

2012/13

# ***Topflight Hockey***



Ireland's No1 School Sports Tour Operator

**TRAIN & PLAY**

**UK - HOLLAND - BELGIUM - SPAIN**

**TOURNAMENTS**

**TOPFLIGHT SCHOOLS NATIONS CUP**



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For information, regular updates and special offers please visit our website:  
[www.topflightsportsforschools.ie](http://www.topflightsportsforschools.ie)

## Dear Hockey Coach,

We are delighted to introduce our new Hockey for Schools Brochure. As Ireland's No 1 Sports for Schools specialist, we have put together a very exciting programme with something for all hockey enthusiasts. We are featuring a number of fantastic venues and programmes specifically designed for teams to enjoy a truly wonderful hockey experience, whether competing in our Schools Nations Tournament in Cheltenham in October, Train and Play in the UK, or pitching your team against the greats in Holland and Belgium. Alternatively, how about enjoying the many advantages of training at our featured warm weather clinics in Spain?

As a specialist Sports Operator we have ensured that once you arrive at your chosen destination you will find top training facilities, coaches and a suitable standard of teams to play against. Accordingly, we are delighted to have formed a partnership with one of Europe's most distinguished Hockey Clinic companies, SportWays, to ensure these standards are consistently met.

With over 14 years experience of organising sports tours for schools, understanding the needs of Group Leaders and students/players, from the travelling arrangements to the appropriate accommodation, and factoring in some necessary downtime, Topflight Sports for Schools, in conjunction with SportWays, will ensure your team receives the highest standard of tour from start to finish.

With over 23 years of experience, SportWays is the oldest and most successful organiser of hockey camps in Europe. They are the official partner of the European Hockey Federation and only work with top National and International players and coaches, at the best facilities. Each year the training programmes are developed by Dutch premier league coaches, players and the technical staff of various national teams to focus on the latest developments in hockey. This way the participants are guaranteed to learn the very latest techniques in the sport. This year, Paul van Ass (Dutch National Coach), his assistant Thomas Tichelman as well as Martijn Drijver (Dutch National goalie coach) were all involved in the creation of the 2012 technical programme.



We await your call!

Yours faithfully,

**Marco Piccoli**  
Managing Director

**Aidan Gallagher**  
Sports Tour Director



**Marco Piccoli**



**Aidan Gallagher**

# WELCOME

## We do it!

## TEACHER'S COMMENTS

"We had a fantastic time!  
Great spirit/great games/great organisation. Well done to all at Topflight."

**Co Down.**

"An excellent tournament. Very efficiently and effectively run by professional and friendly staff".

**Dublin 20.**

"Very enjoyable weekend."

**Co. Antrim.**

"The girls really enjoyed this tour. We travelled with a younger team and this was a great experience for them."

**Co Derry.**

"Many thanks for a really enjoyable tournament. The girls really enjoyed the whole weekend."

**South Co. Dublin.**

"Very enjoyable atmosphere, well organised, good standard of hockey, well balanced games."

**Bristol.**

"We enjoyed the tournament and it was useful for our preparation for the season."

**Buckingham.**





# GROUP LEADER SPECIALS

## FREE INSPECTION TOUR - HOW DO I QUALIFY?

All Group Leaders who book a 2012/2013 Hockey tour for a group of 30 or more paying passengers will be invited FREE of charge on our wonderful Inspection Tour.

### Lake Garda Sports Inspection Tour Ultimate Sports Weekend 7th December



## HOW DO I BOOK MY PLACE?

On reserving your hockey tour please indicate to the sales consultant that you wish to avail of your free place. You will also receive an invitation approximately 3 weeks in advance. Please ensure this is returned as soon as possible by fax (01) 2401790, post or email: info@topflightforschools.ie

## WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Inspection Tours are absolutely FREE for Group Leaders except for airport taxes, insurance and any optional supplements eg. single rooms. Trip includes, 2 night's BB in Park Hotel Desenzano (4\*), 1 x lunch, 1 x evening meal, match tickets for Inter or Atalanta (subject to timing of fixture) and a choice of: Topflight Golf Classic at Chervo Golf or an excursion to the beautiful city of Verona.

