

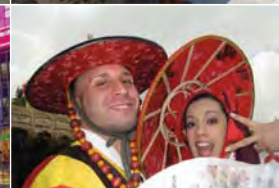
AmeriSpan

Every Language, Everywhere Language Immersion Programs



AmeriSpan Study Abroad
The Bridge Between Cultures

	Spanish
	Arabic
	Chinese
	French
	German
	Greek
	Italian
	Japanese
	Korean
	Polish
	Portuguese
	Russian
	Thai



SPAIN • LATIN AMERICA • EUROPE • AFRICA • MIDDLE EAST • AUSTRALIA • ASIA • NORTH AMERICA
Over 35,000 past participants • All language levels accepted • All ages accepted
Programs start weekly • Easy to book online • More than 100 program locations
Private or small group classes • Pre-departure assistance • All major credit cards accepted

www.amerispan.com

Map of AmeriSpan's Language Program Destinations



SPANISH	ARABIC	JAPANESE
① Spain 8	⑱ Egypt 52	③⑩ Japan 80
② Argentina 18	⑲ Jordan 53	KOREAN
③ Bolivia 21	⑳ Morocco 54	③① Korea 82
④ Chile 22	CHINESE	POLISH
⑤ Colombia 24	⑳ China 57	③② Poland 83
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Who is AmeriSpan?

AmeriSpan specializes in a wide range of educational travel experiences. We offer language immersion, college study abroad, volunteer & internship placements, teenager summer programs, as well as language-based professional development programs for educators, healthcare workers, business and other professionals.

AmeriSpan started in 1993 in a small apartment with only one phone line and one computer. Since 1993, AmeriSpan has grown tremendously sending more than 35,000 people abroad to participate in our programs. We are constantly working to improve our existing programs, add new programs and help you select a program that best fits your needs.

All of our programs are designed around the basic purpose of helping you understand and communicate in another language with different people in a pleasant and fast way. Our 'formula' for accomplishing this consists of three ingredients for your success: Intensive language instruction, cultural immersion and leisure. Many programs such as our volunteer/internship and SALUD programs include a service-learning component as well. With AmeriSpan, you have the opportunity of choosing between different countries, target languages, housing, lifestyles and methods of instruction from our various programs.





INTRODUCTION

WHY AMERISPAN?

Combined Travel and Linguistic Knowledge

AmeriSpan's staff has three passions: language, culture and travel. Individually and as a group, we have accumulated experiences and knowledge related to these passions. We have traveled to more than 65 countries—every continent except Antarctica—and speak 10 languages. We are happy to share this enormous amount of relevant knowledge with you.

Study Abroad Veterans

Every AmeriSpan staff member has studied and/or lived abroad for extended periods of time. We understand your questions and concerns because we have personally dealt with the same issues. We have gone to great lengths to make it easier for you than it was for us. After enrolling in a program, you will receive a copy of the "Need-To-Know" fact sheets on the country or countries that you will be visiting. These fact sheets include information about entry requirements, climate, health and many other "Need-To-Know" things. If you still have questions, we'll be happy to answer them.

Unbiased Language Travel Specialists

We are neither a language school nor a travel agent—we're a hybrid of the two, a language travel organization. AmeriSpan has evaluated hundreds of schools, host families and destinations to determine which programs to offer. Our independence allows us to give you unbiased evaluations of the programs. We do not just list what is included—rather, we clearly state our opinions. Each program description contains a program review that describes "what we like" and "what we don't like" about the program.

No Headaches, No Hassles

Aside from assisting you with which program to choose, we work hard to make the whole process as simple as possible. AmeriSpan pre-arranges your school, lodging, airport pick-up and other services. With AmeriSpan, you will not have to worry about international wire transfers, international phone calls or dozens of other possible complications with arrangements and money. We accept personal checks, Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. AmeriSpan accepts applications by mail, by fax or online.

Latin America & Spain Experts

Prior to 1999, AmeriSpan specialized in offering Spanish programs in Latin America and Spain. Our staff has repeatedly traveled to every Spanish-speaking nation in the world (20 different countries) to personally evaluate hundreds of language schools and host families. As a result of this emphasis, our staff has an enormous amount of first-hand knowledge about the Spanish-speaking world.

Emergency Message Service

During an emergency if your family can't contact you, they may call us 24 hours/day, dictate the message and we will relay the message to you. Conversely, if you cannot reach your family and it is an emergency, call us collect from anywhere and we will relay the message.

Making a Difference

Since the beginning, AmeriSpan has been active in "making a difference." Over the years, we have participated in numerous projects including rainforest preservation, literacy projects in Hispanic communities and aiding Latin American health-related organizations.

WHY IMMERSION?

Learning another language is more than memorizing vocabulary and grammatical structure; it's embracing an element which binds together a people ... a way of life ... a culture. You cannot learn these aspects from a book; experience is your only teacher. By totally immersing yourself, you will speed up your comprehension and usage of your target language because you will be living the language. Here are some other reasons to consider total immersion:

- **Fewer Distractions & Better Concentration** – By leaving responsibilities such as job and family at home, you can focus more easily on studying the language.
- **Recreation & Relaxation** – Whether your interests lie in food, art, architecture, history, beaches, outdoor activities or something else, you can find an immersion program that will allow you to pursue those interests while you participate.
- **Around-The-Clock Classroom** – Learning extends beyond the class hours because you are surrounded by the classroom. You will constantly be reading, speaking and listening to the foreign language whether eating a meal, shopping, or asking for directions.
- **Increasingly Required By Employers** – Many employers and advanced degree programs require foreign language and international experience.
- **Better Value Than US-based Private Institutions** – Many immersion programs, especially those in Latin America, cost the same or less than US-based classes even after paying for airfare, lodging and meals.

FINDING THE RIGHT PROGRAM

At AmeriSpan, our mission is to assist you in planning and creating a successful language travel trip. Our students range in age from 5 to 80 years old. Everyone seems to have a different reason for going, such as business, adventure, pleasure, or culture. However, people have this goal in common: to gain foreign language skills and international experience. When deciding on a language travel program, you should ask yourself two questions: What type of atmosphere do I want? How long can I study?

Atmosphere

AmeriSpan believes that atmosphere is the key ingredient in the overall learning recipe. If you are comfortable where you are studying, then you will learn. What do you desire? Big cities, small colonial towns, large families, families with no children, private rooms, apartments, dorms, particular food, nature, beaches, ruins, night-life or quiet? AmeriSpan has options in many different cities and countries to insure that you can find the perfect setting to learn and enjoy.

How Long

The golden rule is to stay as many weeks as possible, but not to study too many hours per day. Generally, beginning students can expect to develop moderate fluency in 2-4 months, depending on many factors, including atmosphere, method of instruction, homestay versus hotel, previous preparation in the foreign language, experience with a second language and motivation. Most people learn faster studying 4-6 hours per day versus 8 hours per day because their brains stay fresh. If your brain gets tired, you are going to get confused. Many 8 hr/day students acquaint themselves with many aspects of the language, but never really learn much. If you need to learn fast and only have a few weeks, look for programs that use a variety of teaching techniques. AmeriSpan's Executive Intensive Business/Professional Programs were specially designed to use a variety of techniques to keep the process fresh.



LODGING & MEALS

Most AmeriSpan programs include at least one type of lodging. They usually include meals and are intended for various age groups. For those interested in arranging their own lodging, we do offer classes only and may be able to offer a few hotel recommendations. Below are descriptions of the three types of lodging available at our different programs:

Host Family (some meals)

Nearly all AmeriSpan programs offer you the opportunity to live with a local host family. The families are screened and selected by the AmeriSpan partner school. In addition to receiving room and board, many students form friendships that can last a lifetime. Living with a family provides complete immersion, gives you the opportunity to practice what you've learned and gives you a firsthand look at a different culture.

According to our past participants, the homestay is either the best or worst part of the trip. The difference is in the expectations of our students. The students who have realistic expectations almost always believe the homestay was the best part of the trip. Those who have unrealistic expectations can be disappointed. Remember many of you are coming from one of the richer countries in the world. Few homestays will be equal to the comforts that you may take for granted.

Apartment or Residence (no meals)

At many programs, you have the option of staying at an apartment/school residence shared by other participants. Apartments/school residences vary by location, but generally, have a kitchen, a common room and a washing machine. Normally, your bedroom is shared but may be upgraded to a private bedroom for an extra charge. Most or all of your housemates will be attending the same language program as you. No meals are included and bathrooms are shared with your housemates.

Dorm (some meals)

AmeriSpan can arrange lodging at a dorm if listed as an option in our materials. Mainly in Europe, we offer the option of staying in a dorm shared with participants attending your program and/or local students attending universities. Dorms vary by location, but generally have a cafeteria where some meals are served and some common areas. In addition, many dorms are single sex and have rules regarding visitation, noise, etc. Normally, your bedroom is shared but may be upgraded to a private bedroom for an extra charge. Some meals are included with this option.



FAMILIES, CHILDREN & CHILDCARE

Most AmeriSpan programs are open to families even if some members will not be studying. Group instruction is usually open to children 14 or older. Younger children can be instructed by private tutors. In most cases, AmeriSpan can arrange childcare with your host family, nannies, or at local daycare centers. Some programs offer special developmental childcare programs during the summer months. For teens traveling independently, we offer a number of Teen Programs. Find them on the web at: www.amerispan.com/teenager_programs_abroad/

HAND-PICKED SCHOOLS

AmeriSpan staff has visited hundreds of language schools throughout the world and we have hand-picked the schools which we think are the best available for each location. The programs AmeriSpan offers are the ones we would choose to attend ourselves. In some locations we offer two classes of schools:

1st Choice and Budget-Friendly. When evaluating schools, these are the things we are continuously reviewing:

- Teaching Methodology
- Types of courses offered ✓
- Accreditations and Memberships ✓
- Quality of lodging options ✓
- Homestay Interaction
- Extra Activities & Excursions ✓
- School Location ✓
- Personal Attention
- Extra Services Offered ✓
- Teacher training & experience
- Maximum class size ✓
- School Atmosphere
- Range of lodging options ✓
- Past Student Feedback
- School Facilities ✓
- School Administration
- Unique Aspects of the Program ✓
- Program's Overall Value

✓ denotes areas that we may de-emphasize in order to find a program that is Budget-Friendly. AmeriSpan offers Budget-Friendly programs in Spain, China and Italy and may add additional locations in the future.

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL TYPES

In addition to 1st Choice and Budget-Friendly schools, we offer University Choice or Fun Choice options in some locations. University Choice indicates that you are taking your language at a foreign university as opposed to a private language institute while Fun Choice denotes that we offer this school because of its language and fun programs.





FINANCIAL AID

Many participants have been able to obtain financial aid and loans for AmeriSpan programs. We have a list of different resources for this on our website at www.amerispan.com/financial_aid/

ACADEMIC CREDIT

If you wish to receive credit for AmeriSpan programs, you have several options:

Your Local University

Many times you can obtain credit for participation in an AmeriSpan program from your local university. This usually involves meeting with faculty from your Study Abroad or Foreign Language department. Sometimes your faculty will request a course syllabus or other information. Just let us know what information you need and we will be happy to assist you. Many of AmeriSpan's partner schools have agreements with colleges and universities, whereby participants can earn academic credit for their language study.

Credit Through Brookhaven College

Receive transferable credit from Brookhaven College, a fully-accredited, comprehensive community college. Students may earn up to 17 credits for language levels: Beginner 1 & 2, Intermediate 1 & 2, and Advanced Spanish Conversation. AmeriSpan offers Brookhaven approved programs in:

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| • Argentina | • Bolivia | • Brazil | • Canada |
| • China | • Costa Rica | • Ecuador | • Egypt |
| • France | • Germany | • Guatemala | • Italy |
| • Japan | • Jordan | • Mexico | • Morocco |
| • Peru | • Portugal | • Russia | • Spain |

Important: To receive credit, students must complete the corresponding number of weeks assuming a minimum of 20 contact hours per week. To receive credit for programs offering less than 20 contact hours per week, you will need to study for longer. The Brookhaven course fees are separate from the AmeriSpan tuition fees for the above-mentioned locations.

Important Notes About Academic Credit:

- It is very important to check with your school to verify that they will accept credit transferred from one of the above institutions.
- It is very important to inform AmeriSpan prior to departing and the language school upon arrival that you seek academic credit.

Transfer Credit from a Foreign University

If you choose a study abroad program at a foreign universities, you will receive an official transcript. All foreign universities that AmeriSpan works with are accredited, and we haven't encountered problems with US universities accepting transfer credit. AmeriSpan works with foreign universities primarily for our College Study Abroad programs but we do offer several language programs at foreign universities. If a language program is offered at a foreign university it is denoted by "University Choice".

CLEP Exams

The College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP) gives you the opportunity to receive college credit for what you already know by earning qualifying scores on any of 34 examinations. Depending on your college's CLEP policy, a satisfactory score on a CLEP exam can earn you from 3 to 12 college credits. The best part is the cost of an exam is less than \$100!

SCHOLARSHIPS

AmeriSpan students are eligible for study abroad scholarships including Benjamin A. Gilman, David L. Boren and Rotary Ambassadorial scholarships. In addition, we offer a variety of AmeriSpan scholarships for our participants attending affiliated universities or for those in financial need. For more information visit: www.amerispan.com/scholarships.



ADDITIONAL TYPES OF PROGRAMS

In addition to the language programs listed in this catalog, AmeriSpan offers a wide variety of additional educational travel programs. AmeriSpan's website has complete information on all of these programs. We have additional printed information, available by request. Below is a summary of AmeriSpan's programs not included in this catalog:

Teen Study Abroad

- **Summer Camp, Junior Immersion, and Independent Teen** programs for 13-18 year olds.

Volunteer & Internship Programs

- **Volunteer or Intern around the world.** Choose from full-time volunteer, part-time volunteer, volunteer only, or an internship abroad.

Professional Development

- **Business & Professional programs:** Specialized language programs for business and a variety of professions.
- **Programs for Teachers & Educators:** Programs are either for all educators, or for foreign language teachers.
- **SALUD Medical Spanish & Portuguese programs:** Our most popular professional program! SALUD programs are available to people studying or practicing in health-related fields who would like to learn specialized Spanish or Portuguese.

College Study Abroad

- **Summer, semester, or year abroad:** We have partnered with the best foreign universities to offer these programs. Eligible for academic credit, financial aid, and scholarships.

Language & Fun

- **Language classes paired with something fun:** Food & Wine, Art, Explore the Culture, Dance, Sports, Golden Age for 50+, and more!

For more information on all of our programs, go to www.amerispan.com, or request a catalog by filling out the form on the inside back cover of this catalog.



GROUP IMMERSION TRIPS

What are the benefits of traveling as a group?

When traveling as a group, you are able to create a unique travel experience for participants. Leaders can expose students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience a new city and culture. AmeriSpan will be here from day one to make the process as easy as possible for you. We provide comprehensive leader support, acting as your partner throughout the planning process. AmeriSpan's Group Programs allow for great flexibility, giving you the opportunity to find the right combination of classes and activities for your group.

Customizable: You can personalize your itinerary and activities to fit your groups' schedule and interests.

Flexibility: Choose an existing AmeriSpan program, a ready-made group program, add or subtract from an itinerary, or design your own from scratch. Pick and choose what works best for your group.

The Complete Package: Enjoy pre-planned excursions, after-school activities, classes and lodging designed for the needs of your group. We can even arrange your airfare!

Ease: Leader support makes it easy for you to plan your trip. You come up with the idea; we do the work!

Affordability: Get more for less! We understand that international travel can be expensive. When registering as a group, we are able to offer you more services than our individual programs for a similar cost.

Service learning: Volunteer. Share your skills and make a difference. For the 1st time, AmeriSpan is including after-school volunteering in ready made programs. Experience, learn and grow together.

Why lead a group?

Whether small or large, each group with at least 5 students is eligible to receive group incentives. Incentives vary by program type and number of participants.

10% Discount - Any group of 5 or more participants is eligible to receive 10% off the program cost when choosing an existing AmeriSpan program. This includes Language Immersion, SALUD Medical Immersion, Programs for Educators, Teen Study Abroad, Business and Professional Programs, and Language & Fun Programs.

Free Leader - AmeriSpan offers 1 FREE program for every 8 paying participants, including airfare. This discount can be applied to any Ready Made Program or Custom Group Program.

SALUD Mini Group - If a group of 3 or more students plan to participate in an established SALUD Medical Immersion program, each will receive a 10% discount.

Group programs can be arranged at any AmeriSpan location, so consider your group when deciding where to go. There are lots of things to consider when planning for a group. Most importantly take into account who the participants are and what will make them feel comfortable. If your participants feel at ease and enjoy their surroundings, your life as a group leader will be much easier. Consider interests, goals and concerns, weather and time of year, available activities, safety, and travel costs.

How do I build a group?

The key is to start early. Decide where you want to go, what you want to do and when. AmeriSpan will calculate the cost and give you a group itinerary. Then it is up to you to get the word out at school, church, family reunions, soccer games or anywhere where you think people will be interested. Upon request, AmeriSpan will list your group on our website so people around the country can join your group as well.

Why should I choose AmeriSpan to organize my group?

AmeriSpan provides comprehensive leader support, acting as your partner throughout the planning process. From day one, we are involved in every step of the way. AmeriSpan's group programs allow for great flexibility, giving you the opportunity to customize the program any way you wish. Each group will receive a detailed schedule of classes and activities. AmeriSpan will work with leaders to choose the most convenient payment plan for their group. That's the AmeriSpan Advantage.

8 MONTHS

- Choose dates & location –
- Outline objectives
- Get permission

7 MONTHS

- Get quote & sample schedule –
- Call AmeriSpan
- Review & revise schedule –

6 MONTHS

- Hold participant and/or parent's meeting –
- Start marketing
- Collect applications

5 MONTHS

- Send in applications –
- Receive initial confirmation
- Hand out confirmations –

4 MONTHS

- Meet with participants and/or parents –

3 MONTHS

- Send in final payment –
- Receive final confirmation & schedule

2 MONTHS

- Give out homestay & school info –

1 MONTH

- Hold final meeting

0 MONTHS

- Enjoy your program! –

SPAIN



From its dazzling beaches to its ancient castles, Spain is a country as diverse as the cultures which have influenced its art, architecture, music and lifestyle. It is a land where cathedrals and castles are interspersed with skyscrapers, where modern rock mixes with flamenco guitar and night clubs compete with cozy “tapas” bars. Spain offers some of the world’s most famous museums, resorts and festivals, making it a unique and enchanting destination.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Figueras** – The birthplace of the famous surrealist painter, Salvador Dali. Fans of this painter should not miss the Teatre-Museu Dali, a theater and museum.
- **Girona** – An important port city with a mix of ethnic influences. Home to many intellectuals and artists.
- **Montserrat** – Located 1 hr. from Barcelona, this town is home to an important monastery and rock formations at St. Jeronim.
- **The Alpujarra** – A town that hugs a Sierra Nevada mountain. Famous for its white adobe architecture.
- **Nerja** – Famous for its pristine beaches and caves.
- **The Alhambra** – One of the wonders of the world, this fascinating Moorish palace is located in Granada.
- **Morocco** – Just 2 hours from Spain across the straits of Gibraltar, this Islamic country provides an exciting taste of exotic foods and markets and an interesting contrast to the European culture of Spain.
- **Avila** – A walled city with strong Medieval ambience.
- **Segovia** – Home to an ancient Roman aqueduct, several churches as well as an interesting castle.



