

Northern Lights – Italy Tour
Day 5, Friday 3-30
Verona – 18 Black

By: Emily Tran & Emma Buchanan

First of all, hi mother! –Emma and Em

The team woke up for breakfast and had a buffet of food waiting for us downstairs. They had croissants, yummy fruit, and boiled eggs. Carlee had an espresso shot, which was a horrible idea. After, we went to the first gym and played our first match of the day. We won in 2 sets, which was awesome! This match was crucial to stay in gold. Next, we went to eat at a restaurant and had pasta, French fries, and “mystery meat” (pork). We all gave Luka (trip guide) a hard time for being a horrible boyfriend. After, we had some time to spare and spent an hour or so at the hotel. Some girls slept and took advantage of the free wifi and nice bathrooms.

Our second match was at a different venue. We first entered the wrong court, which was very embarrassing. Our court was in a “dome”, which was incredibly hot. The team we played had its own “fan section” (It was basically a man with a drum and a 5 gallon jug filled with rocks. It was a horrible noise.). Emily took a pee outside of the dome because they had only one toilet (it was a hole in the floor) and it smelled like poop. We lost in 2 and it was a bit rough. That’s all were going to say. Curt felt so bad for us that he got us all gelato. They had the best gelato.

Our third match was at another location. They gave us our own locker room and we spent the time fighting over Maddie Lyon’s food, dancing, and sticking Erica’s cane into Emily’s butt. Maddie Lyon’s was delusional. She was scaling walls, climbing doors, and making hick noises. Finally, we got to playing. This gym didn’t have any balls for us, so we played Vegas for 20 minutes with only one ball. We won the first set, lost the second set, and lost the third 10-15. Our ref was a little debatable (we think she hated Americans). After, we had dinner at the hotel the other teams there started to sing happy birthday in Italian, which led to us singing happy birthday in English. It was truly an American experience. Kate’s altar-ego, Susan, came out to dinner. After having pasta and chicken, a team we had recently talked to last night came over to start conversation. They were very nice and had great English. Joy took away our phones ☹️ Some other girls made fun of Luka again, showed the coaches Maddie Lyon’s shenanigans, and talked to the other team. Lisa Slinde came in clutch and got us all yummy desserts.

That was our entire 5th day in Italy. Watch Emily’s vlog (<https://youtu.be/5BXHhXdiEes>). We’re having so much fun in Italy. Emma is killing it on the court and Em is barely functioning. Emma is so much taller than the other girls and they love her. Em is just Asian and they are confused. CYA! We love being American!