### BASIC ITINERARY

#### Day 1

AM Departure to Milan Linate  
Lunch will be served on our arrival in Lake Garda  
Remainder of afternoon evening at leisure in Desenzano  
Overnight in 4\* Park Hotel which overlooks the beautiful Lake of Garda

#### Day 2

Following breakfast you will have a choice of either;  
Excursion to Romeo & Juliette's city of Verona Or  
Participation in the Topflight Sports Golf Classic in the wonderful Chervo Golf Club. This is a very fun filled relaxed classic aimed at all levels of golfer. Both the above will be followed by a drinks reception at Chervo golf and dinner

#### Day 3 (Sunday or Monday)

Following breakfast we will travel to Milan or Bergamo for a football match between Inter Milan & Napoli or Atalanta Vs Parma.



## LOYALTY BONUS €1000/£1000

We are delighted to offer a booking bonus of €1,000/£1,000 off any Hockey Tour booked in our brochure\* for any school/organisation who have already booked or are booking a Ski or Educational Tour with us.

\* Applies to a minimum of 30 paying students travelling on each tour. Both tours must take place in the same calendar year and applies only once.

## GROUP LEADERS DISCOUNT

On booking a group with Topflight Sports for Schools we will offer 10% discount on any personal holiday from the Topflight programme. Not just for you, but for all parties in the booking. If you and four friends were going on a ski tour you could save OVER €500.



**Phone: +353 (0)1 202 2820**

**Email: sales@mcsport.ie**



**Supplying Schools with  
Sports Equipment for over 25 years**

No matter the size of your budget or  
the nature of your schools requirement  
we'll find you the perfect solution

**WWW.MCSPORT.IE**





### THE HOCKEY

The UK has never had a more vibrant hockey community, with more students than ever taking up sticks. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the Gloucester/Cheltenham region where there are over 200 active teams today!

### THE DESTINATION

The beautifully ornate town of Cheltenham Spa in Gloucester is an ideal base from which to explore the Cotswolds, Stratford-Upon-Avon and Bath, as well as Cheltenham itself, England's most complete regency town.







# CHEL TENHAM From €299/£249

## Sporting facilities



Cheltenham & Gloucester  
The Cheltenham/Gloucester area is well served with hockey clubs. Among those which are available to Topflight Sports for Schools clients are: Dean Close, The University of Gloucester; Balcarras Sports Centre (Cheltenham) and Oxtalls Tennis Centre (Gloucester). The services of an international coach are included. ■

## 3\* Hotels:



You will be accommodated in one of the 3\* hotels we use in the Cheltenham/Gloucester area. All rooms have full en-suite facilities and accommodate 2-3 students. Breakfast and dinner will be served each day, and hotels with wellness facilities such as a swimming pool/gym will be available to use free of charge. ■

## 4 Day Tour Includes:



- Return ferry from Dublin / Rosslare
- Ground transportation as per itinerary
- 3 nights dinner, bed & breakfast
- 3 quality two hour training sessions
- 2 pre-arranged games per team against local opposition
- Sightseeing tour of Gloucester
- 1 FREE place in 10 for Group Leaders
- Comprehensive travel & sports insurance

Price is based on a minimum of 40 on each coach transfer. If you have fewer travelling, we will organise for your group to join another if possible for all transfers/tours in order to keep cost the same. If you have 20-25 travelling and wish to have private coach transfers a supplement will apply. It is also possible to arrange for an Irish coach which will pick up/drop off at your school for a supplement of €20/£16 per person.

## Sample Itinerary:

### DAY 1:

Stena Line sailing from Dublin to Holyhead or Rosslare to Fishguard.  
Luxury coach transfer to Cheltenham.  
Dinner.

### DAY 2:

Morning training session & afternoon training session.  
Friendly game against local opposition in the evening.  
Dinner.

### DAY 3:

Morning training session.  
Sightseeing tour of Gloucester.  
Friendly game against local opposition in the afternoon/evening.  
Dinner.

### DAY 4:

Morning departure transfer to ferry.



This is a suggested itinerary only and can be amended, lengthened or shortened to suit your specific needs.







### THE HOCKEY

Like their footballing equivalents, the Dutch hockey teams are a huge source of national pride in Holland. World Cup winners three times and Olympic Champions twice - welcome to Hockey country.

### THE DESTINATION

With its labyrinth canals, 1500 picturesque bridges and a wealth of Museums and culture including the Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh museum and Anne Frank's House – Amsterdam is the city where you'll never want for entertainment.