SPAIN



Barcelona

Barcelona, a city of 2 million, is literally bursting with art and culture. The colorful and intricate architecture created by the world famous Gaudi, the Gothic Neighborhood and the pedestrian street "Las Ramblas" make this city a traveler and art lover's paradise. Known as Spain's second capital and host of the 1992 summer Olympics, Barcelona is a modern metropolis and cultural mecca. Located on the Mediterranean coast with mountains rising up behind it, Barcelona is the gateway from Spain to the rest of Europe. Both beach and ski resorts are within easy access. **We offer two options for Barcelona, 1st Choice and a Budget-Friendly option.**

1st Choice School Facilities:

Our 1st Choice school in Barcelona occupies the 3 lower floors of a modern in the heart of Barcelona's vibrant, central L'Eixample District, home to Gaudi's Sagrada Familia cathedral. The school has 55 bright and airy classrooms. The school also offers common areas, including a large interior patio, which looks out through a glass wall onto the school's expansive private garden, complete with trees and terrace. The central interior patio offers comfortable seating and more than 20 computer terminals, making it a great stop for easy and free internet access at our terminals or linking up your own laptop to the school's free Wi-Fi. The patio is a popular spot to relax between classes while enjoying a drink or snack from the vending machines stationed throughout the school. With direct connection from the school to 8 main public buses lines, and a metro station less than 5 minutes from our entrance, getting around Barcelona is easy.

Budget-Friendly School Facilities:

Newly renovated building with 54 classrooms, various terraces, cafeteria, 25 computers for students to use, library and video room. The building is wheelchair accessible and equipped with air conditioning. The school is very centrally located; close to the University (Universitat), only a 10-minute walk from the Plaza de Catalunya. It is 25-minute bus ride to a swimming beach and 1.5 hours to the ski slope La Molina. Capacity is 500 students/day.



What We Like:

- Laundry service
- Choice of homestay, dorm or apartment
- School organizes activities & culture lessons
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Proximity to beaches & ski areas
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Shared room (private room is extra)
- There are two official languages spoken:
 - Castilian (regular Spanish)
 - Catalan (nothing like regular Spanish)

Barcelona Courses offered:

- ✓ Group Classes (max 8/10)*
- ✓ Private Classes
- ✓ Professional Spanish
- Medical Spanish
- ✓ Educator Spanish
- ✓ Spanish & Fun

*1st Choice: max 8; Budget-Friendly: max 10

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, United States and Japan.
Wide age range.



Combine Several Cities in Spain

With 14 destinations in Spain to study, it may be hard to choose just one location. Why not choose to combine several cities to get to know Spain's diversity?



AmeriSpan offers a wide range of Spanish programs including: Andalucia, where you can see ruins left by the Moors; the Costa del Sol, where you can enjoy fabulous beaches; smaller cities like Salamanca and Pamplona, which are easy to get to know; and cosmopolitan cities like Madrid and Barcelona with great nightlife, shopping, museums and food. By combining cities, you'll be able to sample various types of cuisine and wine, as well as truly get to know the complexity of Spain, its culture and its many regions.

SPAIN



Alicante Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Alicante School Facilities:

Located on the splendid Explanada, in front of the Marina, this beautifully refurbished 2 story building holds 6 bright classrooms, an Internet area with 6 computers for students use and a reception/common room area.

Participants:

Mostly Europeans, some North Americans.
Half are between 20 and 25 years old.



Alicante

Alicante is the heart of the Costa Blanca, a good-sized town of about 300,000 inhabitants. Gateway to the fabulous and famous wide sandy beaches of the Spanish Mediterranean coast, this city offers the visitor both tranquility and style. The Castillo de Santa Barbara, perched on a hill overlooking the city and the sea makes for a great picture! Alicante's center is remarkably contained and after a short walk you can reach the various sections. The Old Quarter in front of the Cathedral has narrow winding streets and is where you can find lots of active nightlife. There is excellent shopping on wide, tree-lined avenues, and you can stroll along the Explanada, the promenade along the Marina, and have a drink at one of the many terraces that line the promenade. This, combined with the pleasant climate, many festivals, interesting villages and Roman ruins nearby, makes for a destination where you will never get bored!

What We Like:

- Choice of homestay or apartment
- Daily organized activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to great beaches
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Many tourists in Alicante



Cadiz Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Cadiz School Facilities:

The school is located in a restored 3 story building in the old part of Cadiz, close to lively squares, cafes, cultural monuments, libraries, shops, universities, and the beach. School facilities include 7 classrooms, a computer room (the entire school is WIFI enabled), library, video & audio library, kitchen & an extensive terrace to enjoy the marvelous climate.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, USA & Asia. Wide age range.

Cadiz

Cadiz is the most ancient city still standing in Western Europe, with records suggesting that the city was occupied more than 3,000 years ago. It stands on a peninsula jutting out into a bay and is almost entirely surrounded by water. This surprisingly laid-back town with an easy-going atmosphere offers great beaches, sweeping views of the sea and long, palm-lined promenades that complement the lively bars, fantastic museums, bustling commercial activity and beautiful Cathedrals typical of any prized European city. Cadiz looks quite Moorish in appearance and is intriguing with narrow cobbled streets opening onto small squares. Cadiz is also known for its famously wild Carnival celebrations. It has become the liveliest and most dazzling carnival town in mainland Spain, famous for its amusing and creative figurines and satirical song groups.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Beautiful colonial city
- Proximity to beaches
- Walking distance to school
- Intercambio program

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Extra charge for studying July – Sept



Denia

Denia is an enchanting and friendly town situated on the Mediterranean coast between the cities of Alicante and Valencia. Among the many benefits of this area we would like to highlight the 322 sunny days a year and an average temperature of 18°C or 65°F. The town has a resident population of approximately 44,000 inhabitants. Although during the summer months many more people, of all nationalities, come to enjoy this sunny area. The city has 20 kilometres of coast. To the north, fine sandy beaches; to the south rocky, precipitous beaches, such as Las Rotas Beach, which has a great many small coves and areas of great beauty. Denia has been ruled by the Moors, Romans, Carthaginians and Iberians. Various examples of architecture have been left, the best of which is the magnificent castle overlooking the town.



Denia Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Denia School Facilities:

The school is situated in the center of the town, very near the bus station, shops cafes and bars. It is a ten minute walk to the port and only 20 minutes to the beach. The 7 classrooms are well-equipped, modern, fully heated and air-conditioned, each containing a TV and DVD/CD player. There is a terrace, a coffee area, a library and students also have access to the multimedia room with 15 computers and free Internet.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, 40% from Germany & 40% from UK.

What We Like:

- Proximity to beach
- Good weather year-round
- Choice of homestay or apartment

What We Don't Like:

- 45-minute sessions, less than most programs
- Usually, 1 hour commute from nearest airports
- Can get hot during the summer months

Granada

This Andalusian city of 260,000 inhabitants is situated in southern Spain among the snow-covered mountains of the Sierra Nevada, the desert landscape of Tabernes and the beautiful beaches of the Costa del Sol. It is also the 3rd largest university city and exudes a lively atmosphere, from Flamenco in the streets to year-round cultural programs in music, dance, theater and cinema. The Alhambra is here, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The city's southern-style Spanish architecture is as heavily influenced by the Moors as its way of life is influenced by Andalusian Flamenco and dance traditions.



What We Like:

- School organizes activities & culture lessons
- Diverse mix of students
- Choice of homestay, dorm or apartment
- Proximity to beaches & ski areas
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Shared room (private room is extra)
- More than one student per family



Granada Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Granada School Facilities:

Located in a quiet area in the city center, just a stone's throw from the cathedral & within walking distance of the Alhambra, our school in Granada occupies a 5 story, air-conditioned building. The school is light & airy, with lots of windows & balconies overlooking the street. The atmosphere at the school is intimate & relaxed with a recreational area to watch TV, read newspapers & drink coffee.

Participants:

Mixed European, Asian & USA. Half are university age, most others 25-35.

SPAIN

Madrid

Madrid Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8/10)* ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Spanish ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish ☒ Spanish & Fun

*1st Choice: max 8; Budget-Friendly: max 10

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, United States and Japan.
Wide age range. English is also taught to locals at this school.



University Choice Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 20) ☐ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish ☐ Spanish & Fun

Participants:

Mostly North American, but also a high percentage of European, Asian and Brazilian.

The famed capital of Spain is a cosmopolitan city of unequalled culture and nightlife. With everything from world famous museums to high fashion shopping, one never runs out of things to do in Madrid. Conveniently located at a maximum of 5 hours by train or bus to any other city in Spain, its central location makes it an ideal home base for language travelers.

We offer three options for Madrid, 1st Choice, Budget-Friendly, and a University Choice option.

1st Choice School Facilities:

Our 1st Choice school is located in the heart of Madrid, close to the famous Gran Via, Alcala and Cibeles, so it is easy to get to and from any other part of the city. The school has an administration office, computer room, a staff room, 13 large classrooms, three smaller classrooms for individual classes all with air-conditioning. In addition, there is a recreational area to relax with television, newspapers and coffee.

Budget-Friendly School Facilities:

Completely refurbished 110-year-old building in the city center, near Plaza Glorieta de Juiz. three floors, 32 classrooms, coffee bar, library, computer room and a common room shared with Spanish university students. Capacity is 500 students/day.

What We Like:

- Laundry service
- Choice of homestay, dorm or apartment
- School organizes activities
- Convenient base for travel in Spain
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Spaniards study English here
- Intercambio program
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Shared room (private room is extra)



University Choice School Facilities:

The campus is about 20 minutes from downtown, in a nice neighborhood called Dehesa de la Villa. It is a 10-minute walk to the metro and buses pass regularly. There are both large and small classrooms, equipped with computers for students to use. Study abroad students also have access to the computer room, library and cafeteria, which serves breakfast, lunch and snacks.



What We Like:

- Laundry service
- University transcript: Easy credit transfer
- School organizes some activities
- One-day excursions included
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Convenient base for travel in Spain
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Higher prices than non-University Choice programs in Madrid



Herradura

La Herradura is a quiet and small village situated in a beautiful bay, 80 km east of Malaga. This former fishing hamlet now offers facilities and services for visitors without having lost any of its charm and friendly atmosphere. This part of Spain's long coast line is mostly popular with Spanish holiday-goers who seek mountains dotted with white-washed traditional villages and long stretches of quiet beaches where one can practice many aquatic sports such as sailing, scuba diving, paragliding and hiking and rock climbing in the mountains year-round.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- School organizes activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Not many tourists in Herradura
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention

What We Don't Like:

- Rural setting, 2 hours from nearest airport
- Gets hot in summer

"Spain is a wonderful country for immersion. I highly recommend it. The people are friendly and there is so much to see."

- Mary J., Nurse



Herradura Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Herradura School Facilities:

The school is located in a new building 5 minutes from the center of the village. There are 4 comfortable classrooms, a recreation room with a library and computers with free Internet access. There is a terrace right on the beach with benches where students can relax and enjoy the lovely sea view. The school has central heat & air, and is handicap accessible.

Participants:

Mostly Europeans, some North Americans. Wide age range.

Malaga

Malaga is a vibrant city located on the Costa del Sol coast with a real southern port atmosphere and a burgeoning cultural scene that offers extremely pleasant and stable weather throughout the year. It is the capital of Andalucia and the second largest city in the region. It is a city of sea and sand together with important heritage, monuments and museums. Pablo Picasso was born in Malaga and his most famous works can now be seen where it all began in the newly inaugurated Picasso Museum. Filled with narrow and winding cobblestone streets and magnificent plazas, Malaga is also known for its fine food, especially its excellent seafood.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- School organizes some activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Many English-speakers in Malaga



Malaga Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Malaga School Facilities:

Located in the fashionable Pedregalejo neighborhood & two min from the beach, our school is housed in a beautiful Andalusian mansion. The school has a swimming pool & is surrounded by a garden filled with fruit trees. There are 7 indoor and 2 outdoor classrooms, as well as kitchen/activities area, Internet access for students & a multi-media room. Capacity is 180 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, US & Japan. Wide age range.



Marbella

Known as the jewel of the Costa del Sol, this coastal resort town is located about an hour south of Malaga. The small curvy streets and white washed colonial style buildings make Marbella a picturesque vacation spot. One finds many boutiques, restaurants and bars in town as well as along the beach.



Marbella Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Marbella School Facilities:

Building located right in the center of town, only a 5-minute walk to the beach. Includes: 14 classrooms, one computer lab, A/C and a large terrace rooftop. Capacity is 70 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, Brazil, Japan & US.

What We Like:

- Laundry service
- Choice of homestay, dorm or apartment
- School organizes activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Many international tourists



Pamplona Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Pamplona School Facilities:

Classes are held in 2 different buildings in Pamplona. One is located in a converted factory with 5 classrooms, a common area & a resource center with library, films and multimedia resources. The 2nd location is in a historical building near the center of town & has 7 classrooms, resource center, auditorium, a cafe & restaurant.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe & US. All ages.

Pamplona

Located in the Northern part of Spain about 60 miles from San Sebastian, Pamplona has a population of about 200,000. The city sits at an altitude of 1,457 feet above sea level on a hill that overlooks the Arga River and the surrounding valley. The city is famous for the San Fermin Festival each July, in which the "The Running of the Bulls" or encierro is one of the main attractions. During the rest of the year, the city has a relaxed, laid back feel. With its tree-lined paseos and its cobble-stoned streets in the old city, Pamplona is a nice place to study Spanish.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Many tourists from July 6th-15th



Salamanca

Known as "La Dorada," or Golden City, for the glow of its sandstone buildings. It is one of the 5 Spanish cities declared by UNESCO as a "Mankind Heritage" site. The world's second oldest university is here, boasting a student population of 30,000 (5,000 of whom are foreigners) that provides a lively atmosphere and nightlife. Enjoy concerts, lectures and theater, or congregate in the famous Plaza Mayor.

We offer two options for Salamanca, 1st Choice and a Budget-Friendly option.

1st Choice School Facilities:

Our 1st Choice school in Salamanca is located in the heart of the old city, one block from the University of Salamanca and a short walk to Plaza Mayor. The school is a recently restored 16th Century monastery. A beautiful courtyard and garden divide the school into three parts: the offices, the cafeteria and the classrooms. The main building has three floors, 17 classrooms, a recreation area and a library.



Budget-Friendly School Facilities:

Large, historical, renovated building. It hosted the "College of Medicine" until the 16th Century. 30+ classrooms, renaissance patio, garden, cafeteria, lecture room, computer room with Internet access. 5 minute walk to Plaza Mayor. Capacity is 250 students/day (more during summer).



What We Like:

- Laundry service
- Choice of homestay, dorm or apartment
- School organizes activities
- Diverse mix of students
- Walking distance to school
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Lively city during day & night
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Many foreigners during the summer
- More than one student per family

"Salamanca is centrally located and accessible to other parts of the country. I've recommended AmeriSpan to several people already."

- Robert S., Teacher



Salamanca Courses offered:

- ✓ Group Classes (max 8/10)*
- ✓ Private Classes
- ✓ Professional Spanish
- ✓ Medical Spanish
- ✓ Educator Spanish
- ✓ Spanish & Fun

*1st Choice: max 8; Budget-Friendly: max 10

Participants:

Mostly from Northern Europe & North America.
Wide age range, average age 26.



Spanish and Fun, Fun, Fun!

Our programs in Spain offer so much more than just Spanish classes. You can combine Spanish classes with just about anything such as Flamenco dancing, surfing, sailing, windsurfing, scuba diving, wine tasting, Spanish cooking, medical programs, business programs, travel programs and so much more.

SPAIN



San Sebastian Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

San Sebastian School Facilities:

The school is located in the center of San Sebastian in a brand new building with seven well-equipped classrooms and a Computer-Lounge, in Gros, a trendy and lively district, close to the Zurriola surfers' beach, 10 minutes from the old part of the town. Capacity is 56 students.

Participants:

Mainly from Italy, Germany & UK. Wide age range, average age 20-35. English & German taught to locals here.

San Sebastian

Northern Spain's Pais Vasco celebrates its distinct culture, varied landscape and specialty cuisines. San Sebastian (pop. 180,000), the region's capital, is perched on the glittering shores of Cantabrian Sea and at the base Pyrenees Mountains. It boasts tree-lined boulevards, magnificent architecture, chic restaurants, boutiques and spectacular beaches. Despite the array of upscale dining and shopping, the city's atmosphere is relaxed and friendly-visitors and locals mix in the hangouts throughout town. Annually hosted are two special events: a Jazz Festival that is one of the best in Europe and an International Film Festival, deemed one of the four most important in the world.

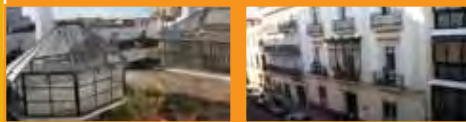


What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- School organizes some activities
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Intercambio program

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Usually more than one student per family
- Extra charge for studying July – August
- Two languages are spoken in this region: Castilian by 100% & Basque by 25%



Sevilla Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Sevilla School Facilities:

Located in a renovated typical Andalusian building with impressive views across to the Giralda and the river in the heart of the Old Town, "Barrio Santa Cruz". The stunning architecture greets you with modern facilities including Wi-Fi access throughout, a reception area, 18 air-conditioned classrooms, a roof deck, library, a meeting room and a multimedia classroom. When class lets out, you can enjoy the area's historic winding streets – just a stone's throw from the Cathedral and Alcazar. Capacity is 180 students/day.

Participants:

From USA, Germany, Brazil, France, Eastern Europeans, Italians, Africans, Asians, etc. The majority are university students (30%), adults (25%), professionals & executives (15%).

Sevilla

This city is the capital of Andalusia with a population of about 700,000. The historical influence of the Moors is still present in old Sevillian architecture today. This is especially evident in the cathedral that is one of the most spectacular in all of Spain. The famous customs and traditions of bullfighting and flamenco help make Sevilla an exciting and spectacular city for the language traveler.



What We Like:

- Laundry service
- Spanish cultural classes
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- More than one student per family
- Many foreigners during the summer



Tenerife

Tenerife, a Spanish island, is the largest of the 7 Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Africa. Tenerife is the most populated island in the archipelago. The capital city, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, is as well as the second biggest city in the archipelago, the capital of the island and seat of the island government. Puerto de la Cruz is the second largest tourist city on the island with accommodation for around 30,000 tourists. In contrast with the modern resorts of the south, El Puerto has had a great tradition as a place of relaxation since the end of the last century when the spa, which today is the Hotel Casino Tauro, was built. The accommodation offered in Puerto de la Cruz is also different from most of the other places in the islands since hotels predominate over apartments.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Usually a 30-min bus ride to school
- Many tourists in Tenerife



Tenerife Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Tenerife School Facilities:

Located in Puerto de la Cruz, the second largest city of the island of Tenerife the school is housed in a traditional building located within walking distance to the beach. It has 7 classrooms, a patio, a terrace, teacher's room, reception and a common area where books and videos are available. A casual environment with a capacity of 130 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly Germans and Scandinavians.
Average ages are 25-35.

Valencia

Valencia, the third largest city of Spain, is on the Mediterranean coast and boasts nice weather throughout the year. During its 2000-year history, Valencia has been occupied by Rome, the Visigoths, the Moors and the Spanish Kings. The old city center reflects this history with captivating ruins from all the eras. Although Barcelona and Madrid tend to get most of the attention, Valencia has invested heavily in developing the city. There are museums, fabulous beaches and lively nightlife. There are not many tourists, so while enjoying all benefits of a big, historic city on the Mediterranean coast, you are sure to be completely immersed in the Spanish way of life!



What We Like:

- Choice of homestay, dorm or apartment
- Proximity to beaches
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Can get hot in summer
- More than one student per family



Valencia Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Valencia School Facilities:

The school is located in front of the main University, 10 minutes by public transport from the beach and 10 minutes from the historic center of Valencia. The building is recently renovated and the 24 classrooms are equipped with air conditioning and central heat. There is a small cafeteria and spacious common area, a computer lab with free Internet access, a library and video room for students use. Capacity is around 200 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe & North America.

