



# EUROPE 2023



4 months | 6 countries | 8 house swaps | 10 journey legs



## Kickaround, and a Castle

After lots of research I finally located a couple of venues offering walking football sessions. I need the practice before December's IWFF Winter Nations Cup so after yesterday's 1.5hr session in Cardiff I was super excited to attend another one organised by Cardiff Walking Football Club. Heather had cleverly suggest an afternoon visit to Caerphilly Castle, the second largest castle in UK - after the session - only a short drive away. After an early start to the day and a 1 hour drive I was delighted to find almost 40 players all ready at Ocean Park indoor venue. Six teams were arranged into over 50s, 60s age groups. I was duly placed into the over 70s side which was made up of a number of players from the Wales representative side (including a 77yo). What followed was 6 game full-on walking football competition which I enjoyed immensely (and learned lots about Welsh playing strategies in the up coming world tournament).

We drove about 30 minutes to Caerphilly Caste and parked some distance away. Caerphilly was constructed in the 1200s to subdue to Welsh. Today the Welsh picnic in its grounds so you have to wonder who won that fight! We enjoyed a wander around whilst consuming some delicious fish and chips and finally acquired a new pair of indoor football boots for the upcoming competition (I only bought along one pair of shoes).