# AMSTERDAM

Please contact our office for a quotation based on your dates and requirements. Prices for this package are not shown as they can fluctuate greatly due to seasonal departures and seat availability. Generally the more flexible you can be the cheaper the price may become. Tel: 01 2401753 (ROI) / 028 97528673 (NI) or [info@topflightsportsforschools.ie](mailto:info@topflightsportsforschools.ie) and we will be delighted to send you a quote.

## Sporting facilities



All our sports facilities are top class. In Amsterdam we are guests at the national training centre of the Royal Dutch Hockey Association (KNHB) with 7 sand-based and 6 water-based pitches. The Wagener Stadium is often used by the Dutch national teams and has hosted many International, Champions Trophy and European Championship matches. ■

## Accommodation.



Stayokay is a chain of 27 youth hostels located in the most beautiful parts of The Netherlands, which have been hosting schools, sports clubs and universities for almost 80 years. Your group will be accommodated in a hostel close to both your training centre and nearby Amsterdam. All rooms (for our groups) include private en-suite facilities and accommodate 2-6 students with twin rooms for party leaders. Half-board includes buffet breakfast & three course dinner. ■ [www.stayokay.com](http://www.stayokay.com)



## 4 day Tour Includes:



- Return flights Belfast, Dublin or Cork to Amsterdam
- 3 nights half-board in StayOkay accommodation
- All transfers
- 4 x training sessions
- 2 games per team
- World Class Player clinic
- An English speaking guide to meet and greet
- Full day tour of Amsterdam
- Comprehensive travel & sports insurance.
- VAT & air tax

## Sample Itinerary:

### DAY 1:

AM flight from Belfast, Dublin or Cork to Amsterdam.  
Afternoon training session.  
Dinner.

### DAY 2:

Breakfast.  
2 x Training sessions (morning & afternoon).  
Evening game.  
Dinner.

### DAY 3:

Breakfast.  
Amsterdam Tour.  
Evening game.  
Dinner.

### DAY 4:

Breakfast.  
Morning training session.  
Afternoon World Class player clinic.  
Evening flight home.



This is a suggested itinerary only and can be amended, lengthened or shortened to suit your specific needs.





### THE HOCKEY

In the last decade Belgian Hockey has enjoyed a startling renaissance, and with the men's team achieving their best finish in almost 90 years at London 2012, the sport has never been more popular.

### THE DESTINATION

The beautiful Flemish 'Park Town' of Brasschaat is famous for both the De Mik Castle (with its real-life drawbridge) and its long, stylish high street lined with trendy cafés, bars & boutiques. In 2006, Brasschaat won the Livcom Award for the most liveable municipality in the world.







# BRASSCHAAT

Please contact our office for a quotation based on your dates and requirements. Prices for this package are not shown as they can fluctuate greatly due to seasonal departures and seat availability. Generally the more flexible you can be the cheaper the price may become. Tel: 01 2401753 (ROI) / 028 97528673 (NI) or [info@topflightsportsforschools.ie](mailto:info@topflightsportsforschools.ie) and we will be delighted to send you a quote.

## KHC Dragons



The Royal Hockey Club Dragons of KHC is Belgium's top hockey club. During the last 8 seasons the club has been the Champions of Belgium on 5 occasions. In 2002 KHC Dragons were chosen by the European Hockey Federation to organise the European Cup Championship, which places KHC as one of the 8 strongest clubs in Europe. KHC got 5th place in that Championship. ■

## Sporting facilities



KHC Dragons is our partner club in Belgium. This relatively young club is beautifully located in the middle of a park near Brasschaat. It contains two sand-based and one water-based pitch. Brasschaat is just 11km from Antwerp and about 50km from Brussels in the Flanders region. ■

## 4 Day Tour Includes:



- Return flights Dublin or Cork to Brussels
- 3 nights half-board in a 3\* hotel
- All transfers
- 5 x training sessions
- 2 games per team
- An English speaking guide to meet and greet
- Half day tour to Brasschaat
- Comprehensive travel & sports insurance.
- VAT & air tax

## Sample Itinerary:

### Day 1:

AM flight from Dublin or Cork to Brussels.  
Afternoon training session.  
Dinner.

### Day 2:

Breakfast.  
2 x Training sessions (morning & afternoon).  
Evening game.  
Dinner.

### Day 3:

Breakfast.  
Morning Brasschaat Tour.  
Afternoon training session.  
Evening game.  
Dinner.

### Day 4:

Breakfast.  
Morning training session.  
Afternoon sightseeing in Brussels.  
Evening flight home.