ARGENTINA



Argentina is the 2nd largest country in South America and borders Chile, Brazil, Uruguay, Bolivia and Paraguay. With an enormously varied climate, travelers can visit sub-Antarctic rainforests, tropical jungles, mountains, beaches, desert red canyons and awesome waterfalls. The bus system is one of the best in the world, offering movies, meals and comfortable service to all areas. The population mix, as in Chile and Uruguay, is very different from the rest of Latin America because the population is almost all European. Most of the indigenous people were wiped out in wars during the 19th century.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Montevideo & Uruguay's Beaches** – Only 3 hours away from Buenos Aires is Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay. Farther north are Uruguay's beaches, reputed to be the best beaches in the world.
- **Iguazu Falls** – Set in a dense jungle where Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina meet, these waterfalls may be the most spectacular on the planet.
- **The Andean Lake District** – This area is popular with downhill skiers during Argentina's winter (during North America's summer). The deep blue lakes, pine forests and towering mountains attract nature enthusiasts year-round.
- **Patagonia** – Enormous southern region with glacier-dotted mountainous interior, unique coastal wildlife and Andean national parks. See penguins, seals, sea lions, rheas, sea birds, flamingos and whales.



Buenos Aires

Argentina's largest city, Buenos Aires is situated in front of Rio de la Plata. With nearly 13 million residents, this city is surprisingly safe and clean. Possessing wide boulevards, cobble stone streets, exquisite architecture, unique restaurants and plenty of shopping, this modern city has a strong European flavor and an endless variety of things to do. Buenos Aires is also known for its active nightlife boasting several bars and cafes constantly hosting live jazz music or tango performances. **We offer three options for Buenos Aires, 1st Choice, Budget-Friendly, and University Choice.**

1st Choice

First Choice Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Participants:

Mixed nationalities and ages. Independent travelers, college students, professionals.

Downtown, just 5 minutes walking from the "Plaza de Mayo". A central location, with easy access to bars, shops, restaurants and public transportation. Classes are held on the second floor of a beautifully maintained historical landmark, "Palacio San Miguel". In addition to 20 spacious air-conditioned classrooms, the school offers a computer room for students, a cafeteria, a video room and balconies with views of the city.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or residence
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse country with much to see
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 15-20 min bus ride to school
- No meals on Sunday in homestay





Buenos Aires

Budget-Friendly

The school is located in a beautiful house in Belgrano, one of the lovely residential neighborhoods of Buenos Aires. The school has administration offices, many multi-media classrooms, internet cafe with free Wi-Fi, student lounge, fully equipped kitchen, a study/leisure space, a tango room, small garden and several balconies providing great views of the tree lined avenue.



Budget-Friendly Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Participants:

Mixed nationalities and ages, with many students coming from Western and Northern Europe, North America, Brazil, Germany, the UK and Australia. University students, professionals and independent travelers.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or residence
- No seasonal surcharge on lodging (residence option)
- School organizes activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse country with much to see
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Intercambio program, great way to meet locals and gain a better understanding of their way of life and culture

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a short bus ride to school, some homestays may be within walking distance (about 25-35 minutes)



University Choice

The university is located in Belgrano, a relaxing and distinguished residential area of Buenos Aires. Belgrano offers corner cafes, theaters, bookstores, and several bars and restaurants. The campus is only a few minutes away from downtown.



University Choice Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Participants:

The majority of students are degree seeking Argentinean students. The study abroad students are mostly from U.S. and Europe.



What We Like:

- Great city with much to offer
- School organizes some activities
- High standard of living
- Diverse country with much to see
- Weekend & day trips included
- Transcript from Universidad de Belgrano

What We Don't Like:

- Recent economic decline
- Usually a 15-20 minute bus or subway ride to school
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Higher prices than non-University Choice program in Buenos Aires

ARGENTINA

Cordoba

Virtually undiscovered by North American tourists, this city has a little of everything for visitors. Founded in 1573, Cordoba boasts many colonial style cathedrals and buildings. Like many other cities in Latin America built by the Spanish, the city was designed using a grid system and is void of intimidating skyscrapers making it easy to navigate despite its size (population 1.5 million). Cordoba is alive with a university town feel, offering many cultural activities and an active nightlife while still being one of Argentina's most important industrial centers.



Cordoba Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Cordoba School Facilities:

Downtown within proximity to the city's shopping district. Students can enjoy the swimming pool, a garden, bar and library. Capacity is 40 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, with an increasing number of North Americans.

What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or residence
- School organizes activities
- Diverse country with much to see
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Not more than one native English-speaking student per family
- Cost of living is lower than Buenos Aires
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- No meals on Sunday in homestay

"I highly recommend this program. I wouldn't change anything. GREAT internet site and very helpful staff."

— Catherine S., Graduate student



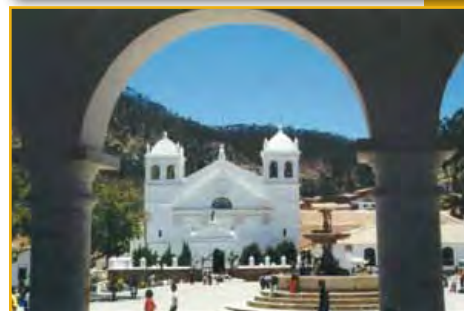
BOLIVIA

SPANISH

A land-locked country that straddles the Andes, Bolivia is known as the “Tibet of the Americas.” From the snow-capped peaks of over 21,000 feet, the land descends through stark plateaus to the semi-tropical jungle. Its phenomenal landscapes, colonial architecture, indigenous cultures and the legacy of its ancient mysterious civilizations offer an extraordinary travel experience. In addition, Bolivia has large cities and remote villages; Lake Titicaca, the highest inland sea; and a fascinating culture and history. While there are relatively few tourists, it is quite easy to travel throughout the country.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **La Paz** – The highest capital in the world at 12,000 feet. Shadowed by Mount Illimani’s snow capped peaks. As the center of commerce, finance and government, it offers the cultural diversity of a major city & a strong indigenous presence.
- **Tiahuanaco** – This ceremonial site (1.5 hrs from La Paz), believed to have been founded 600 BC, may have sustained a population of 20,000. There still are foundations of its structures, stonework, carvings and artifacts.
- **Lake Titicaca** – The clear blue waters of the highest navigable inland sea in the world are set off by the dry Altiplano and the breathtaking cordillera. The fascinating islands are known for pre-Columbian ruins, reed boats and the traditional lifestyle of the Aymara people.
- **Potosi** – Near Sucre, it is one of the most important silver mining centers in the world and has the largest and richest population in Latin America. It is an integral part of Bolivian history.



Sucre

Sucre is the beautiful judicial capital located in the Andean highlands. It is known as the “White City of the Americas” due to its numerous colonial buildings, all of which are painted in white and topped with shiny red tile roofs. Set in a valley surrounded by low mountains, Sucre is small (pop. 150,000) so it is very easy to explore on foot. A university town, known as the center of learning and progressive thought within Bolivia, Sucre has museums, a lively central plaza, shops and restaurants. Sucre and its nearby villages have sizable indigenous populations that maintain their customs and colorful dress.



What We Like:

- Max 4 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- Diverse mix of students
- Low cost of living
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Teachers' ability & experience varies



Sucre Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Sucre School Facilities:

A beautiful colonial building located in the heart of Sucre's city center, one block away from the main plaza close to virtually everything of interest in the city. Classes are held in a 2-story building with 8 classrooms, kitchen, a salon for videos and such, a nice colonial patio and a small terrace. Capacity is 50 students/day.

Participants:

Half European, half North American. Majority are students & independent travelers of all ages.

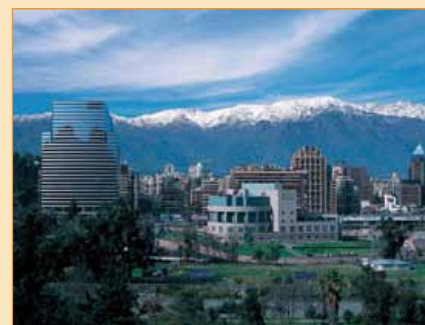
CHILE



Chile is about 2,800 miles long, stretching from desert in the north to glaciers in the south. It is about 125 miles wide, moving from the Pacific Ocean to the Andes. Although its population is mainly European in origin, there is an indigenous presence a few hours south of Santiago. Chile is known for its wines, skiing and beaches.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Santiago de Chile** - Stretches across the fertile Santiago valley, 100 km (62 miles) from the Pacific coast, dominated by the Andes to the east and a smaller coastal mountain range to the west. Santiago's valley setting -- coupled with its being a modern city -- means that smog can sometimes cloud the view of the mountains, especially in winter. Santiago's city center boasts modern structures, colonial buildings, lively markets, a colorful street scene along with great restaurants and nightlife. Traditional Chilean culture lives on in handicrafts of copperware, jewelry, alpaca woolen articles and more.
- **Vina del Mar & Valparaíso** - Just two hours from Santiago is the 'Garden City' of Vina del Mar on the Pacific coast. You travel through the wine country region to reach Vina del Mar, one of South America's premier beach resorts. Not far away is the bohemian town of Valparaíso, unlike any other Chilean city!
- **Vineyards of the Colchagua Valley** - Most of Chile's vineyards are in the Central Valley, where Santiago is located. Visits to the boutique vineyards of Chile, where you can sample the wines and find great meals, make a delightful day-trip from Santiago.
- **Isla Negra: Pablo Neruda Museum** - Chilean poet Pablo Neruda won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1971. One of his houses still stands on the coastal town of Isla Negra, and is a museum featuring some of his belongings. Nearby, you can also visit the village of Pomaire -- renowned for pottery, sculptures and handicrafts -- as well as wineries or a visit to the historic Colchagua Museum featuring pre-hispanic art and artifacts from the Chilean colonial period.
- **The Chilean Lake District** - A popular destination with beautiful lakes, forests and snow-capped volcanoes, this area boasts great fishing, sailing and rafting during Chile's summer and skiing during winter.
- **Portillo & Valle Nevado Ski Resorts** - Many of Chile's best ski resorts are only 1-2 hours from Santiago. Portillo is Chile's best-known ski resort where many downhill ski records have been set. Whether visiting in summer or winter, you'll have breathtaking views of Laguna del Inca. Valle Nevado, in the heart of the Andes, is the largest ski resort in the Southern Hemisphere. Amazing views, great skiing, crisp mountain air -- even spotting local wildlife -- are part of this experience year-round. Remember, Chile's winter is during North America's summer!





Santiago

Santiago is beautifully set in a wide plain with the backdrop of the Andes and lots of public gardens sprinkled throughout the city. About 4 million people live in this modern city full of skyscrapers and traffic. Santiago offers the comforts and cultural activities of a big city and is close to beaches, mountains and Chile's lake district.

We offer two options for Chile, 1st Choice (Santiago) and University Choice (Vina del Mar).



What We Like:

- Max 7 students per class
- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- 1-2 hours from ski resorts or beaches
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 15-20 min bus ride to school



Santiago Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 7)
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Participants:

Located on a safe, quiet side street in the residential neighborhood of Providencia, close to many shops, restaurants, bars and cafes. Banks, supermarkets, internet cafes, a post office and other services are all located within 10 minutes walking. The school is easily accessible by bus or Metro (station: Manuel Montt). The school features 18 classrooms, common areas, cafeteria, large patio, library, student computers, free wireless Internet and free snacks during breaks. Capacity 120 students/day.

Participants:

Varied mix of nationalities, most from North America and Europe. About half are university students.

Vina del Mar (University Choice)

Vina Del Mar, known as "The Garden City," is a gorgeous beach town in the Valparaiso region of Chile, 70 miles North of Santiago. The greater Valparaiso/Vina Del Mar metropolitan area is the second largest urban center in Chile, and is often referred to as Chile's Riviera due to its popularity amongst Chilean and international tourists. Aside from its beauty, the region offers top-rate musical performances and other artistic happenings and is considered the Cultural Capitol of Chile.



What We Like:

- Private room with host family
- Laundry service provided
- Proximity to beaches and mountains
- Only one student per family
- Walking distance to school

What We Don't Like:

- Usually, 2-hour commute from the nearest airport



University Choice Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

University Choice School Facilities:

Universidad de Vina del Mar consists of three campuses: Rodelillo (the main campus), Agua Santa and San Felipe. Spanish language students will take most of their classes in the Campus Rodelillo, which contains a large library, Computer Lab with the latest technology, a beautiful amphitheater, sports complex, cafeteria, banking services and bookstores. Free wireless is also available throughout the campus grounds.

Participants:

The majority of the students attending the University are degree seeking native Chilean students. The Study Abroad program hosts a diverse mix of international students from North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

COLOMBIA



Colombia's extreme geographical diversity, strong historical ties, and its peoples' affinity for celebrating make it an ideal destination for adventurers, history buffs, and nature lovers alike. Its native indigenous presence combined with its Colonial architecture and its wealth of archeological sites make Colombia a historical explorer's paradise.

If you just want to let loose and enjoy the beautiful weather, Colombia certainly abides. Dancing is practically a national pastime and having a good time is taken very seriously. Colombia has been experiencing recent positive economic growth and stability and has worked hard to re-establish itself as a leader in the South American tourism market.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Tayrona National Park** – Near the resort town of Santa Marta, this national park offers a variety of ecosystems, from white sand beaches, colorful coral reefs, lush rainforests, to arid dry land scattered with cacti. Close proximity to Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta Mountains (great for skiing).
- **Medellin** – Medellin has transformed into one of Latin America's most pleasant big cities. It has year round spring-like weather, beautiful surrounding mountains, vibrant nightlife, narrow streets & the friendliest locals in Colombia.
- **Bogota** – Colombia's capital is a city of contrasts. Home to 8 million people, one can find peace in the century old plazas & churches, or get caught up in the hectic traffic shadowed by towering skyscrapers. At Colombia's geographic center, Bogota makes a practical base for exploring the country.
- **Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá** – Outside Bogota, carved inside a salt mountain in Zipaquirá, is an 8400 person capacity underground cathedral. There are 14 small chapels representing the events of Jesus' life and death.
- **Museo del Oro** – The Gold Museum in Bogota holds arguably the most stunning & important collection of pre-Colonial gold work in the world. Of Colombia's 50,000 gold pieces, this museum holds more than 34,000.
- **San Andres & Providencia Islands** – 480 miles north of Columbia these Caribbean Islands are surrounded by coral reef and abundant plant and marine life. Keep an eye out for Caribbean Pirate Captain Henry Morgan.
- **Leticia** – Small town on the banks of the Amazon River. A great place for guided adventure tours through the Amazon Jungle.





Bogota

Colombia's capital is a city of contrasts. Though home to 8 million people, it is possible to find peace in the century old plazas and churches. Yet it is hard not to get caught up in the hectic day-to-day traffic shadowed by towering skyscrapers. Bogota will keep any visitor busy, with over 50 museums and countless other monuments, churches, cultural events, and a thriving nightlife. At Colombia's geographic center, Bogota also makes a practical base for exploring the country.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Convenient base for travel in Colombia

What We Don't Like:

- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Colombia
- Recent economic decline, political instability



Bogota Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 10) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Bogota School Facilities:

The school is located in the neighborhood of Quinta Camacho in North Bogota, one of the safest sections of the city. The area is known for its British-style architecture and rich cultural heritage. From Quinta Camacho, students will have easy access to the local shopping malls, restaurants, theaters, art galleries, restaurants, bars and many public transportation stops leading to the city center. The school consists of 7 classrooms, student lounge and computer area in an old Tudor-style home. Maximum capacity is 55 students/day.

Participants:

Participants are mostly from Europe, the US, Korea, and Australia and have a wide age range.

Cartagena

Cartagena is Colombia's most visited city and it is easy to see why. Named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984, this colonial city has managed to retain the charm, architecture and romance of its past. The ramparts and city walls that once protected Cartagena, are still standing today. Inside these walls, the vibrant, colorful and eclectic mixture of Caribbean, African, & Spanish influences can still be seen, tasted and heard.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Beautiful colonial city
- Proximity to beaches
- Walking distance to school

What We Don't Like:

- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Colombia
- Recent economic decline, political instability



Cartagena Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 10) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Cartagena School Facilities:

The school in Cartagena is located in the Getsemani neighborhood, a few blocks from the main entrance to the "Old City." Classes take place in a colonial house with a Caribbean atmosphere next to Trinidad Square, the place where Cartagena's battle for independence began. The house has a cafeteria and a garden inside. Internet service is also available there. Capacity is 48 students/day.

Participants:

Participants are mostly European and North American and have a wide age range.

COSTA RICA



Known as the Switzerland of Central America, Costa Rica has an abundance of natural beauty and is populated by a friendly, well-educated people. Costa Rica has obtained the highest standard of living in Central America by embracing democracy and disbanding its army. This small country is a paradise for nature lovers with national parks, jungles, volcanoes, beaches and more water per square mile than any other country in the world, excluding New Zealand. However, the small pre-Columbian indigenous population was wiped out by diseases brought to the new world by the conquistadors



COSTA RICA



PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Irazu Volcano National Park** – The top of this 11,000 feet volcano provides a spectacular view. Sometimes it is possible to see both the Pacific and the Caribbean coasts.
- **Poas Volcano National Park** – Located about 1 hour northwest of San Jose, the crater of this 9,000 feet active volcano still smokes and bubbles. Around the volcano in the national park is a cloud forest with an abundance of birds, especially hummingbirds.
- **Sarchi** – Near Poas lies the handicrafts capital of Costa Rica, Sarchi. Many souvenirs made from local hardwoods are produced and on sale in this village. Sarchi is famous for the carreta factories where hand painted oxcarts are still made.
- **Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve** – The privately owned reserve is located 4 hours west of San Jose. The reserve boasts a magnificent variety of wildlife, with over 400 species of birds, over 100 species of mammals and more than 2,500 varieties of plants.
- **Manuel Antonio National Park** – This popular park's tropical rainforest stretches to lovely Pacific beaches. It is one of the best areas to view migrating marine birds.
- **Tortuguero National Park** – This is the most important nesting ground for the green sea turtle in the western Caribbean. A fabulous place to see dozens of turtles lay eggs, turtle eggs hatching and turtles sunning themselves.

"This program was one of the best things I've ever done in my life. It would be impossible for me to overstate how much I loved it! It wasn't what I expected because it was better. The best part of my experience was the family I lived with, but the school itself was also wonderful."

– Kristen M., Publishing



Alajuela

With a population of around 100,000 and average temperatures of 74-80 degrees, Alajuela offers the language traveler the relaxed environment of a small, tropical city and easy access to San Jose, Costa Rica's capital (15 miles east of Alajuela).



Alajuela Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 5)
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Alajuela School Facilities:

Located on a large property on a hill surrounded by tropical flowers and fruit trees. It consists of mainly outdoor and semi-outdoor classrooms, as well as an auditorium and cafeteria. A short bus ride will take you to the city of Alajuela. Capacity is 160 students/day.

Participants:

Mainly Americans of all ages, but some months many young Danish students.

What We Like:

- Max 5 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes daily activities
- Only one student per family
- Excellent for advanced/superior levels

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 15-min bus ride to school

COSTA RICA



Coronado

Coronado (pop. 60,000) is a sunny suburb of San Jose, located about 6 miles from the hustle and bustle of the city. This little town resembles the foggy cities described in fairy tales and is known for "Las Nubes" (the clouds), a beautiful forest of mountains and dairy farms. It is a nice location for hiking and be sure to try the tasty Coronado cheese. Coronado is also an easy commute to the beautiful Braulio Carrillo National Park.



Coronado Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Coronado School Facilities:

Our school is located on the site of an old farm, surrounded by tropical gardens. The building has 9 classrooms, reception area, multimedia lab with computers and Internet access, a resource library for students and a cafeteria. The school is located about 10 blocks from the main bus terminal in town.

