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USA East Coast Basketball Set for 2016 Italy Tour



New York City will be the backdrop for East Coast's Training Camp.

New York, N.Y. – In what is sure to be an experience no participant will forget, the 2016 USA East Coast Basketball team, under the direction of head coach Guy Rancourt (Lycoming College, 9th season), will travel to Italy this August to compete in four friendly matches across Northern Italy. The team features players from Pace University, Notre Dame, West Virginia, Seton Hall, Lycoming College, SMU, and Iowa, in venues throughout the region known for its rich traditions and love of basketball. East Coast is scheduled to hold training camp on August 6th in New York City before embarking on its seven-day trip. The tour features stops in Venice, Verona (setting of Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet" and a 1st century Roman Amphitheatre), Milan, Lake Como, and Bellagio before returning to New York on August 13th.



The team will enjoy day one in Venice, sightseeing along the canals.

The team will have a deep backcourt with five guards that will be impact players during the tour. Bryan Rivers (Pace University) started 26-of-28 games this winter for the Setters where he averaged 12.8 points per game and led the team in assists for the second straight season. Matt Farrell (Notre Dame), a 6-1 junior guard made a huge impact during the Fighting Irish's NCAA Tournament Elite Eight run. Farrell earned his first four career starts during the tournament where he averaged 26.8 minutes per game, 6.5 points, and 3.5 assists per game. Joining the two as ball handlers are Jevon Carter (West Virginia) and Jevon Thomas (Seton Hall). Carter is a two-time Big 12 All-Defensive team selection and appeared in every game for the Mountaineers this season, averaging 9.5 points per contest while leading the team in

steals as well as assists. The former four-star recruit led West Virginia in 3-point field goals during his freshman season and will be a scoring threat from beyond the arc for USA East Coast. Thomas, a transfer from Kansas State, joins the team after sitting out the 2015-2016 season with Seton Hall. As a Wildcat, Thomas led the team in assists and was second in steals during his sophomore year where he averaged 4.5 points per game in 25.8 minutes per contest.

Nykolos King (Lycoming College) provides great versatility as a guard who can score as well as crash the boards. King is a two-time All-MAC Commonwealth selection and led the Warriors with 12.7 points and 6.5 boards per game. He also boasts career averages of 5.0 rebounds per game, 9.9 points per game, and 43.6% shooting from the field in his three years at Lycoming. Sterling Brown (SMU) is a 6-6 swingman who started 29-of-30 games for a top-25 SMU team and averaged 10.1 points per game, 4.4 rebounds, and 2.6 assists per game. He shot 60.2% from the field and 53.6% from beyond the arc, good for second and first in the AAC, respectively.



USA will get to visit one of Italy's greatest ancient structures in Verona.

Nick Baer (Iowa) a 6-7 sophomore forward earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors in December and appeared in all 33 games for the Hawkeyes. Baer put up 4.8 points and 2.6 rebounds per game, scoring in double figures five times. He also ranked second on the team in blocks and was one of just four freshman nationally to record 13+ points, 7+ rebounds, and 6+ blocks in a single game. Joining him down low are Myles Carter (Seton Hall), Harry Froling (SMU), and Martin Geben (Notre Dame). Carter appeared in 10 games for the Pirates, coming up with a huge block in the Big East Quarterfinals against Creighton. The 6-9 sophomore was rated as the No. 50 best power forward out of high school by ESPN. Froling a native of Townsville Australia is an incoming freshman at SMU. The 6-11 center, played for the Townsville

Crocodiles in Australia's National Basketball League during the 2015-16 season and was invited to play for the World team as one of the top-12 international players at the 2016 Nike Hoop Summit. Geben, a 6-10 junior forward, shot 55% from the field as a freshman in South Bend and will bolster a front court that has enough depth to bang with every team it will face overseas.



From the city, to canals, to Roman architecture, to mountains in Lake Como.

While sightseeing and experiencing all Italy has to offer by day USA East Coast will be tested mightily by night. The team will play two contests in Altavilla and two in Vedano Olano with all matches anticipated to be sold out venues. Serie A and Serie B division players, along with imported players from Serbia and Croatia, have been confirmed for what will be four great basketball opportunities.

Fans wishing to follow all the action can join us via social media at the following sites:

Website: GuyRancourt.com
Facebook: [@USA East Coast](https://www.facebook.com/USA-East-Coast)
Twitter: [@East Coast BBC](https://twitter.com/EastCoastBBC)
Periscope: [@East Coast BBC](https://www.periscope.tv/@EastCoastBBC)

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