

Day 5

This morning the players and staff ate breakfast and immediately left. Argentinos Juniors full professional team was training and we were invited to watch the training. Argentinos Juniors' facility consists of a clubhouse and 5 fields. The clubhouse was constantly busy and every field had different age groups training. It was very interesting to see the younger players training and then look over and see the full professional team training. It was a unique insight that not a lot of people outside the United States get a chance to see.

After the return from Argentinos Juniors, we ate lunch and then Region IV Administrator Steve Bircsak took the team on a walking tour of Buenos Aires. After a brief rest after the tour, we headed out for dinner. We went to a very nice sit down meal in one of the upscale restaurants in town. Fun was had by all and we returned home ready for bed as it had been a very tiring day.

We leave you with some excerpts from some of the players about their experience in Argentina:

Andrew Beerman writes:

“Argentianians are so passionate about the game, you can feel it the second you walk out of the airplane. They train as if the game of futbol is their whole life, which is a big difference from the United States soccer players. Argentinian YMCAs would be filled with soccer goals and fields rather than the typical basketball hoops and tennis courts.”

Juan Mendoza writes:

“My experience in Argentina has been fantastic because I'm learning something new by playing skillful and strong Argentinian teams. Also the culture is different because they sell soccer jerseys cheaper here than in the USA. Their food is very healthy and different from ours because they don't use too much oil and its food we never ate before in our lives.”



Team at Argentinos Juniors Training



Sightseeing in downtown Buenos Aires