Participants:

Students represent all ages but the majority are independent travelers under 30. Good mix of European & North Americans.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Convenient base for travel in Costa Rica
- Diverse mix of students
- Possible to switch to school's other campus at Jaco Beach
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Usually 10-15 min bus ride to school

Flamingo Beach

The province of Guanacaste is renowned for its breathtakingly beautiful beaches, ranging in color from ivory white to shiny volcano black. Some are long, sweeping reaches of sand, stretching as far as the eye can see; others are secreted in windswept coves, disturbed only by pelicans or an occasional fisherman. Flamingo with its white sand beach and crystal blue water is considered the best along the Guanacaste coast. There is a North American community in the town of Flamingo itself; however, the nearby towns of Brasilito and Potrero are typically Costa Rican and this is where the homestays are located.

Flamingo Beach Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 4)
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Flamingo Beach School Facilities:

A brand new building consisting of 6-7 classrooms. Located on the marina, it is a 5 minute walk to the beaches of Flamingo & within walking distance to the small town of Flamingo. Homestays are a short ride away in Brasilito & Potrero & a free shuttle is provided several times per day. Students have access to swimming pools both at the school & at a local gym right on the beach. Maximum capacity is 100-150 students.

Participants:

Mainly university students & professionals from US & Canada; some Europeans (mostly from Germany, UK & the Netherlands).



What We Like:

- Max of 4 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- One of the best beaches in Costa Rica
- Only one student per family
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses near San Jose or Monteverde
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Limited public transportation available for local commutes
- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, etc.)
- Often a 20-30 min bus ride to school



Heredia

Heredia (pop 50,000) is located 6 miles north of San Jose. The city and its surrounding areas provide all the conveniences of a medium-sized city in an environment, which has escaped, to a large extent, the normal urban problems affecting the capital. The city has a surprisingly youthful and active feeling despite its small size. This is due to the presence of the many young Costa Ricans attending the National University. Many of Costa Rica's famous coffee plantations surround Heredia where one can still see ox carts loaded with beans.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes daily activities
- Walking distance to school
- Daily Latin dance classes
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Samara Beach
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Sometimes more than one student per family



Heredia Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Heredia School Facilities:

Located a few blocks from the central plaza with easy access to shops, entertainment & transportation. The facility encompasses a large, older, comfortable Spanish colonial-style house. There is a security guard on duty during school to ensure students' safety. There are several classrooms, a dance studio, kitchen & a garden area. Capacity is 120/students/day.

Participants:

Majority from US & Canada, some from Germany & Switzerland. During summer many college students, otherwise mainly ages 19-40. English is taught to locals here.

Jaco Beach

Long known as the surf capital of Costa Rica, Jaco is an active beach town, attracting both foreigners and ticos alike. Jaco's proximity as the closest real beach town to San Jose makes it an extremely popular weekend destination for residents from the capital region. In addition to fantastic surf conditions, Jaco offers endless opportunities for water sports, other outdoor activities and a bustling nightlife.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Proximity to beaches
- Possible to switch to other campus in Coronado
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- 45-minute sessions, less than most programs
- Usually a 10-15 minute bus ride to school

Jaco Beach Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Jaco Beach School Facilities:

Located in a residential neighborhood just 7 blocks from the beach, the school is within easy access of restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, bicycle shops and many more amenities around town. The converted house boasts 4 inside classrooms plus a terrace for more classes, a swimming pool and a tropical garden. The school offers a resource library, free Internet access for students & many other things to keep students occupied after classes.

Participants:

Mostly European or North American, independent travelers ages 20-30.

Jaco Beach - Fun Choice



If you are interested in combining Spanish with Digital Photography, Surfing, or Yoga, you may choose to attend our Fun Choice school. For more details, visit our website: www.AmeriSpan.com



COSTA RICA



Manuel Antonio Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Manuel Antonio School Facilities:

Located 2 miles from Manuel Antonio National Park and close to hotels and restaurants. The school has 12 classrooms, a kitchen, lobby, library with audio visual materials and computers with Internet. Wireless Internet connection is also available. There is a nice terrace with wonderful ocean views. The beach is close enough for a walk during break time. Capacity is 70 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from North America. Wide age range.

Manuel Antonio

The town itself is called Quepos, but the area closer to the national park shares the park's name. Once a thriving fishing port, Quepos and Manuel Antonio now survive on the growing number of tourists that the national park attracts. The national park is both a beach and a forest where one can spot: white face monkeys, sloths, iguanas and other wildlife. Even when the park is crowded with tourists, one can go a bit further to find a private piece of paradise. The town is full of restaurants and hotels. Beaches and water sports are available.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- Proximity to beach & rainforest
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in San Jose

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Many tourists in Manuel Antonio



Monteverde Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 4)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Monteverde School Facilities:

A modern 2-story building off the main road, surrounded by pine trees and facing the Gulf of Nicoya. 17 indoor classrooms, garden, video room with ping pong table, kitchen, dining area. Capacity is 70 students/day.

Participants:

Mainly college students & professionals from the US.

Monteverde

This small community located on the Tilaran mountain range was founded by North American Quakers in the 1950's. The Quakers began conservation efforts of the cloud forest to protect the watershed. Today, the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve covers 10,500 hectares and receives thousands of visitors each year, making eco-tourism a big industry in this area. Despite the number of tourists, Monteverde and the adjoining town of Santa Elena (only 3 km away) still maintain a small town community and a life that goes on outside of the busy tourism industry. This program is ideal for nature lovers.



What We Like:

- Max of 4 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- Beautiful location with breathtaking views
- Only one student per family
- Walking distance to school
- School organizes activities
- Many eco-tourism activities in the area
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses in San Joaquin or Flamingo Beach
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Many English-speakers in the area
- Very limited public transportation available for local commutes
- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, etc.)



Samara Beach

Located on the northern Pacific Coast of Guanacaste, Samara boasts 5 km of white sand lined with palm trees in a protected coral reef bay. The tranquil ocean is ideal for swimming, diving, snorkeling and surf/boogie boarding. For the adventurous, Isla Chora is a short kayak or boat trip away and there you may snorkel or simply sunbathe on this uninhabited island's deserted beach. Away from the sand, Samara is ringed by primary and secondary forest that is home to a huge variety of wildlife, including monkeys, toucans, ocelots, iguanas, scarlet macaws, parrots and more. The nearby Nicoya region provides a wonderful opportunity to see remnants of Costa Rica's indigenous Chorotega culture, as well as the colonial town and church. Other activities at Samara include: Horseback riding, bike rental, ultralight gliding, deep-sea fishing, dolphin tours, waterfall visits, canopy tours, visits to local fiestas and much more.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- One of the best beaches in Costa Rica
- Walking distance to school
- Daily Latin dance classes
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Heredia
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, limited hot water, etc.)



Samara Beach Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Samara Beach School Facilities:

Indoor classrooms with A/C as well as outdoor thatched roof huts. Close to beach. Capacity is 80 students/day.

Participants:

At least half are American between 20-36. Many other nationalities & ages represented.

San Joaquin

San Joaquin de Flores located a few miles from Heredia (a university town) and about 12 miles from the capital, San Jose, is perfect for those who want to avoid the daily traffic, pollution and stress of the city, but who will still want the easy access to the shopping and night life. There is excellent bus service to both Heredia and San Jose. Overall, this typical "tico" town offers the language traveler a great opportunity to experience the local culture.



What We Like:

- Max 4 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- Only one student per family
- Homestays within walking distance, or transport provided
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses in Flamingo Beach or Monteverde
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Many English-speaking expatriate residents

"Tremendous! I cannot remember a bad part and I do not have enough space to write all the good parts."

— Robert R. H., consultant

San Joaquin Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 4) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

San Joaquin School Facilities:

Very nice, modern building with large windows & view of a volcano. Classes take place mainly in classrooms, but also in the gardens. 17 classrooms. There is a cafeteria, administrative office, student room with 2 computers for email access, ping pong table. Capacity is 70 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly college students & professionals from the US & Canada, some Europeans.

COSTA RICA

San Jose

With a population of over 1/2 million, San Jose is more similar to North American cities than most Central American cities. The city offers good shopping, fine dining and an active nightlife, while the city's residential area where our partner school is located offers a more quiet study environment. **We offer two options for San Jose, 1st Choice and a University Choice option.**

1st Choice

First Choice Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

First Choice School Facilities:

Our school is located in a two story building in an eastern residential area of San Jose between San Pedro and Zapote. There are 17 classrooms, a kitchen with complementary coffee, tea, bread and natural juices, a lobby, a library with audio visual materials and a small garden. Computers available for student use at a small fee and wireless internet. Capacity is 70 students per day.

Participants:

The majority of the participants are students and independent travelers from 20 to 40 years old coming from North America.

Spanish classes are held at a traditional language school that focuses on teaching Spanish to foreigners. This program offers students the opportunity to start every Monday and study from one week to as long as they want. Prices are usually, lower than attending a foreign university and class sizes are smaller. However, it is more difficult to obtain transferable academic credit for your studies.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Walking distance to school
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Manuel Antonio

What We Don't Like:

- Class sizes are larger than most of the other AmeriSpan schools in Costa Rica

University Choice

University Choice Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (10-25)
- ☐ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

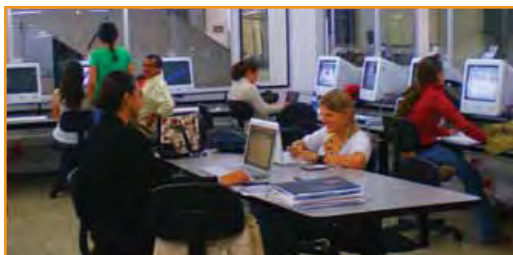
University Choice School Facilities:

The university is located in the same eastern residential area of San Jose as our First Choice school but in Zapote., about 10 min. from the center of San Jose. The campus is an urban campus, with one main building and some spill over to others when needed, like during the summer. The facilities are modern with lots of natural light and include fully-equipped classrooms, library, cafeteria, computer lab, photography lab & design workshop. Students get a university ID and have all the same rights & privileges as the Costa Rican Students

Participants:

Approximately 1,600 students including 250-300 study abroad students. Majority are degree-seeking Costa Rican students. The study abroad students are mostly from U.S. and Europe.

Spanish classes are held at Universidad Veritas, fully accredited by the Costa Rica Ministry of Education. Spanish classes are offered in 4 week modules and offered once per month. Although tuition is a bit higher, US universities are used to receiving transcripts from foreign universities so credit transfer should be easy.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- Walking distance to school
- University Transcript: Easy transfer of credits

What We Don't Like:

- More expensive than attending a language school
- Class size varies from 10 to 25

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

SPANISH

Known for its old Spanish ruins, beaches and baseball players, the Dominican Republic is located about 600 miles southeast of Florida. It occupies two-thirds of Hispaniola, an island discovered by Columbus when he ran the Santa Maria aground on Christmas Day 1492. The island's strategic position between the Panama Canal and Central and South America has made it a natural gateway to the Americas. Here one can hike on mountains, travel through lush jungle and semi-arid deserts, or enjoy the sea from white sand beaches. Despite a booming tourist industry attracted by the natural beauty, upscale casinos and low cost of living, the country is still largely undiscovered by tourists today.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Beaches** – You can find every type of beach from upscale resort beaches to remote hideaways. All beaches are public. The locals say the nicest ones are located on the Samana Peninsula.
- **Pico Duarte** – At 3,175 meters, it is the highest peak in the Caribbean. Renting mules for the ascent is popular. This peak is located in the Cordillera Central, also home to the Armando Bermudez and Jose del Carmen Ramirez national parks.



Santo Domingo

Santo Domingo Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 7)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Santo Domingo School Facilities:

Located next to the campus of the largest Dominican University, the school is in the university city area. The facility is hosted in a house transformed to provide proper classrooms and it includes a small garden and a terrace offering students a personal and friendly environment. Capacity 30 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe & US. Average age is 25.

The bustling capital with a population of 2.5 million is heavily influenced by the merengue, the national dance. Nestled amongst the new office buildings is Old Santo Domingo, with colonial charm and many ruins. Santo Domingo is on the ocean, providing a beautiful vista while beaches suitable for swimming are located 45 minutes outside of the city.



Sosua

Sosua Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 7)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Sosua School Facilities:

Located in El Batey, the school is very close to the center of town & a 5-min walk from the main beach. The building has 4 outdoor classrooms and 2 indoor classrooms cooled by ceiling fans. All the classrooms are equipped with audio-visual teaching material and the school library offers leisure literature to better practice the language. There is Internet access available for students. Capacity is 40 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe & US. Average age is 25 - 40.

Located on the north coast, about 20 km east of Puerto Plata, Sosua is in a beautiful bay with sandy beaches great for sunbathing and swimming and is surrounded by amazing high coral cliffs. Through the past years it has become a popular resort town with much nightlife and quality restaurants. The main beach is Playa Sosua known for its golden-yellow sand. On one end of the beach is El Batey featuring residential streets, gardens, restaurants, shops and hotels and on the other end Los Charamicos, the business and residential sector for the locals who work in Playa Sosua making this area a very traditional one.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Dominicans study English & German at this school
- Low cost airfare from the USA
- Possible to switch to school's other campus(es) in Santo Domingo/Sosua

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Usually a 30-40 min bus ride to school
- Most homestays have dogs (in Santo Domingo)

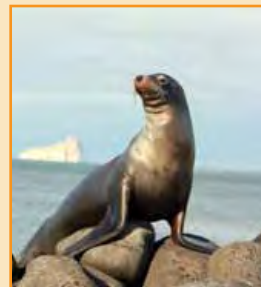
ECUADOR



Ecuador, named for its position on the Equator, is bordered by Colombia, Peru and the Pacific Ocean. Not many countries as small as Ecuador have such diverse climate regions. This country has the tallest active volcano in the world, great white sand beaches, tropical rainforests, deep crevasses, colorful Indian markets and is well known for its social and political stability.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **The Galapagos Islands** – By being 600 miles off the Ecuadorian coast, the animals and plants here developed differently than in most areas of the world. Half of the plants, 25% of shore fish and nearly all the reptiles are found nowhere else in the world. If you have the money, we highly recommend that you visit the Galapagos.
- **Otavalo** – Surrounded by lakes and volcanoes, this colorful indigenous market features artisans, weavers and vendors from miles around. There is a “leather town” nearby with fantastic deals on leather items. Bring a bag for all your new items, or just buy one!
- **Baños** – Known for its many hot springs and relaxing surrounding nature.
- **Atacamas** – The beach!
- **Inga Pirca** – One set of ruins from the pre-Inca culture of the Canaris are over 1,000 years old. These form the foundation for the newer Inca ruins making Inga Pirca a unique double set of ruins.



Cuenca

Located in an Andean valley, Cuenca is a town of striking contrast. It has successfully preserved its colonial past from its cobbled streets, churches, pre-Hispanic ruins, museums and colorful Indian markets. Colonial Cuenca is just across the Tomebamba River from modern day Cuenca with modern office buildings, art galleries and two universities. Home to many scholars and artists of Ecuador, Cuenca is said to be the “Athens of Ecuador.” Relatively undiscovered by English-speaking tourists, this program offers an excellent opportunity to learn Spanish.



Cuenca Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Cuenca School Facilities:

The school is in a quiet residential neighborhood, with several commercial areas nearby, with shops and restaurants for students to explore. It is in a converted house, surrounded by gardens and has seven classrooms and a very nice cafeteria, where students can connect their laptops for free WiFi service. The garden is a great place for students to relax and study and sometimes becomes a venue for classes, barbecues and small parties.

Participants:

50% are European. Average age is 30.

What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities & trips
- Beautiful colonial town
- Diverse mix of students

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs



Montanita

Over the last few years Montanita has been discovered as one of the premier beach towns of the coast. Its many diving sites and the nearby Isla del Plata make it known for its world-class diving. Although it's small, it is a booming beachside retreat attracting international travelers as well as an alternative Ecuadorian crowd. This is an ideal location to relax while practicing your Spanish with locals and meeting other travelers.



What We Like:

- Diverse mix of students
- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Proximity to beaches
- Surfing & scuba diving

What We Don't Like:

- Basic living conditions
- Usually, a 2.5 hour commute from nearest airport



Montanita Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Montanita School Facilities:

Perched on a hill, the school has a breathtaking view of the town of Montanita and its surrounding coastline. It is just a ten-minute walk from the cabanas, one minute from the center of town and 3 minutes to the beach. It occupies the top two floors of the building, with 4 classrooms and central offices. The expansive terrace at the top of the building serves as recreational and classroom space with a wonderful view. Capacity is 40 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe and North America. Students range from 18-60 years old.

Quito

Located in a beautiful valley and surrounded by snow-capped peaks of the Andes, Quito is surprisingly friendlier than other large Latin American cities. Furthermore, Quito has kept its colonial charm in spite of growing to a size of 1.4 million. Situated at 9,000 feet above sea level, the temperature averages 60-70 degrees (F) during the day and 40-50 degrees during the night. It is easy to reach most parts of the country in less than a day from Quito. With good facilities and a staff that is both friendly and professional, our Quito programs offer a good value to language students of all ages. ****Please note: A Budget-Friendly option is now offered in Quito. See our website, www.AmeriSpan.com, for more details.**



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Takes a few days to get used to high altitude (check with doctor if you have heart problems)
- Air pollution from buses can be heavy



Quito Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Quito School Facilities:

A big, brand new building with about 20 bright class rooms, patio with fountain, small business center, audiovisual room, entertainment room for students, indoor basketball court, cafeteria selling snacks and small meals and a huge terrace overlooking Quito and the mountains. The school is located on the north side of the city in a quiet residential area very close to various public transportation lines. Capacity is 80 Students/day.

Participants:

Half from Europe, half from US. The majority are professionals and university students.

GUATEMALA



Guatemala is recognized as the cultural center of the pre-discovered New World. As the origin of the mysterious Mayan Civilization and still predominantly indigenous, the country offers some of the continent's richest folklore. The cultural blend of the indigenous, Spanish and African peoples can be seen in many aspects of daily life. Ancient rituals are intertwined with Christianity. Also, there is an abundance of high quality, low-priced handmade goods available in Guatemala.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Tikal** – Set in a tropical jungle that houses spider monkeys, iguanas, jaguars & many colorful birds, these stunning Mayan ruins cover over 222 sq. miles.
- **Chichicastenango** – Every Thursday & Sunday, people flock to this multi-colored Indian market to buy weavings, woodcarvings & ceramics at rock-bottom prices
- **Lake Atitlan** – This crystal-clear, breathtakingly beautiful lake is surrounded by volcanoes. Around the lake, you can find undisturbed Indian villages and towns catering to tourists.
- **Rio Dulce/Livingston** – Set in a tropical jungle, this river runs from Lake Izabal to the Caribbean. Rent a taxi boat for the spell-binding 2-3 hour journey to the Caribbean city of Livingston. Different from other parts of Guatemala, Livingston has a strong African influence.
- **Coban** – The capital of the coffee producing state of Alta Verapaz. Nearby are Mayan ruins.
- **Copan** (Honduras) – Although the Mayan ruins of Copan are not as grand as those in Tikal, they boast more intricate and detailed carvings.
- **Belize** – Formerly known as the British Honduras, Belize is a small tropical country known for its great scuba diving and Mayan ruins. The country has a democratic government and English is the official language.



Antigua

In a country that treasures its colonial past, Antigua is a prized possession. One of the most beautiful colonial cities in all of Latin America, Antigua is known for its charm and relaxed atmosphere that attracts students and travelers from all parts of the world. Antigua is a popular destination for language study.



