

"Excel Sports ran a first class tour from beginning to end. The training facilities, accommodations, and competition were outstanding. Our team definitely profited from the experience."

**-- A. Adams, UMBC College, Scotland**