This is a suggested itinerary only and can be amended, lengthened or shortened to suit your specific needs.





## TRAIN & PLAY SPAIN

### THE HOCKEY

Barcelona is the Hockey capital of Spain with over 30 clubs in the area, each fielding competitive teams right down to under 10s. As important as the game itself is the local tradition of ‘Tercer Tiempo’ or the Third Half – post match fun and relaxation.

### THE DESTINATION

Barcelona is Catalunya’s capital and home to a bottomless well of delights such as the Camp Nou, the Gothic Quarter and Las Ramblas, not to mention the genuinely stunning architecture of Gaudi & La Sagrada Familia.







# CATALUNYA

Please contact our office for a quotation based on your dates and requirements. Prices for this package are not shown as they can fluctuate greatly due to seasonal departures and seat availability. Generally the more flexible you can be the cheaper the price may become. Tel: 01 2401753 (ROI) / 028 97528673 (NI) or [info@topflightsportsforschools.ie](mailto:info@topflightsportsforschools.ie) and we will be delighted to send you a quote.

## Atlètic Terrassa Hockey Club



In Barcelona we use the outstanding facilities of **Atlètic Terrassa Hockey Club** with two water-based pitches, a sand-based pitch and an indoor-outdoor pitch. Furthermore, this beautiful venue is equipped with numerous tennis and pádel courts and a swimming pool! ■

## 3\* Aparthotel Vallès Sabadell



The **3\* Aparthotel Vallès Sabadell** has modern, studio-style rooms with free wi-fi, a kitchenette and flat-screen satellite TV. Located just outside Sabadell, it is a 20-minute drive from Barcelona. Each air-conditioned room at Aparthotel Vallès has simple, stylish décor with wooden floors. Complimentary wi-fi is available throughout the entire hotel. ■

## 4 Day Tour Includes:



- Return flights Belfast, Dublin or Cork / Barcelona
- 3 nights half-board in the 3\* Aparthotel Vallès Sabadell
- All coach transfers as per suggested itinerary
- 3 x training sessions
- 1 x World Class Player clinic
- 2 games per team
- English speaking coaches
- Half day tour of Barcelona
- Comprehensive travel & sports insurance
- VAT & air tax

## Sample Itinerary:

### DAY 1:

AM flight from Belfast, Dublin or Cork.  
Afternoon sightseeing tour of Barcelona.  
Transfer to your hotel.  
Dinner.

### DAY 2:

Breakfast  
Training in the morning and afternoon.  
Evening game.  
Dinner.

### DAY 3:

Breakfast.  
Training in the morning.  
World Class player clinic in the afternoon.  
Evening game.  
Dinner.

### DAY 4:

Breakfast  
Last minute sightseeing & shopping in Barcelona.  
Return flight home.



This is a suggested itinerary only and can be amended, lengthened or shortened to suit your specific needs.





### THE HOCKEY

Club Hockey Benalmadena are a young energetic club with great facilities and a bright future. As the best club in Andalucia, they've begun to make an impression on the national stage with many of their players breaking into the Spanish national squads.

### THE DESTINATION

The old Moorish city of Benalmadena is a testament to the beauty and culture possible when different cultures combine. And not far from the city walls you can visit historic Malaga, Granada or the World Heritage Sites of the Generalife or the Alhambra Palace.







# ANDALUCIA

Please contact our office for a quotation based on your dates and requirements. Prices for this package are not shown as they can fluctuate greatly due to seasonal departures and seat availability. Generally the more flexible you can be the cheaper the price may become. Tel: 01 2401753 (ROI) / 028 97528673 (NI) or [info@topflightsportsforschools.ie](mailto:info@topflightsportsforschools.ie) and we will be delighted to send you a quote.