Antigua Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 5)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Antigua School Facilities:

The school is housed in a beautiful colonial building within walking distance to the colorful central plaza. It has indoor & outdoor classrooms, a classroom for salsa lessons, a kitchen & an area for students to socialize. There is a relaxed atmosphere here, with 2 computers & free Internet access for students. Capacity 90 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from US and Europe. Wide age range.

What We Like:

- Maximum 5 students per group class
- Private room
- School organizes activities
- Beautiful colonial town
- Walking distance to school
- Convenient base for travel in Guatemala
- Cost of living is low
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually several students per family
- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Guatemala
- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, etc.)
- Many English-speaking tourists
- No meals on Sunday in homestay

HONDURAS

Honduras shares borders with Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. The country is home to the Bay Islands and spectacular coral reefs attracting scuba divers from everywhere. Historically, the Mayans were prevalent in some parts of the country and their influence continues today. Despite a stable political situation and low cost of living, Honduras is largely undiscovered by tourists. With a seemingly endless stretch of deserted beaches, jungles, mountains and Mayan ruins, Honduras has much to offer.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Copan Ruins** – Although the Mayan ruins of Copan are not as grand as those in Tikal, they boast more intricate and detailed carvings. Excavations and thrilling discoveries occur regularly.
- **Bay Islands** – The islands of Roatan, Guanaja and Utila are located about 30 miles off the north coast of Honduras. The coral reefs join those of Belize and offer great snorkeling and scuba diving.
- **Trujillo** – The small town of Trujillo is near to where Columbus first set foot on the American mainland. The town was once a thriving port but today is known for pirate stories, beaches, coconut palms, gentle seas and nearby Garifuna villages.
- **Mosquitia** – This vast, inaccessible region in northeastern Honduras is inhabited by small groups of Miskito, Paya and Sumo Indians. Travelers are attracted by the pristine wilderness and abundant wildlife, including manatees, monkeys, alligators and fine bird life.
- **Tela** – Many travelers' favorite Honduran Caribbean beach town. It is a small, quiet place, with superb seafood, several good places to stay and some of the most beautiful beaches on the coast. There are plans to boost tourism in the area, but for now it remains unspoiled & quiet.



La Ceiba

The largest of the Honduran port towns (population 80,000), La Ceiba is located on the Northern Caribbean at the foot of the towering 5000-foot Pico Bonito, Honduras' largest national park. It has excellent access to the Bay Islands (20 minutes by plane) and is known as the 'fun city' of Honduras thanks to movies, dancing and restaurants. With beaches, nearby Garifuna villages, Pico Bonito and a small airport, La Ceiba is increasingly becoming discovered by tourists and eco-tourists.



What We Like:

- Private classes (faster than group)
- Private room
- Usually only one student per family
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Cost of living is low
- Proximity to beaches, mountains & Bay Islands

What We Don't Like:

- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, cold showers, etc.)
- Teachers' ability & experience varies
- Hot & humid much of the year

La Ceiba Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 4)* ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish ☐ Spanish & Fun
- *minimum 4 weeks

La Ceiba School Facilities:

Small air-conditioned building located about 2 blocks from the main downtown area. Classrooms are indoors and outdoors. Capacity is about 30 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly from the US & Europe. Wide age range.

MEXICO



Diversity is the word that best describes Mexico's people and geography. Over 50 different indigenous groups, each with its own language, comprise 28% of Mexico's 83 million inhabitants. Divided by the Tropic of Cancer into the temperate North and the tropical South, Mexico boasts snow-capped volcanoes, jungle clad beaches, deserts, archeological ruins, modern cities, upscale resorts and isolated villages.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Ancient Ruins: Tulum, Coba, Uxmal & Chichen Itza** – Tulum (only Mayan site on the coast), Coba (located in the jungle), Uxmal (a timeless tribute to the Mayan stonemasons) and Chichen Itza (impressive pyramids) are all in the Yucatan Peninsula.
- **Cozumel & Isla Mujeres** – Two breathtaking islands known for great snorkeling and scuba diving amongst spectacular coral reefs
- **Xcaret** – An "Eco Theme Park" that offers various forms of water activities, wildlife exhibitions and cultural performances. Visitors can go swimming with dolphins, visit Mayan ruins and museums, hike through the jungle and enjoy a show at the "Gran Tlachco" theater.
- **Dolores Hidalgo** – The town is of great historical significance; Father Hidalgo gave the "grito" of independence right there by the church in the central Plaza. A small, elegant, thoroughly Mexican town with graceful churches and locally made ceramics.
- **Valenciana Silver Mine & Church** – The city hosts one of the most extraordinary churches in Mexico and the intriguing Mummies Museum. The mine was the richest in Mexico for hundreds of years.
- **Teotihuacan & Cuicuilco** – Teotihuacan in the Valley of Mexico was the largest political and religious center of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica. The most important structures are the Pyramid of the Sun (tallest in ancient America) and the Pyramid of the Moon. Cuicuilco is the first home of the people who built Teotihuacan.
- **Uruapan** - Located on the Tarascan Mountain range, Uruapan's cool climate is the perfect setting for camping. Tzararacua is a 100 foot high waterfall that is located just minutes away.
- **Paricutin Volcano** – This volcano erupted for the first time in 1943, completely covering the nearby town, except for the church's steeple. Take a fascinating horseback ride to volcano's base.





Cuernavaca

Known as "The City of Eternal Spring," Cuernavaca is blessed with a perfect climate and flowers year-round. The city is located only about 50 miles south of Mexico City. Cuernavaca is a popular weekend spot for the affluent from the capital because of the many restaurants, sidewalk cafes and theaters.



What We Like:

- Max of 5 students per group class
- Intercambio program
- Nice facilities (library, pool, garden)
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Buenavista
- Excellent for advanced levels
- Field study program
- Latin American Studies courses

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Usually a 10-20 min bus ride to school
- Many Americans, esp. during summer



Cuernavaca Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 5)
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Cuernavaca School Facilities:

Upscale residential area, 15-min walk from the central plaza. 2 buildings blended together. Indoor & outdoor classes. Nice facilities with swimming pools, garden, small library, cafeteria selling food/snacks. Capacity is 325 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from US. Half university groups, half mixed ages.

Guanajuato

For nearly 200 years beginning in 1558, Guanajuato was one of the richest silver-producing cities in the world. The city possesses many subterranean passageways and narrow, winding streets that make it truly unique. Brightly painted houses line the steep slopes of a ravine that once contained a river. This extremely charming city is culturally very lively and possesses an energetic, youthful feel. This is due in part to the 15,000 students attending the University of Guanajuato which is known for its art programs. During the last two weeks of October, Guanajuato hosts the Cervantes Arts Festival, attracting famous artists from around the world.



What We Like:

- Choice of homestay or apartment
- Walking distance to school
- Includes 5 hrs/wk culture classes
- Excellent for advanced students
- Vibrant town & people
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually more than one student per family
- Shared room in homestay (private room extra)



Guanajuato Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Guanajuato School Facilities:

The school is located in the center of the old city. Casual atmosphere with indoor classes and a nice terrace. Free Internet access. Capacity is 130 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from USA & Europe. Varying ages. Many are college students.

MEXICO

La Manzanilla

Located 3 hours south of Puerto Vallarta, La Manzanilla has just over 1,500 Mexican residents. The town is nestled between sloping mountains covered with dense tropical foliage on one side and a beautiful beach on the other. It was a well-kept secret for many years and the town has managed to preserve its authentic appeal while also welcoming visitors from other countries and traditions. The warm climate, beautiful beaches and friendly people make this location a true tropical paradise.



La Manzanilla Courses offered:

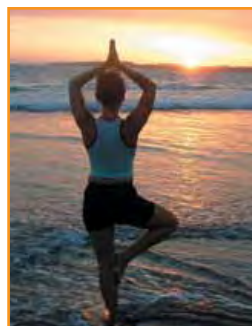
- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

La Manzanilla School Facilities:

Located in a beautiful, open-air, 3-story building just a few minutes walking distance from downtown and the beach. The School offers striking views of the ocean, hills and town of La Manzanilla. Capacity is 100 students/day.

Participants:

Many students come from Europe, US & Canada. Varied ages.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Proximity to beaches
- Walking distance to school
- Intercambio program

What We Don't Like:

- No airport pick-up offered

Merida

The city, built on the ruins of the Mayan city of Tiho, has been the social and economic center of the Yucatan since the conquistadors arrived. Close proximity to ruins and spectacular beaches have attracted Mexicans and foreigners to relocate to Merida. Even with a population of nearly 800,000, Merida has managed to retain its colonial charm and links to its Mayan heritage. The city's tree-lined avenues, diverse cultural influences and relaxed lifestyle make for an ideal location to study Spanish.



Merida Courses offered:

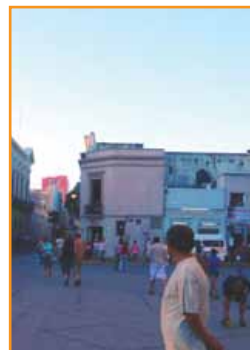
- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☒ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Merida School Facilities:

School is a 15-minute walk from downtown. Indoor classrooms, many of them with A/C. Capacity is 100 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from the US. Wide age range.



What We Like:

- Proximity to beaches & Mayan ruins
- Usually one student per family
- Mexicans study English at this school

What We Don't Like:

- Can get hot in the afternoon (May is the worst with temperatures up to 100° F)

Mexico City

With a population of close to 9 million in the city proper, Mexico City is one of the largest cities in the world. Today, Mexico City is the financial, political and cultural center for all of Mexico that was once the center of the Aztec empire. The current town square, Zocalo, is built on the same spot where Montezuma's palace and pyramids once stood. This energetic and dazzling metropolis with close to 350 neighborhoods offers limitless activities and adventures from archeological treasures, international cuisine, electric nightlife, to inviting plazas and gardens.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Convenient base for travel in Mexico
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually, a 15-20 minute ride via public transportation to school
- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Mexico City



Mexico City Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 9) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Mexico City School Facilities:

The school, which has several classrooms, a cafeteria, and library is located in Colonia Condesa. This unique district of Mexico City has an international, bohemian flare to it. Many restaurants and trendy boutiques line its streets with different architecture types that range from Art Deco to Minimalism. Capacity is 90 students/day.

Participants:

Majority of participants are from Europe and North America, mainly college students and independent travelers.

Morelia

Located about 4 hours from Mexico City or Guadalajara, Morelia is a university city with about 80,000 students studying at one of the four universities. Despite its size (pop. 800,000), the city is fairly compact, with everything of interest within walking distance of the central plaza. A climate of perpetual spring makes Morelia a very pleasant destination.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Only one student per family
- Not many tourists in Morelia
- Also excellent for advanced levels
- Intercambio program
- Mexicans study English here

What We Don't Like:

- Many English-speaking students



Morelia Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Morelia School Facilities:

Located in the downtown area. A short walk to the Cathedral, the park and to popular museum and craft shop named "Casa de las Artesanias." The school occupies two buildings: one with 21 classrooms and the main offices and the other with 5 classrooms, the cafeteria and bookstore. Capacity is 80 students/day.

Participants:

From US & Europe. Tend to be serious about their study & immersion experience. Wide age range. English is taught to locals at this school.

MEXICO

Oaxaca

The state of Oaxaca is one of the most important archaeological zones in Mesoamerica. The city boasts an abundance of colonial architecture and a strong indigenous presence. The ambiance is both relaxed and energetic. Oaxaca has one of the most active central plazas in Mexico; there is rarely a dull moment. The blend of cultures sets a tone that is both remote and cosmopolitan.



Oaxaca Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 5)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☐ Spanish & Fun

Oaxaca School Facilities:

Our school is located a 5-min walk from the Zocalo in the historic district of Oaxaca. The building is colonial style & has 18 classrooms, a conference room, a large patio & a library with 3 computers where students can check their email. Capacity is 90 students/day.

Participants:

Students, independent travelers, professionals and retirees. Average age is 27. Mostly North American and European.



What We Like:

- Max 5 students per group class
- Private room
- School organizes daily activities
- Proximity to ruins
- Intercambio program
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses in Playa del Carmen & Puerto Vallarta
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Many English-speaking tourists

"I took a cooking class and a local tour run through the school, both of which were great! Very responsive (staff). Good program options. Good prices."

- Andrea H., Student

Playa del Carmen

Playa del Carmen is located in the center of Mexico's Riviera Maya, at the Yucatan Peninsula. It is a small town still maintaining some of its charms of its former existence as a fishing village. Playa del Carmen is known for its beautiful white sand beaches surrounded by the warm, turquoise waters of the Caribbean. This location is also close to the fascinating Mayan ruins like Tulum, Coba, Chichen Itza and Chaak tun Cave. Playa del Carmen is only 45 min. away from Cancun and a one-hour ferry away from Cozumel Island. Those with an interest in snorkeling, diving, windsurfing, kitesurfing or just relaxing on the beach will find the area especially wonderful.



Playa del Carmen Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 5)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Spanish
- ☐ Medical Spanish
- ☐ Educator Spanish
- ☒ Spanish & Fun

Playa del Carmen School Facilities:

Located just 6 blocks from beaches, this school with traditional Mexican flair offers several covered outdoor classrooms, a cafeteria, volleyball court, reception area, garden area & air conditioned meeting facilities. The open air & air conditioned conference rooms are ideal for guitar & salsa classes & weekly gatherings. Capacity is 100 students/day.

Participants:

Many students come from Europe, US, Canada and Australia. Ages 20-35.

What We Like:

- Max 5 students per group class
- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Walking distance to school
- Proximity to beaches & ruins
- Intercambio program
- Interactive videos used in class
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses in Puerto Vallarta & Oaxaca
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Many tourists in Playa del Carmen



Puerto Vallarta

Puerto Vallarta is located in central Mexico on the Pacific Coast. Aside from having the largest bay in the country, Puerto Vallarta has a wonderful combination of mountains, tropics, beaches and colonial architecture. This location is ideal for those who enjoy exploring Mexican culture such as traveling to typical Indian "pueblos" and partaking in outdoor adventures. Other activities to participate in are whale and dolphin watching and a wide variety of water sports. There are also remote beaches, which can only be accessed by boat.



Puerto Vallarta Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Puerto Vallarta School Facilities:

The school is located in downtown Puerto Vallarta, one block from the beach & seawalk where major restaurants, bars, galleries and stores are located. Many small plazas that showcase town traditions, flavors and spirit are located in the surrounding area. The school has a cafeteria on a nice terrace overlooking the mountains, small library, computer & Internet area and a TV room with wireless Internet access available.

Participants:

Mostly from the US. Average age is 35.

What We Like:

- Max 5 students per group class
- Private room
- School organizes daily activities
- Beautiful colonial city (like Antigua)
- Proximity to beaches
- Intercambio program
- Small program, intimate atmosphere & personal attention
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses in Playa del Carmen & Oaxaca
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Many English-speakers in Puerto Vallarta
- Many tourists in Puerto Vallarta

"Quality of instruction and atmosphere were excellent. The people were great both at school and at home. Thanks for a wonderful experience. I learned an amazing amount in just 3 weeks."

- Ellen B., Writer/Editor

San Miguel de Allende

San Miguel de Allende is a charming town with cobblestone streets, flowering gardens and plenty of colonial architecture. The city was built on a hillside with a wonderful view of the Guanajuato mountains. Although many people from the US have retired to the area, the city offers younger travelers plenty to do and live music can be found nearly every night of the week. With year round comfortable weather, San Miguel de Allende is a pleasant destination any time of year. The surrounding areas offer botanical gardens, natural hot springs and areas for hiking.



San Miguel de Allende Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

San Miguel de Allende School Facilities:

In the center of town, 3 blocks from the main square and 2 blocks from the downtown marketplace. Large colonial house with beautiful courtyard and garden. Indoor and outdoor classrooms. Capacity is 160 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from US & Canada. Wide age range, from 20-65

What We Like:

- Walking distance to school
- Beautiful colonial town
- Diverse mix of students

What We Don't Like:

- Many English-speaking tourists
- Shared room (private room is extra)

NICARAGUA



Nicaragua is a country of beauty and charm, vibrant colonial culture, tall volcanoes and beautiful beaches. The largest republic in Central America, Nicaragua is located at the juncture of three tectonic plates. This makes the natural phenomenon as exciting and dramatic as man-made events. The capital city of Managua that has been partially decimated by earthquakes three times and once by a major fire. From the cultural and artisan center of Masaya just outside the capital city to the up and coming “hang out” of Granada, Nicaragua’s spirit and national pride shines in every corner of this country.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Solentiname Islands** - An archipelago of islands in Lake Nicaragua great for boating trips and excursions.
- **Masaya** - An artisan town where one can visit Santiago Volcano and the remains of Mombacho.
- **Lake Cocibolca** - Also known as Lake Nicaragua, the third largest lake in Latin America (just slightly smaller than Lake Titicaca). A freshwater lake where saltwater fish have swum up Rio San Juan and adapted. Many species are not found anywhere else in the world.
- **Islas de Maiz** - Located in the Caribbean, made up of the popular vacation spot Big Corn & the smaller, idyllic Little Corn. The latter has no telephone or electricity and can be visited only by panga from the larger island.



Granada

Located on Lake Nicaragua, Granada is the oldest continuously inhabited city in continental Latin America. It was founded in 1524 by Hernandez de Cordoba and is a great base for travel to the Pacific coast and the capital. This quaint, colonial town stands in the shadow of the Volcano Mombacho. Its inhabitants refer to Granada as “La Gran Sultana” (The Grand Sultan). The heart of the town is located at the Parque Central, where you can visit the many food stalls, civic buildings, the Cathedral and other attractions.

Granada Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 3) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Granada School Facilities:

The main office & classrooms are located a short distance from the Parque Central, on Calle El Arsenal, which runs parallel to La Calzada street. The “Calle La Calzada” is one of the oldest streets in the city - generally regarded as very beautiful - and goes from the park to the waterfront of Lake Cocibolca (Lake Nicaragua), the biggest lake in the country. Moreover, Calle La Calzada is an up & coming shopping area & has a variety of restaurants, shops & hotels. Capacity is 60 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly 25-40, independent travelers; European (Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Denmark) or North American.



What We Like:

- Max 3 students per group class
- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Beautiful colonial city
- Proximity to Lake Nicaragua and volcanoes
- Walking distance to school
- Only one student per family
- Possible to switch to schools other campuses in Leon, Esteli, San Juan del Sur & Masaya (if classes are being held)

What We Don't Like:

- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Nicaragua
- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, cold showers, etc)
- Teachers' ability & experience varies

PANAMA

This S-shaped country is the southernmost in Central America, bordered on the west by Costa Rica and on the east by Colombia. Although Panama is often overlooked by tourists rushing to South America, the country has some interesting attractions, including the Panama Canal that connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Panama also offers some of the finest birding, snorkeling and deep-sea fishing in the Americas. In fact, the country's indigenous name translates to "abundance of fish."

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **San Blas Islands** - One of the most popular sites for ecological tourism. A veritable green paradise of white sands, transparent waters, coral reefs and colorful fish and also home of the Kuna Indians. Share the life of the Kunas: Food, dance, rites, traditions and Molas textile crafts. Snorkel, take a walk, or rest in a giant hammock.
- **Metropolitan National Park & Amador** - The only upland forest in Latin America near a city. Full of Titi monkeys, armadillos, green iguanas, deer, sloths, birds, unique vegetation and a trail to hike. There is beautiful and untouched Amador Beach on the Pacific and the Smithsonian Biological Museum.
- **Taboga Island** - The 45-minute boat ride to Toboga allows one to experience the beauty of the Panama Bay and see the main approach to the Panama Canal from the Pacific. Automobiles are not permitted.
- **El Valle de Anton** - Visit this rustic valley surrounded by mountains, the Charco Macho Waterfall (Canopy Tour), Nispero Zoo with its varieties of orchids, and the Sunday Indian market.
- **Sobernia National Park and Camino de las Cruces** - This Rainforest full of flora and fauna has historical significance: it is the road used by the Spanish on their way to conquer Peru.



