

Media Release

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THE IFAF 2021 YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: CELEBRATING SPORT AND FAMILIES!

As already announced, Italy is hosting the Youth Flag Football European Championship at Fattoria La Principina in Grosseto (Tuscany) from September 8 to 11. After so many critical months, this will be one of the first international sports events for young athletes since 2020 and the first flag football youth event since 2016.

The host country, namely the Italian Federation of American Football (FIDAF), opened applications a few weeks ago and officially kickstarted the organizational countdown that will take the FIDAF and Italy to the **Youth Flag Football European Championship** in **Grosseto**, Tuscany, **from September 8 to 11**.

2021 looks set to be a crucial year for the sport with the senior **World Championships** scheduled for **December 6 to 8** in **Israel** and, more importantly, flag football joining the lineup at the **World Games** in **Birmingham** (USA) in **2022**, which is seen as a 'warm-up' for the Olympic Games. The European Youth Championship will therefore be a "showcase" for all the federations involved and a real celebration for families who, as the Organizing Committee says, will have the opportunity for an unforgettable experience in Italy.

The **IFAF Youth Flag Football European Championship** will take place in the beautiful Tuscan town of Grosseto, which hosted the Senior Flag World Championship and Beach Flag European Championship back in 2014. Rich in history and culture, Grosseto is set in the heart of the Tuscan Maremma, in one of the most beautiful and characteristic regions of Italy. With stunning beaches, unspoiled countryside, artistic and architectural treasures, and a culinary cornucopia of traditional dishes, it has always been one of the most popular destinations for international tourism. Grosseto is about 150 km from Rome with train links to the airports of Rome Fiumicino and Pisa.

Fattoria La Principina, the resort which will host all the teams, covers an area of over 100 hectares and is close to the beaches of Castiglione della Pescaia, Marina di Grosseto and Principina Mare, as well as the hills in the Maremma Natural Park.

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The championship features the U15 and U17 categories for both boys and girls and is open to all member federations of the IFAF. The final format will depend upon the number of participating teams, but it goes without saying the championship will be an amazing event that will turn the spotlight back on Europe's finest talent after a five-year gap. The last Flag Football European Championship was held in Belgrade in August 2016.

Today we wish to officially launch this fantastic event with a slogan coined by the FIDAF that will accompany us in the leadup to the championship:

#100%F-ECTIVE, it's the four 'Fs' that matter most to us: FLAG FOOTBALL – FUN – FAMILY – FEDERATIONS!

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