## Club Hockey Benalmadena



**Club Hockey Benalmadena** is the best hockey club in Andalucia. Many of its players have just been promoted to the Spanish National Team. The First Men's team play in the Spanish Honour B Division (2nd National Division), and in the near future they also hope to promote the women's team to an Honour Division. They also have teams at many other levels, from youth teams to Veterans and Ladies. The women's U-18 team are current holders of the Spanish National Cup. ■

## 4\* Los Patos Hotel



**The 4\* Los Patos Hotel** is 250m from the beach and is the perfect location for schools. There is an outdoor heated swimming pool which is enclosed in the winter. Hotel Los Patos has 243 double rooms and 27 single rooms, all with a bathroom, terrace, satellite TV, a safe and modern style decor. Hotel Los Patos has a television room, games area, shops and night and day entertainment programmes. The hotel is only 15km from Malaga Airport. ■

## 5 Day Tour Includes:



- Return flights Belfast, Dublin or Cork / Malaga.
- 4 nights half-board in the 4\* Los PATOS Hotel in Benalmadena
- All transfers as per suggested itinerary
- 4 x training sessions
- 2 games per team
- English speaking coaches
- An English speaking guide to meet and greet
- A day trip to Granada or Gibraltar
- Half day trip to Malaga
- Comprehensive travel & sports insurance
- VAT & air tax

## Sample Itinerary:

### DAY 1:

AM flight from Belfast, Dublin or Cork. Afternoon sightseeing tour of Malaga. Dinner.

### DAY 2:

Breakfast  
Training in the morning and afternoon. Evening game. Dinner.

### DAY 3:

Breakfast.  
Day trip to Granada to view the Alhambra Palace and other historical sites or Gibraltar. Dinner.

### DAY 4:

Breakfast.  
Training in the morning and afternoon. Evening game. Dinner.

### DAY 5:

Breakfast.  
Return flight to Belfast, Dublin or Cork.

This is a suggested itinerary only and can be amended, lengthened or shortened to suit your specific needs.







# TOURNAMENT ENGLAND

**Topflight Hockey**  
SCHOOLS' NATIONS  
TOURNAMENT

## CHELTENHAM

Welcome to our Hockey Schools Nations Tournament, held in conjunction with Dean Close School, Cheltenham. Dean Close will be the venue for the games, offering two top class water-based pitches. The tournament will be played during the October 2012 mid-term break. This tournament will have participants from 16 invited schools – 8 from Ireland (North & South) and the other 8 from England, Scotland, Wales and Europe. Topflight are delighted to combine their many years of experience at organising specialist school sports tours, with the hands-on expertise of Dean Close School, to offer a fantastic and memorable tournament experience.



Cup winners Banbridge Academy receiving their medals from James Fair, UK Olympic Goalkeeper & Jill Russell, Topflight.





Photographs courtesy RWT Photography www.rwt-photography.co.uk

# CHEL TENHAM From €299/£249

## Tournament Programme



Each team can bring 20 players and 2 coaches. All players must be under 18 years of age. Teams will be in pools of 4 and will play each other on a league basis. The winner of Pool A plays the winner of Pool C; winner Pool B plays winner Pool D in semi-finals. The second, third and fourth placed teams play in the same way in their semi-finals. Winners of these games play in 4 finals on the last day. Games will be of 50 minutes duration – 25 mins each way. All players may be substituted in every game. ■

## Dean Close School:



Topflight are delighted to offer their many years experience of organising specialist school sports tours, while our local organisers and Dean Close School offer the expertise on the ground, ensuring the best possible opportunity for schools to hone their skills and obtain maximum enjoyment from this experience. ■



## 4 Day Tour Includes:



- Ferry from Dublin or Rosslare
- Transfers to Gloucester and daily transfers to Dean Close School/hotel
- 3 nights half board in a Gloucester hotel
- Full participation in the Topflight Hockey Schools Nations Tournament
- Tournament registration fees
- A minimum of 4 matches
- Trophy & medals for winners and runners-up
- 1 Group Leader place free for every 10 paying students
- Comprehensive travel & sports insurance

## Sample Itinerary:

### DAY 1:

Morning Stena Line sailing from Dublin/Rosslare.  
Transfer from Holyhead/Fishguard to hotels in Gloucester.

Check-in, registration and opening briefing.

### DAY 2:

Transfer to Dean Close School where each team will play a pool match in the morning and another in the afternoon.

### DAY 3:

Each team plays a pool match and knock-out match in the morning. Finals in the afternoon.

### DAY 4:

Depart for Holyhead/Fishguard for afternoon sailing to Dublin Port/Holyhead

Price is based on a minimum of 40 on each coach transfer. If you have fewer travelling, we will organise for your group to join another where possible in order to keep cost the same. If you have 20-25 travelling and wish to have private coach transfers a supplement will apply. It is also possible to arrange for an Irish coach which will pick up/drop off at your school for a supplement of €20/£16 per person.





***We do it!***

[www.topflightsportsforschools.ie](http://www.topflightsportsforschools.ie)



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