Panama City

The country's capital, Panama City, is a good base to see the many points of interest around the country. The city boasts the longest shopping street in the world, Old World charm and modern sky-scrapers. The old district of San Felipe (also known as Casco Antiguo or Casco Viejo) juts into the sea on the southwestern side of town. The cosmopolitan energy and festive Caribbean flair is evident. Moreover, a number of beaches are located 30 minutes to 1.5 hours from the capital.



Panama City Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 4) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Panama City School Facilities:

Our school is located in Altos de Chases, a calm, clean & quiet upper middle class neighborhood. However, it is also within walking distance of El Dorado, a big commercial center with stores, banks, movie theaters & restaurants. The school building is a converted home with classrooms, garden, kitchen & terrace. Free WI-FI & internet access is available. Capacity is 32 students/day.

Participants:

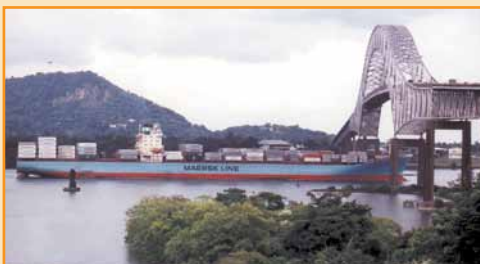
Wide age range from university students to retirees, mostly independent travelers from Europe & North America.

What We Like:

- Max 4 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- Proximity to beaches
- Only one student per family
- Walking distance to school
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Escazu, Costa Rica

What We Don't Like:

- Can get hot & humid



PERU



Peru shares borders with Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile and the Pacific Ocean. The country has three distinct regions: a narrow coastal belt along the Pacific Ocean, the wide Andean mountains and the Amazon rainforest. Although the coastal belt is a desert, that is where most of the population lives. Peru is renowned as the land of the Incas, but many great pre-Columbian civilizations flourished. Visitors can see the ancient ruins of the Inca capital of Cusco and explore the lost city of Machu Picchu as well as ruins from a variety of other cultures, including the Nazca and Moche.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Machu Picchu** – The lost city of the Incas is a traveler's fantasy come true. Surrounded by towering majestic snow-capped mountains, the ancient stone city is full of mysterious energy. It is possible to enter the site by the Inca Trail trek, just as the Incas did.
- **Arequipa** – A beautiful town in a valley at the foot of El Misti, a perfect conical volcano. Its buildings are built of white volcanic material.
- **Puno** – Located on the shore of Lake Titicaca and considered the center of Peruvian folklore with crafts, festivals and traditional music. Also known for its floating islands with reed houses and boats.



Cusco Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Cusco School Facilities:

School occupies a beautiful & historical 19th century home with about 17 classrooms, a video room, indoor patio, auditorium, an entertainment room & an indoor plaza. Located next to the main post office, Internet cafes, banks, casa de cambios & directly behind the most important site from pre-Columbian Cusco, the Korikancha (Temple of the Sun). It is about 4 blocks from the Plaza de Armas, the central meeting area of Cusco - a great place to people watch! Capacity is 65 students/day.

Participants:

European mix and North American.



CUSCO

Once the capital of the great Inca civilization, Cusco is also home to magnificent examples of colonial architecture. The stone foundations of Inca temples are still visible in the colonial buildings in and around the city. Many international tourists are drawn to Cusco for its close proximity to the famous Machu Picchu ruins and the Inca Trail. Due to the high elevation, it is cold at night and cool during the day year round. However, this can be a great excuse to seek out the many Indian markets selling the beautiful wool sweaters and textiles of Peru. Surrounded by the wealth of its Inca history and offering the comforts of an internationally known town, Cusco truly is an exciting place to learn Spanish.

What We Like:

- Max 5 students per group class
- Private room & laundry service
- Usually one student per family
- School organizes some activities
- Diverse mix of students
- Beautiful colonial town
- Cost of living is low
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

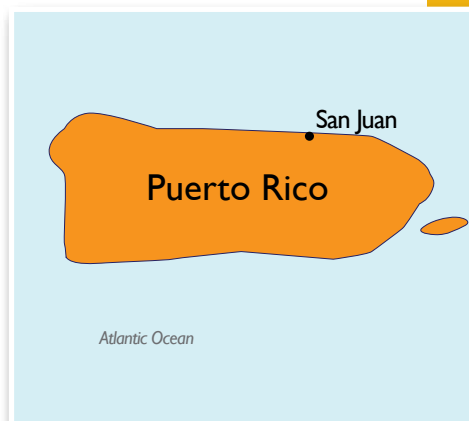
- Basic living conditions (small room, plain food, etc)
- Takes a few days to get used to the high altitude
- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Peru
- Usually a 30-min walk or short commute to school
- Many international tourists in Cusco
- Teachers' ability & experience varies

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico is a Caribbean island located just east of the Dominican Republic. About the size of Rhode Island and Delaware combined, the island is characterized by mountains, coastal plains, a rainforest, and pristine beaches. In addition to being rich in Taino Indian culture and colonial history, Puerto Rico boasts one of the most stable economies in all of Latin America.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **El Yunque** – Tropical Rainforest and bird sanctuary with trails leading to various peaks.
- **El Rincon** – The mountains run down to the sea. Popular location for surfing and snorkeling. Humpback whales can be seen in the winter.
- **Vieques & Culebra** – Quiet, unspoiled offshore islands. Can easily get to the Virgin Islands from here.
- **Bacardi Rum** – Tour includes a free daiquiri.
- **Cuevas de Camuy** – One of Puerto Rico's 2,000 caves. This one has been set up with a swimming area, waterslide & guided tours.



San Juan

San Juan, situated on the northern coastal valley of the island with a population of about 1.4 million, is Puerto Rico's metropolitan capital. Founded in 1521 by the Spaniards, San Juan is the second oldest European-established city of the Americas. Its port location makes Puerto Rico a convenient export of sugar, tobacco, coffee, and tropical fruits; however the tourism and banking industries of San Juan are also booming. Referred to as the "Wall Street of the West Indies," "La Milla de Oro" (Golden Mile) in the Hato Rey area is the headquarters of many world banks, making banking an important factor in Puerto Rico's economic growth. San Juan also boasts year-round warm weather, lovely beaches, a vibrant nightlife and casinos in the Ocean Park and Isla Verde sections of San Juan. Rio Piedras is home to the University of Puerto Rico and about 25,000 university students. The historic charm in Old San Juan and cosmopolitan North American influence throughout the rest of the capital, make it easily one of the most progressive, must-see cities in the Caribbean.



What We Like:

- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Low cost airfare from the USA
- Private room with host family
- Proximity to beaches

What We Don't Like:

- 3 hrs/day of classes, less than most programs
- Cost of living higher than expected
- Many tourists in some areas of San Juan



San Juan Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

San Juan School Facilities:

The school is situated conveniently in Hato Rey, the financial and business district, located within walking distance to public transportation and many points of interest. The school is in a commercial building with numerous comfortable, air conditioned classrooms and a computer area with free wireless internet access for student use.

Participants:

Majority are professionals from US, some university students during the summer.

URUGUAY

The smallest Hispanic country in South America, Uruguay is bordered to the north by Brazil, to the west by Argentina, to the south by the Río de la Plata and to the east by the Atlantic Ocean. Many believe the country's wide sandy beaches are the best in the world, to which the invasion of the beach-loving Argentinians can attest. Safety, health standards and political stability are among the best in Latin America.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Buenos Aires** – Located approximately 3 hours southwest across the Río de la Plata is the cosmopolitan city of Buenos Aires with fine dining, lots of shopping and a very active nightlife.
- **Iguazu Falls** – Set in a dense jungle where Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina meet, these waterfalls may be the most spectacular on the entire planet.
- **Beaches** – Go east to the great beaches of Uruguay and then north to more beaches in Brazil. Remember, Uruguay's summer is during North America's winter.



Montevideo

Located on the Río de la Plata, Montevideo (population 1.9 million) is lively and modern, yet more like a large town than a city. The people are mostly of European descent, as in Buenos Aires and Santiago. Nine sandy beaches stretch along Montevideo's waterfront and one is only 3 blocks from the school. The most popular beach resort is Punta del Este, a narrow peninsula between the Río de la Plata & Atlantic Ocean.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Proximity to beaches
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Recent economic decline

Montevideo Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Montevideo School Facilities:

The school is situated in Parque Rodó, a quiet & friendly residential neighborhood where you can find the National Library, restaurants, shops, the University of Architecture and a beautiful, big park. The school itself is a charming old house that also serves as a residence for participants. There is a reception area & office, four large classrooms, a library, fully-equipped kitchen, living room with television, a terrace and yard. The student residence is located on the first floor. From the school it is only a short walk to the Centro, Pocitos and the beach. Capacity is about 30 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly European, the rest from North America. College students, professionals & travelers.

VENEZUELA



Venezuela is located on the northern coast of South America and has a tropical climate year-round attracting tourists from Germany, Italy, Spain and North America. About half the country is forest, including some of the most spectacular rainforests. Venezuela boasts countless islands along its nearly 1,800 miles of coastline. In addition, the country has a well-developed infrastructure with 35 national parks and Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Angel Falls** - The world's highest falls cascade from twice the height of the Empire State Building. The falls are located in the vast Gran Sabana region with mountains & dense jungle.
- **Margarita Island** - Semi-tropical to semi-arid, with mountains up to 2,500 ft. There are wonderful beaches, all kinds of water sports, fish, produce, handcraft markets, shops, lodging and restaurants.
- **Colonia Tovar** - This Bavarian-style village, 41 miles west of Caracas was founded in 1848 by German immigrants. It was isolated until 1963 when a road was opened. There are shops, inns and restaurants serving German food. Also visit El Junquito, a colonial farming town.
- **The Andes** - There are wonderful treks surrounding Merida, many of which can be reached by jeep, horse, or mule. The lakes and views are fabulous and the villages are interesting.



Caracas

With year-round spring-like weather, this cosmopolitan city has much to offer. Caracas is full of shiny skyscrapers, fine restaurants, elegant shops and one of the best subway systems in the world.



Caracas Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Caracas School Facilities:

Located in Chacao, a neighborhood with one of the lowest crime rates in Caracas. It is a respectable commercial & residential area east of the city center with offices, stores & a Metro station just few steps away. There are also a great variety of restaurants & bars in the area. The school is within walking distance to the Parque del Este & the Centro Comercial Sambil, the largest shopping mall of its kind in Venezuela.

Participants:

Mix of fairly independent Europeans & Americans.
Average age 20-35.

What We Like:

- Maximum 5 students in group
- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer

What We Don't Like:

- Often a 10-30 min bus/subway ride to school
- More than one student per family
- Recent economic decline as well as political instability



Colorada Beach

Playa Colorada, or the 'Colored Beach' is one of the many that make up Mochima National Park. This small beach is located less than 10 kilometers from Santa Fe and half an hour from the city of Puerto La Cruz. Playa Colorada is one of the most photographed beaches in Venezuela and it is easy to see why. The red sandy beaches are lined with palm trees and the water is crystal clear. Standing on the sand, you can see some of the 32 islands that make up Mochima National Park.



What We Like:

- Some organized activities
- Proximity to the beaches
- Walking distance to the school

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most schools
- No homestays
- Recent economic decline & political instability in Venezuela



Colorada Beach Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Colorada Beach School Facilities:

The school is located alongside the beautiful beach in an eco-lodge that was built in the style of the Warao Indians. Classes take place in a casual atmosphere with all outdoor classrooms and an ocean view. The lodge features a communal dining area and recreational areas. Capacity is 30 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly ages 20-24 from Europe & North America.

Merida

A lovely university town, known as the City of Caballeros, Merida is located in a valley of the Andes at 5,332 feet. As expected in a university town, there is a great deal of activity in this city which is filled with colonial architecture and narrow streets. The highest tramway in the world offers visitors a spectacular view of Merida and the Andes.



What We Like:

- School organizes some activities
- Walking distance to school
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most schools
- No homestays
- Recent economic decline & political instability in Venezuela



Merida Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Spanish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish & Fun |

Merida School Facilities:

The school is located in a 3-story building in Plaza Las Heroínas near the peaceful university area. Recently renovated, the building provides a bright and comfortable place to study and enjoy recreational activities. There is also a covered terrace with views of the city.

Participants:

Mostly college students & professionals from the US & Canada, some Europeans.

EGYPT



Located in the northeastern corner of Africa, as the oldest tourist destination on earth, people have long been attracted to Egypt's pyramids, Sphinx, Luxor and the River Nile. Bordering the Mediterranean Sea to the north, Israel and the Red Sea to the east, Sudan to the south and Libya to the west, this country is a juxtaposition of modern along with traditional life. Nearly all of Egypt is desert, but the small part that isn't – the valley of the Nile River – is vital to the nation. The attractions of the country are not only the monuments of the Nile Valley and the souks, mosques and madrasahs of Islamic Cairo, but the natural wonders of the Red Sea, Sinai and the Eastern & Western deserts: Fantastic coral reefs & tropical fish, dunes & rockscapes, plus ancient fortresses and monasteries. Egypt has an overwhelming display of art and architecture.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Luxor** - A prime tourist attraction, this temple is built on the site of the ancient city of Thebes by Pharaoh Amenhotep III (1390-1352 BC), on the site of a temple built by Hatshepsut.
- **Graeco-Roman Museum** - This museum contains relics that date back to the 3rd Century BC. There's a magnificent black granite sculpture of Apis, the sacred bull worshipped by Egyptians, as well as an assortment of mummies, sarcophagi, pottery, jewelry & ancient tapestries.
- **Great Pyramids** - The Great Pyramids were one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Along with the Sphinx they are located in Giza. Despite the crowds that visit every year, they are still a truly overwhelming sight.
- **Mount Sinai** - This awesome peak is revered as the site where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God.
- **Valley of the Kings** - These secretive tombs of New Kingdom pharaohs were planned to preserve their mummies and funerary impedimenta for eternity. While most failed the test, their dramatic shafts and murals are truly amazing.



Cairo

Cairo, Africa's most populated city, has 16 million inhabitants. It may be the world's only city with monuments dating back to four different historical periods- the Pharaonic, the Roman, the Christian and the Islamic. An overwhelmingly exotic mix of ancient and modern worlds, this city offers an incredible array of culture, leisure, shopping and nightlife. All the bounty of the East is here, in particular, the spices, perfumes, gold, silver, carpets, leather work, glass and mashrabiya. The city comes alive at night, which is the best time to shop, eat delicious Middle Eastern cuisine, or simply watch the world go by from a pavement cafe. You can dine in a floating restaurant on the Nile, sample an apple-flavored shisha water pipe at a coffee shop or see Asian dancers and cabarets. Only about 6 miles outside of Cairo are the Sphinx and the Pyramids of Giza.

Cairo Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 16)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Arabic
- ☐ Medical Arabic
- ☐ Educator Arabic
- ☒ Arabic & Fun

Cairo School Facilities:

Located close to the center of the city in El Sahafeyeen. The school has a library & internet center & a cafeteria that offers hot drinks, soft drinks, fresh juices, snacks & hot meals. Capacity is 70 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly European, some North Americans.



What We Like:

- Good weather year-round
- Convenient base for travel in Egypt
- Diverse mix of students
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

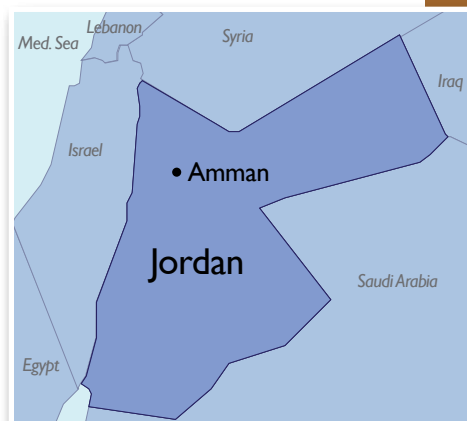
- No homestays
- Public safety concerns in certain areas of Egypt
- Classes are only Mon-Thurs (4 days/wk)

JORDAN

Considered part of the cradle of civilization, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan today is a stable, constitutional democracy at peace with its neighbors. Sharing borders with Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Israel/West Bank, it is mostly arid desert plateau in the east, with the Highland area to the west. The Great Rift Valley of the Jordan River separates Jordan and Israel. Jordan shares borders of the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba with its neighbors. Its population of 6 million is mostly Bedouin and those of Palestinian origins, with a small number of ethnic minorities. Considered one of the safest Arabic countries in the Middle East, Jordan offers historical treasures, great natural beauty and great opportunities for the adventurous, including hiking, rock-climbing, camel-trekking, 4WD excursions and more.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Petra** - Petra is hidden behind an almost impenetrable barrier of rugged mountains, boasting incomparable scenes that make it one of the most majestic and imposing ancient sites still standing today.
- **Holy Sites** - A short drive from Amman is the location where John the Baptist held his sermons and baptized away his followers' sins. This is where Jesus was baptized. Another 45 minute drive is Mt. Nebo where Moses first saw the "promised land".
- **Wadi Rum** - Spectacular desert landscapes of mountains and hills, Wadi Rum delights Westerners with its evocation of Lawrence of Arabia. It's a great site for rock-climbing & other sporting activities.
- **Dead Sea** - The lowest point on Earth, over 400 meters below sea level. Sit on the water and read!
- **Aqaba** - This Red Sea beach resort offers shopping, hotels, and beaches.
- **Jerash** - Considered one of the most important and best preserved Roman cities in the Near East, Jerash has colonnaded streets, arches, Roman theatres and the Oval Plaza.



Amman

Originally built on seven hills, Jordan's capital and biggest city now spans over 19 hills in northwestern Jordan. A cosmopolitan city of 2 million, Amman offers everything from shopping malls to ancient Roman ruins and some of the grandest mosques in the Middle East. The cooling effects of its location on a plateau allows Amman to enjoy four seasons of excellent weather. Frequent bus connections to other cities in Jordan as well as to major cities in neighboring countries make Jordan a great jumping-off point to visit other countries in the region. The bustling urban area includes the Old City, centered around the Souk (colorful traditional market) and the King Hussein Mosque. There you can explore the capital's greatest souqs, fine museums, ancient constructions, monuments and cultural sites.



What We Like:

- Private Room
- Maximum 5 students in group
- Walking distance to school
- Organized Activities & visits
- Organized excursions
- Diverse mix of students
- Choice of homestay, dorm, or hotel
- Considered one of the safer & more modern Arabic countries in the Middle East
- Students study MSA & Colloquial Arabic
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- No homestays for male participants due to cultural considerations
- This program has a strict cancellation & refund policy



Amman Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Arabic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic & Fun |

Amman School Facilities:

Our school is located in the heart of Amman on the 2nd floor of a building, across the street from the University of Jordan. Classes are held in indoor classrooms in a cozy, intimate, yet professional atmosphere. The location is so close to the university, which offers participants easy access to book stores, clothing stores, many restaurants, money exchange and more.

Participants:

Wide age range. Participants are evenly split between North America, Europe and Asia.

MOROCCO



Morocco is located on the western-most tip of North Africa, bordering Algeria to the east and the Mediterranean to the north. Running through the middle of the country is the Atlas mountain range, which leads to the fertile plains and sandy beaches of the Atlantic coast. Morocco's identity has been carved from African, European and Middle Eastern influences.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Atlas Mountains** - Trekking in the High Atlas is not to be passed up. The experience will reward visitors with some of the most spectacular scenery and views in Africa. The summit of Jebel Toukbal, Morocco's highest mountain, is an excellent choice, offering stunning panoramic views of the surrounding country.
- **The Sahara** - The name itself conjures up romantic images of vast unending sands, charming desert oases and of course the sheltering sky. If visitors to Morocco really want to lose themselves and get away from it all, there is no more extreme way to do so than to set off across the great desert.
- **The Mosque & Tomb of Moulay Idris II** - Considered one of the most sacred places in all of Morocco, the tomb of Moulay Idris II is a place of pilgrimage for Muslims from throughout Morocco and beyond. The atmospheric interiors are richly ornamented. Non-Muslims may not enter or even draw near the entrance.
- **Qarawiyyin Mosque** - One of the largest mosques in Africa, this is also one of the world's most beautiful places of worship. For over a thousand years great Muslim saints and scholars have congregated in its ornamental courtyard. It remains one of the most majestic monuments of Islam.
- **The Attarine Medersa** - Built in the 14th century by Sultan Abou Said, was initially designed to house students who had classes in the Karaouiyyine Mosque. This is surely the most beautiful medersa in Fez, its proportions and decorations making it a jewel of Merinide art. Its name derives from the word "attar," which means spice trader.



Why Modern Standard and Colloquial Arabic?

In Arabic, the written form is substantially different from the spoken...to the point that it justifies learning it on its own. FusHa is the formal/written medium of Arabic, rarely spoken but commonly used in literature, historical manuscripts, government documentation, and religious or ceremonial contexts. The two types of FusHa are called Classical and Modern Standard (MSA). Modern Standard Arabic is the most commonly taught form of FusHa.

In general, Arabic courses taught at universities focus on MSA so that students are able to read but not communicate in the language very well. This process is similar to learning Latin and then trying to communicate to Italian speakers. Although you have the basis of the language, it has evolved a lot since the days when it was spoken. The modern language has similarities, but it is just not spoken any more.

Why Egyptian Colloquial Arabic?

Colloquial Egyptian is the most widely understood Arabic dialect in the Middle East and is considered a "lingua franca" – a language that is understood and used across borders – within the Arab world. Egypt's capital, Cairo, has long been the center of Arab media, films and television programs watched by millions of people across the Arab world. In terms of the number of films produced, Cairo would fall third in line of production after Bollywood (India) and Hollywood (USA). Regardless of the rather dramatic changes in dialect throughout the Arabic speaking countries, Egyptian media has made Egyptian Colloquial Arabic familiar to nearly every household.

Therefore, irrespective of which Arabic speaking destinations you may find yourself in, Egyptian Arabic is a good dialect to begin learning because Arabic speakers around the world will be able to understand you. You may have difficulty understanding their dialect at first, but they will at least be able to understand you. You can adjust your new colloquial Arabic accordingly from that point.



Rabat

Established by the Almohad dynasty in the 12th century, Rabat has been the capital of the Kingdom of Morocco since independence in 1956. This quiet, French-influenced capital is home to Morocco's most important monuments, such as the Royal Palace surrounded by the Andalusian Gardens, the Hassan Mosque which dominates the whole city with its tower and the ruins of Chellah. Its original town, known as the Medina, is complemented by the modern section built by the French. With the city center of Rabat being very compact, all points of interest are within walking distance. With the largest number of restaurants in the country, during Ramadan, the city is quite lively in the evenings. If you would like to enjoy a day or weekend at the beach, the coastal village of Skhirate is only 20 minutes away by train.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Proximity to beaches
- Convenient base for travel in Morocco
- Both Modern Standard Arabic and Moroccan Colloquial Arabic offered
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Sometimes more than one student per host family during busy summer months



Rabat Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 10) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Arabic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic & Fun |

Rabat School Facilities:

Beautiful building with private mature gardens in the upscale residential neighborhood of Souissi. Entire school is air-conditioned, with 7 large classrooms, a reception area, library, cafeteria, kitchen area, several social areas, computer room with internet access, large private garden with patio & chairs, 24-hour security. Capacity is 60 students/day.

Participants:

30% American; 65% European; 5% other. Wide age range.

Tetouan

Located on the Mediterranean and surrounded by majestic mountains, Tetouan is a popular Moroccan resort because of its excellent beaches. The city is located less than 40 miles from Tangiers and only a one-hour ferry ride from the Spanish coast. The Medina (old town) is on the World Heritage List by UNESCO and is dotted with squares, souks and buildings from its 15th Century founding by Andalusian refugees. The houses, full of extravagant detail, are quite unlike those of other Moroccan towns. Instead, they are similar to the old Arab quarters of Cordoba, Granada and Sevilla. The Spanish connection was reinforced by colonization in the early years of the last century. Although French is the official 2nd language (after Arabic) throughout Morocco, Spanish is widely-spoken in Tetouan.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes activities
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students
- City is on UNESCO's World Heritage List & offers unique mix of cultures & languages
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Hours may be reduced if fewer than 3 students in a group
- Many tourists in Tetouan during the summer
- Basic living conditions (small room, small bathroom, irregular hot water, etc.)



Tetouan Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Arabic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic & Fun |

Tetouan School Facilities:

The school is located in the center of downtown, overlooking Place Moulay Mehdi, the city's most beautiful public square in the historic Spanish quarter of the city. Facilities are fully-equipped with the latest audio-visual equipment including television sets, VCR and DVD players, wireless headphones and high-speed Internet connection. Capacity is 72 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly university students and independent travelers under 30. Wide variety of nationalities.

OMAN



The Sultanate of Oman, a land of natural beauty, friendly people and dramatic landscapes, is located on the southeast corner of the Arabian Peninsula in southwest Asia. Oman borders the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Yemen while the coast is formed by the Arabian Sea on the south and east and the Gulf of Oman on the northeast. Slightly smaller than Kansas in size, with a population of 2.6 million, Oman remains one of the most traditional countries in the region, yet it has seen rapid economic and social development in the past three decades, comparable to that of a 'Renaissance.' The economy is largely dependent on the production and export of oil and natural gas, but is becoming increasingly more diversified. Excellent tourist facilities are available in the major cities of Muscat, Salalah, Sohar and Nizwa.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Jabrin Castle** – An impressive sight to see, the palace is located in an oasis between the mountains of Jabal Akhdar. It was built in 1675 by Sultan Bila'rab bin Sultan al-Yaarubi as a summer residence. Although it has the form and structure of a military fort, it never served this purpose.
- **Muscat** – The capital of Oman and the country's largest city, Muscat offers a friendly, historic and beautiful must-see experience. A thriving and strategically-located port of the Arabian Peninsula in ancient times, it has a somewhat medieval appearance that is said to enchant visitors like no other city in the Gulf.
- **Wadi Shab** – Wadi, meaning "waterfall," is a canyon-type valley with flowing water throughout the year. This wadi is noted as one of the most gorgeous and scenic destinations in Oman. Beyond the breathtaking entrance, the wadi rewards you with views of crystal clear pools, waterfalls and caves. The swim through the famous keyhole and beyond will surely leave you with lasting memories.



Buraimi



Buraimi is an oasis town in northeastern Oman, on the border of the United Arab Emirates near Al Ain. It is the newest governorate of Oman, which was split from the Ad Dhahirah region in October of 2006. This residential town of about 50,000 people is known for friendly natives and a rich history with settlements dating back to the 4th Century BC. Situated close to the foothills of the Western Hajar Mountains, a drive throughout the city will encounter fascinating themed sculptures, statues, gardens, fountains and forts. Buraimi's sister city, Al Ain, is right across the border in the United Arab Emirates. Once in Al Ain, one can visit the shops, enjoy the golden sand dunes, explore the desert with 'desert safaris' and camel trips and also be situated near excellent beaches. Visitors to the region will surely experience an atmosphere and culture that feels more traditionally Arabic than in other Arabic-speaking countries around the world.



Buraimi Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group Classes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Arabic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Arabic | <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic & Fun |

Buraimi School Facilities:

The school is located in a large, beautiful, converted two-story house, typical of the area. The air-conditioned school building is not far from the hotel where participants stay and from local shops. There is a kitchen with a refrigerator and microwave which is used as a break room. Capacity is about 72 students/day.

Participants:

The majority of participants are from Europe & North America. Mostly professionals, average age 30 years.

What We Like:

- Private classes (faster than group)
- Both day & evening classes are offered
- Private room with private bathroom
- Diverse mix of students
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Both spoken dialect (Gulf Arabic) & Modern Standard Arabic are taught

What We Don't Like:

- No Homestays
- No organized activities
- Public safety concerns in certain areas of the Middle East
- Very hot from June – August

CHINA

China is more than a country – it is a whole different world, from shop-till-you-drop metropolises to the epic grasslands of Inner Mongolia, with deserts, sacred peaks, astounding caves and imperial ruins in between. Along with the stark contrasts comes stark beauty; there is plenty to see if you can wade through the crowds.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **The Ming Tombs** – The mausoleum of 13 Ming Dynasty emperors after the Ming capital was shifted to Beijing. Located at the southern foot of Tianshou Mountain in Changping County, Beijing, the Ming tombs cover an area of about 120 km.
- **Tiananmen (Gate of Heavenly Peace)** – Tiananmen was the front entrance of the Imperial City of the Ming and Qing Dynasties.
- **Tiananmen Square** – Located in the center of Beijing with an area of some 400,000 square meters, Tiananmen Square is the largest square in the world today.
- **The Summer Palace** – Built in 1750, this former summer residence is one of the biggest and most famous existing royal gardens in world. Well preserved, it is perhaps the best example of Chinese traditional art in garden building.
- **The Great Wall** – Originally built 2,000 years ago by the Qing dynasty. Half Wonder of the World and half Kitschville, but to many Chinese it's just a wall. Most visitors climb The Great Wall at Badaling.



Beijing

An ancient capital of six dynasties, Beijing is one of the most famous historical and cultural cities in the world. Temples, parks and historic sites all sing wonderfully and powerfully of the dream that was Old Cathay, but in the same hallowed space there's a new Beijing taking shape. Just outside the exquisite walls of Beijing's monuments, steel and concrete are steadily replacing silk and carved wood.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- School organizes some activities
- Diverse mix of students
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 20-40 minute commute to school



Beijing Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Chinese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Chinese | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chinese & Fun |

Beijing School Facilities:

The main school building is located in the Chaoyang district and is several minutes walking distance to the subway. There is a lounge where students can relax after class. Free Internet access is available. Students also receive free coffee & tea daily.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe and the U.S. Average age 35.

CHINA

Hangzhou

Located 115 miles southwest of Shanghai, this ancient capital is a beautiful combination of history, culture and modern-city living. Hangzhou is most known for its natural beauty. The city's West Lake is recognized as the most beautiful lake in all of China. In the same way cherry blossoms represent Japan, the osmanthus tree embodies the vibrant spirit of Hangzhou. This city spirit can also be seen throughout the year during one of its many festivals including, the osmanthus tree festival, traditional lantern making, fireworks and tide watching. In addition, the Public Security Bureau rated Hangzhou the most secure city in China.

Hangzhou Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 6) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Chinese |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educator Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese & Fun |

Hangzhou School Facilities:

The school is located near the beautiful West Lake, in the business and education district. The 5-story building is located only 10 minutes by bike from the lake and the city center. Set in a casual atmosphere, all indoor classrooms have a mountain-view. There is a coffee machine in the lobby and a cafeteria and restaurant on the 5th floor. Also, free Internet is available. Capacity is 80 students/day.

Participants:

30% American; 65% European; 5% other.
Wide age range.

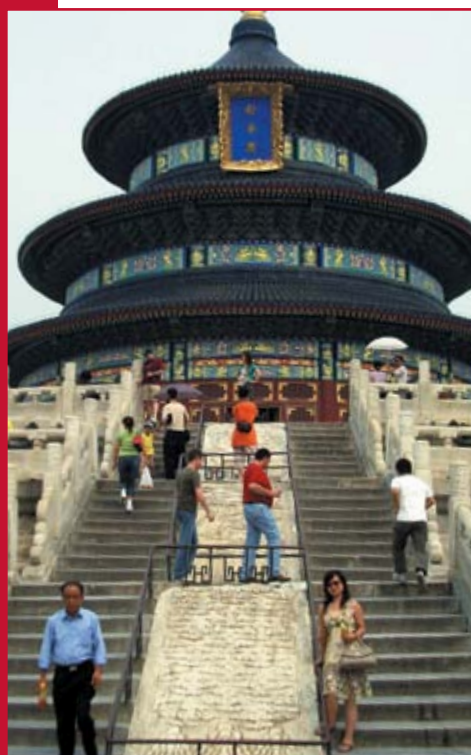


What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- Only one student per family

What We Don't Like:

- Many Chinese tourists in Hangzhou



Mandarin vs. Cantonese

Mandarin is the government-sanctioned language of China. It is spoken by 836 million people, and in all major cities in China. Out "in the boonies" some people won't know Mandarin but even there the public officials will speak Mandarin.

Cantonese is the local dialect of Guangdong Province, which is located on the southern coast of China, and Hong Kong. It is spoken by 71 million people. Cantonese is not spoken in Beijing, yet is still powerful for economic and business reasons. Cantonese sounds harsh, unclear and "uncouth" to Mandarin speakers.

- If you speak Cantonese you can understand Mandarin.
- If you speak Mandarin you cannot understand Cantonese.

Hong Kong (Cantonese)

Hong Kong primarily consists of Hong Kong Island, Lantau Island, Kowloon Peninsula and the New Territories. The Kowloon Peninsula is attached to the New Territories to the north which span northwards connecting with mainland China across the Shenzhen River. In total, Hong Kong encompasses a collection of 262 islands of which Hong Kong Island is the second largest island and the most populated. An open city with a wonderful natural harbor, Hong Kong is the meeting place of various cultures that blend harmoniously with Chinese traditions and exotic influences. The city is fast-paced, crowded, quiet, efficient, exciting, traditional and modern all at the same time. A British colony until it was given back to China in 1997, English is widely spoken and most street signs are bilingual. Although Mandarin is being used more since the hand over, it is still only spoken by less than half the population, most speak Cantonese as their native tongue.



Hong Kong Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 7)
- ☐ Professional Chinese
- ☐ Educator Chinese
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Chinese
- ☐ Chinese & Fun

Hong Kong School Facilities:

The school is located near the Wanchai station, in the Wanchai district which is one of the most popular parts of Hong Kong Island offering great night-life and shopping. The facilities are modern with 7 classrooms, a language laboratory with audio and visual aids, a gathering area and free internet access. Capacity is about 50 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly 25-40 years old from Europe, Australia, Korea, Japan and Australia. & US.

What We Like:

- Private room
- Some organized activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 30-60 min commute to school
- Cost of living is higher than expected
- No meals on Sunday

Shanghai

Shanghai is one of the largest industrial cities in China. Being an important seaport and China's largest commercial and financial center, it includes a blend of Chinese and colonial European architectural style; the old and the modern. It is known as "the Oriental Paris," a shopper's paradise.



Shanghai Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☐ Professional Chinese
- ☐ Educator Chinese
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Chinese
- ☒ Chinese & Fun

Shanghai School Facilities:

The school is located downtown in a newly-built group of houses, overlooking a central Chinese style garden square in a residential area. There are 12 classrooms, 2 computers with internet and a small tea/coffee area. Within walking distance from restaurants, cafes, embassies, nice hotels and busy streets. Capacity is 100 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe & the US. Average age 25-29.

What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Walking distance to school
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Beijing

What We Don't Like:

- No homestays



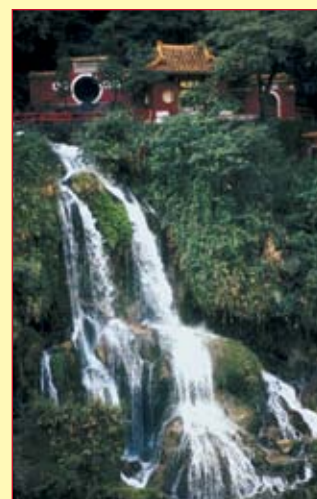
TAIWAN



Originally known to Portuguese mariners in the 16th century as 'Ilha Formosa' or 'the beautiful island', for its inherent beauty, this island proudly displays towering mountain peaks and beautiful coastal scenes. Located 100 miles off the southeastern coast of the Asian mainland, it is considered to be a natural gateway for travelers to and within Asia. Taiwan is one of the most densely populated countries of the world, a melting pot of Hakka, Taiwanese and mainland Chinese people. Only about 390,000 of the people are indigenous. Its traditional culture which is similar to that of China, though still apparent in rural towns, has largely been transformed into an industrialized society.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **National Palace Museum** - Having celebrated its 78th birthday in October 2003, this museum in Taipei is home to the finest collection of Chinese artifacts and art and the five-thousand year Chinese history. Its contents include ancient porcelain, bronze, paintings, jade, books and documents located in huge underground vaults carved into the mountain.
- **Fort San Domingo** - Located in Tanshui, this structure is one of the oldest buildings in Taiwan, built in 1629 by the Spanish and later occupied by the Dutch in 1642. San Domingo was rebuilt in the present day by the British Consulate and is now in the hands of the Taiwanese government who maintains the compound as a national monument. The museum tells the story of its extensive history and is situated within the main building.
- **Night Markets** - Located in most major cities, these markets are part of the social scene attracting locals and tourists alike. The most popular activity at any night market is the eating which is sure to please. It is a bustling nighttime scene not to be missed, abound with colorful signs, good bargains on clothes, toys, CDs and delicious, inexpensive food.



Taipei

Taiwan, the main island in a group of 78 islands, off the coast of China, is dominated by the Central Mountain Range covering most of the island. Taipei, the capital, is a very modern western style city where glass-faced high-rise office buildings, luxury condos and modern department stores tower above wide, tree-lined boulevards. Great nightlife to be found, with theatres, bars and clubs, but Taipei is still Chinese at heart, with an underlying current of traditional lifestyles and culture that make it fascinating for international travelers. Throughout the city are timeless scenes from the world's oldest civilization: Taipei is truly a city of many faces, where ancient and modern coexist.



Taipei Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group Classes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Chinese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese & Fun |

Taipei School Facilities:

Our school has 3 campuses in Taipei. Students can easily transfer between any of the centers. The main campus occupies the third and fourth floors in a modern commercial building located on Roosevelt Road, a main thoroughfare in the southern part of the city. The surrounding area is one of the most popular residential districts in Taipei, particularly among university students. It has an abundance of restaurants, shops, night markets and nightclubs. Capacity 200 students/day.

Participants:

Many Japanese, Taiwanese (learning English) and European students.

What We Like:

- Private classes (faster than group)
- Taiwan is the recognized center for traditional Chinese art and culture

What We Don't Like:

- Pollution in some areas of congested city center
- No lodging included

CANADA

FRENCH

Canada, bounded by the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, Alaska, Greenland and the 'Lower 48' of the USA, possesses a diverse landscape, ranging from the Arctic tundra of the north to the great wheatlands of the central area. Westward are the Rocky Mountains and in the south-east the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River and Niagara Falls. The country is divided into ten provinces and three territories with two official languages, English and French. Canada's French and British influences along with the mixture of many migrant traditions from all over the world makes Canada a must see multi-cultural society.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Niagara Falls** - The Niagara Falls were formed approximately 12,000 years ago following the end of the last ice age. Almost 5 billion gallons of water per hour rushes over the edge of the Niagara Falls. The flow of water originates with Lake Erie one of the five great lakes descends the falls, flows through Niagara River into Lake Ontario and continues to the St. Lawrence River eventually ending up in the Atlantic Ocean some 1,000 miles away! Niagara Falls receives over 20 million visitors each year and is well known as the honeymoon capital of the world.
- **The Rocky Mountains** - Offer breathtaking scenery on a grand scale. Some of the best resorts are in the series of great National Parks which preserve the wildlife and forests of Canada in their virgin state. Those in the north provide basic amenities for tours of the beautiful northern wilderness.
- **Hiking** - All the national parks and most of the provincial parks have well marked and well maintained trails. Maps may be obtained from information centres, but those intending to go into the backcountry should obtain the appropriate map from the Canadian Topographical Series. Walkers should not venture into the wilderness areas without ensuring that they are fit and properly equipped.



Montreal

The 2nd largest French-speaking city in the world, Montreal carries on the European tradition of keeping culture within the reach of the people. Downtown Montreal lies between Mont Royal and Old Montreal and is the heart of the business and shopping districts. A short walk out of the bustling downtown will take visitors back in time to the cobblestone streets, churches and unique old buildings of Old Montreal, which was the heart of the city until the end of the 19th century. Today, its charming buildings are filled with boutiques, bars and restaurants.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students
- Diverse country with much to see
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Low cost airfare from the USA
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Sometimes a 60-min ride via public transportation or walk to school
- Harsh winter weather conditions (Dec-Feb)



Montreal Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 14) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional French | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical French |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator French | <input type="checkbox"/> French & Fun |

Montreal School Facilities:

The school is located in the heart of city, only two blocks from a major subway line and minutes from great shopping, restaurants and nightlife. It occupies the top floor of a modern five-story building and its facilities include a central administration office, twenty-six classrooms, cyber lounge with free internet attached to a student lounge with microwaves. Capacity is 350 students/day.

Participants:

The majority are college students from Europe, South America, Mexico and Asia.

CANADA



Quebec City Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional French
- ☐ Medical French
- ☐ Educator French
- ☐ French & Fun

Quebec City School Facilities:

The school is located on the top floor (6th) of an historical building. The neighborhood, called Nouvo Saint Roch, is located in the center of downtown Quebec City. It is conveniently accessible to shops, cafes, restaurants and most sites of interest. The school's facilities provide an intimate feel and include 6 classrooms, a small kitchenette (microwave-roaster-fridge-freezer) for staff and students to use. Wi-fi is available for students with computers and 1 school computer is available for students' use. There is a room to watch DVDs after class. There is an open door policy with the school administrator and the academic director of study; their doors are always open for any discussion. The capacity is 75 students/day.

Participants:

50% American, 50% European. A mix of independent travelers, professionals & retirees.

"The faculty and staff were very friendly and helpful. My instructor was well prepared for each day's activities, took time to explain as we went along, and varied the activities each day to sustain our interest."

- Daryl Richard Y., retired



Quebec City

Quebec City, located about 400 km from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, is one of the world's most picturesque cities and is the capital of the province of Quebec. It is the cradle of French culture in Canada with a 95% French-speaking population. Founded in 1608 by Samuel de Champlain, today Greater Quebec City has approximately 500,000 inhabitants.

Quebec City is the only North American city, north of Mexico, to have maintained its fortifications. With its old city walls, the characteristic green copper roofs and fortified Citadel, UNESCO declared the provincial capital a World Heritage site in 1985. The city is split into two levels, Upper Town and Lower Town, which are connected by stone stairways and a municipal lift.

The heart of the 'Upper Town' is Old Town (Vieux Quebec) here its cobblestone streets filled with bars, cafes, restaurants and shaded squares emphasize the European flare. This section of the city demonstrates fine 18th-and 19th-century architecture, notably the Place D'Armes and the first-class hotel Chateau Frontenac. In front of the Chateau Frontenac is a wide promenade with 310 wooden steps leading up to the Citadel, which affords incredible views across the St. Lawrence River.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Diverse country with much to see
- Low cost airfare from the USA

What We Don't Like:

- Usually, a 20-30 minute bus ride to school
- Harsh winter weather conditions (Dec-Feb)

FRANCE

France is world-renowned for its rich history and spectacular cuisine. The landscape ranges from the high cliffs and rocky beaches in the north, to the resorts of the Riviera in the south. France's beautiful countryside is abundant with vineyards and farms. Cosmopolitan cities and quaint towns make France a diverse country ripe in culture and charm.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Monte Carlo, Monaco** – Do not miss Monaco-ville, the oldest part of the town on a high promontory.
- **Antibes** – One of the poshest and most famous of the Riviera resort towns. While there, make sure to visit the *Musee*.
- **Cannes** – Famed for its celebrities and film festival.
- **French Vineyards** – While the Romans are credited with bringing the art of making wine to France, the French have taken it to a new level.
- **Roquebrune** – A picturesque fortified village with a fairy tale castle, the Chateau de Roquebrune.
- **Tour Eiffel** – When Tour Eiffel was completed in 1889, it was the tallest building in the world at 300m.
- **Notre-Dame** – The Gothic majesty of the cathedral of Notre-Dame dominates both the Seine and the ecclesiastical history of Paris. Begun in 1160, it was finished a century and a half later.
- **Musee du Louvre** – Perhaps one of the greatest museums in the world and certainly one of the largest. If you were to spend five minutes looking at each object and work of art from the time the museum opened to the time it closed, it would take you almost a decade to see it all.



Aix-en-Provence

Aix-en-Provence is an ancient spa and a university town in the heart of Provence, located in the south of France near the seaside as well as the mountains. Of roman origin, Aix-en-Provence is a small picturesque city known for its rich architectural heritage. The city center is lively with many fountains, sidewalk cafes on tree-lined streets and open air markets. During the summer months, Aix-en-Provence hosts at least four festivals including the famous International Arts and Music Festival every July. Easily accessible by train or bus, Aix-en-Provence serves as a natural hub of Europe's most attractive tourist region.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Diverse mix of students

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs



Aix-en-Provence Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 10) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional French | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical French |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educator French | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French & Fun |

Aix-en-Provence School Facilities:

A 2-min walk from the Palais de Justice, the school's 3-story building is located near the city center & a beautiful public garden. 15 air-conditioned classrooms, multi-media room with internet & email access, a recreational room with TV and video, small kitchenette & a sunny terrace facing the garden. Capacity is 130 students/day.

Participants:

Most are from Europe with 17% from North America and 13% from Japan. The majority are students and independent travelers of all ages.

FRANCE

Biarritz

Once a fishing village located in French Basque country near the Spanish border, this beautiful city of beaches is known as the 'California of Europe'. The city of Biarritz became famous in the 19th century when Empress Eugenie, the wife of Napoleon III, fell in love with this area and built a palace on the beach, now the world-class Hotel du Palais. Recognized as one of the most famous coastal resorts in the world and the surf capital of France, the number of visitors to this area greatly increases during the summer months. It offers fine beaches, golf, 'cesta punta' or a game played with a ball and scoop-like racket, nightly folkloric performances, casinos, or a stroll through displays of Basque music and handicrafts.



Biarritz Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional French
- ☐ Medical French
- ☐ Educator French
- ☒ French & Fun

Biarritz School Facilities:

Ideally located close to the Biarritz town center, train station and airport. This modern & spacious building offers 15 bright, air-conditioned classrooms. A small lounge area, computers with internet access & self study room is also at students disposal during class hours.

Participants:

Mostly Europeans of all ages, with a good mix between 25-40.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities
- Proximity to beaches

What We Don't Like:

- 45 min sessions, less than most programs
- Many tourists during the summer

Bordeaux

The city of Bordeaux lies around 62 miles (100km) from the Atlantic, at the lowest bridging point on the Garonne River. The city center sits between place Gambetta and the Garonne. Bordeaux, home to one of France's seven key wine regions has around 500 chateaux, or vineyards. While a large majority of visitors come to the city and its surroundings to tour the chateaux and sip world-class wines and indulge in the regional cuisine, Bordeaux offers much more. The city has excellent museums, vibrant nightlife and beaches nearby. The combination of wide avenues and Neoclassical architecture and the well-maintained parks give the city a 18th-century type grandeur. The ethnically diverse population and a lively university community of some 60,000 students help make this city a must for the language traveler.



Bordeaux Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional French
- ☐ Medical French
- ☐ Educator French
- ☒ French & Fun

Bordeaux School Facilities:

A spacious and impressive 19th century three-story building overlooking Place Gambetta, a beautiful park. Situated in the heart of the city offering modern facilities with 15 bright air-conditioned classrooms, study room, library and vending machines for snacks and drinks. There are additional classrooms in a nearby annex which are also used by the students. Capacity is 130 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly Europeans of all ages, with a good mix between 25-40.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes activities

What We Don't Like:

- 45 min sessions, less than most programs
- Many tourists during the summer

Lyon

Lyon, France's 2nd largest city, is filled with many public squares, gardens, boutiques, art galleries, sporting events and sidewalk cafes. The Lyonnais take pleasure in sharing its various attractions with visitors to make Lyon overall an enjoyable experience! For complete information on our French language program in Lyon, please visit our website: www.amerispan.com/

Montpellier

Montpellier is one of southern France's fastest-growing cities, competing with Toulouse for the title of the most dynamic southern city. It is a bustling and ancient university city still renowned for its medical school with approximately one fourth of the city's population in students. This city has an energetic bar and nightclub scene as well as tree-lined promenades with cafes, historic monuments and a charming old city with narrow alleys.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Laundry service at host family
- School organizes some activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students

What We Don't Like:

- 45 min sessions, less than most programs
- Many tourists during the summer



Montpellier Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 10) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional French | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical French |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator French | <input type="checkbox"/> French & Fun |

Montpellier School Facilities:

Downtown in the heart of the historical city center, just a few minutes walking from the enormous main pedestrian square, Place de la Comedia. The square is alive with cafes and shops. In addition to air-conditioned classrooms, the school offers video and audio facilities, a small library and a computer room with internet access. Capacity is 300 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Western Europe, with a good mix of ages ranging from 18 to 45.

Nice

Nice is located on the Mediterranean coast, between the Alps and Italy's Gulf of Genoa. Nice is the capital of the Cote D'Azur and is well known for its fine architecture and proximity to Cannes, Monaco and Monte Carlo. The opportunities for sight-seeing are endless and the great waterfront of the Riviera has made this area one of the most visited regions of France.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Good weather year-round
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 15-20 min commute to school
- Many tourists in Nice



Nice Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional French | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical French |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator French | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French & Fun |

Nice School Facilities:

The school is air conditioned & has 17 classrooms on 1st floor of a Belle Epoque building. It has with a multimedia learning center with an audio language lab, computer center & videos. Computer Lab includes free internet access for students. Capacity is 250 students/day.

Participants:

19% Germany, 11% Japan, 11% USA, 9% Russia, (53 nationalities).

FRANCE



Normandy Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Professional French
- ☐ Educator French
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical French
- ☐ French & Fun

Normandy School Facilities:

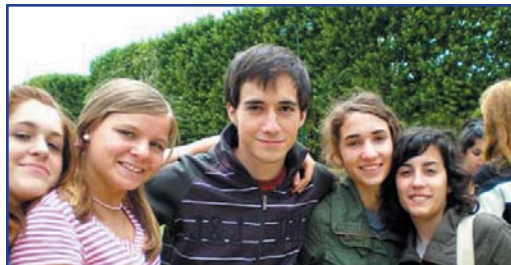
Our school is located city in a pleasant residential area in the city of Rouen. There is a shopping center and other shops nearby and the town center is just 10 minutes via Metro. Classes take place in an airy, modern building filled with natural light in a family-like study environment. There are self-study facilities and free Internet access.

Participants:

Wide age range, average age 23. Mostly European and Asian students.

Normandy

Normandy is located on the English Channel and is often compared with the countryside of Southern England. The area is known for its peaceful farmland subdivided by hedges and trees. The department of Haute-Normandie is anchored by the historical city of Rouen, home of Joan of Arc. Rouen is easily accessible by train from Paris and other major towns around the region. It is well known for its many spires, church towers, museums and the Old City that has been painstakingly restored after World War II.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Diverse mix of students
- Small program with intimate atmosphere & personal attention
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Up to a 30-min. commute to school



Paris Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 14)
- ☒ Professional French
- ☐ Educator French
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical French
- ☐ French & Fun

Paris School Facilities:

Located in the heart of Paris, near the Opera, the Louvre museum, the Pompidou Center, Notre-Dame cathedral and the famous Parisian shops. The school occupies the whole second floor of a typical Parisian building, 20 sunny and spacious classrooms, a cyber-cafe with free Internet access and a cafeteria.

Participants:

All ages and great international mix: 12% from North America, 11% from Germany, 11% from Japan, 9% from Italy, 6% from Spain and 6% from Korea.

Paris

Nicknamed "the City of Lights," Paris is truly one of the world's most beautiful cities. This capital city is bisected by the Seine river and is made up of 20 districts. Each district has its own character and meaning for Parisians. The art, music, theater, fashion, literature and architecture of Paris make it a mecca for travelers from all over the world.



What We Like:

- Beautiful cosmopolitan city
- Excellent sight-seeing, culture, night life, shopping, architecture, anything!
- Easy to travel to other parts of Europe
- Nice facilities
- Guaranteed minimum of 8 levels of French year round

What We Don't Like:

- Many tourists in the summer
- Cost of living is high
- Residence & some host families can be up to 30-60 minutes from school

SWITZERLAND

Although small in size in comparison to its European neighbors, Switzerland more than makes up for this with its breathtaking mountains, interesting mix of cultures and culinary delights. Surrounded by Germany, France, Italy, Austria and Liechtenstein, it has a large German-speaking population to the north, smaller French-speaking area to the west and Italian to the south. In the isolated mountain valley areas, mainly in Graubunden, a 4th language called Romansch is spoken by about 1% of the population. The majestic Alps, which cover approximately 60% of the country's land, are famous for climbing, skiing, snowboarding, biking, hiking and other fun activities. Swiss cuisine borrows its culinary traditions from German and French cuisines. Some commonly eaten foods are rosti, meat or cheese fondue and raclette to name only a few. In addition to cheese, Switzerland is known for its chocolate.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Lindt & Sprungli Chocolate Factory** - This parent company of Ghirardelli Chocolate in San Francisco is located west of Zurich, in a town called Kilchberg. They have a free museum with extensive notes written in English, videos of the chocolate making process and generous free chocolate samples given at the end of your visit.
- **Geneva Lake** - Located between the Alps and Jura Mountains on both Swiss and French borders, this lake has been a favorite theme among writers, most notably Rousseau and Byron, because of its picturesque beauty. The northern Swiss shore is recognized by its sloping vineyards and orchards & numerous resorts and villas are situated around the lake in general. Two large lakeside cities are Montreux and Lausanne. The lake itself is known for its deep blue and remarkably clear waters.



Montreux

Located on the east end of the Lake of Geneva, Montreux, the most visited Swiss Riviera resort, has long been an oasis for expatriates because of its spectacular views of the Dents-du-Midi mountain peaks, a profusion of Mediterranean vegetation and lakeside parks. Most densely populated during the summer months, this resort is favored year-round. The best way to discover the charms of this city is on foot where you can visit the old quarter with its zig-zagging streets, hillside terraces and old houses. On the lake, only 2 miles south of Montreux, is the most impressive castle in the country, called the Chateau of Chillon.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry facilities in homestay
- School organizes some activities
- Proximity to Lake Geneva & ski resorts
- Diverse mix of students
- Convenient base for travel in Europe

What We Don't Like:

- Many tourists during the summer months

Montreux Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional French | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical French |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator French | <input type="checkbox"/> French & Fun |

Montreux School Facilities:

School is located in the center of Montreux, next to Lake Geneva and on the most lively and bustling street of the town. Casual and friendly classrooms, 2 balconies in front of Geneva Lake, one shadow terrace on the north, free internet connection for students, snack and drink machines in cafeteria. Fitness center located in same building as school with different types of courses, sauna, Turkish bath, etc. Capacity is 120 students/day.

Participants:

Majority are 20-28 years but also some professionals. Most participants are from Europe.

AUSTRIA



Landlocked by its central European neighbors, Austria is an enchanting place with a rich cultural legacy, thriving art scene, melting pot of architectural styles and spectacular landscapes. A country with four distinct seasons, Austria's Alps have some of the best skiing in the world along with plenty of opportunity for hiking and biking and other breathtaking outdoor activities for nature enthusiasts. Its unrivaled music tradition and cultural offerings make it a favorite destination for art lovers.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Vienna Opera House** - Built during the Italian Renaissance, between 1861 and 1869, the Vienna Opera House has a worldwide reputation for 1st class performances. A night at the Opera House is one of the most impressive events any visitor to Vienna can experience. Despite having been destroyed by a World War II bombing and then re-built with its re-opening in 1955, it has regained its reputation of being one of the world's greatest musical establishments. Regular tours are scheduled for a closer behind-the-scenes look and evening attire and black tie are recommended for first-night performances and in the better seats.
- **Salzburg** - First made famous by Mozart and then by the filming of The Sound of Music in 1964, Salzburg offers many attractions, most of which are within walking distance of one another. It is a town as popular with Austrians as it is with visitors from around the world. Some of Salzburg's annual festivals are Mozart Week (January), the Easter Festival, the Salzburg Festival (summer), Culture Week (October) and Advent. Some cultural sights/activities within Salzburg include, Mozart's home and museum (which houses a surprisingly modest array of articles related to his life), the Hohensalzburg Fortress, St. Peter's Abbey Church and various sites made famous by The Sound of Music such as the gazebo, St. Peter's Cemetery and the Rocky Riding School.



Vienna Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional German
- ☐ Medical German
- ☒ Educator German
- ☒ German & Fun

Vienna School Facilities:

The school is centrally located in Vienna's embassy district, opposite "Schloss Belvedere", and within easy reach of public transportation. There are 6 bright, modern, air-conditioned and well-furnished classrooms. Students may enjoy free W-LAN/Wi-Fi in the student lounge with coffee, drinks and snacks along with a multimedia library featuring 17 workspaces with computer and Internet access.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, but also from Asia & North America. 60% university students (18-30 yrs), 30% professionals (25-60 yrs).

Vienna

During the 18th to 20th centuries, Vienna was known as the musical capital of the world and home to the musical geniuses of Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn and Brahms, just to name a few. Today it remains a city of strong musical heritage because of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, the Vienna State Opera and the Music Conservatory. It has also been known for its cultural and outstanding educational institutions which is evident in its numerous museums and art galleries. Vienna is a relaxed city.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes activities & culture lessons
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Also excellent for advanced students
- Choice of homestay or apartment

What We Don't Like:

- 45 min sessions, less than most programs
- Homestays can be up to 45 min commute in the summer months

GERMANY

Germany is a historical yet modern country, split into sharply defined regions. Each region maintains its distinctive character with its own dialect, traditional dress and foods. Germany's many modern cities stem from the time when it consisted of countless small states. North Germany has the delightful old seafaring ports, east is the beautiful cultural centers and south is the alluring Black Forest and those boisterous Bavarian beer halls. Along the Rhine and Moselle Rivers are picturesque castles and steep, terraced vineyards. From Frankfurt to Bremen runs a trail of villages that helped inspire the Grimm Brother's fairy tales.

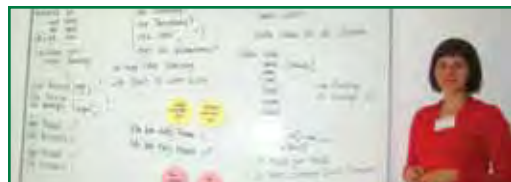
PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Food, beer & wine** – Experience traditional hearty dishes such as a plate full of sausages and dumplings. Beer is the national beverage and is a cultural phenomenon that must be adequately explored. Both the beer and wine are excellent and pretty cheap. Each region and brewery produces beer with a distinctive taste and body. Enjoy!
- **Heidelberg** – One hour south of Frankfurt, visitors are irresistibly drawn by its magnificent Gothic-Renaissance castle. This pretty town is also known for The Great Vat is which holds about 220,000 liters!
- **Lübeck** – A glorious Medieval town off the main tourist trails. It is a quiet alternative to the more spectacular attractions further south. The old town was heavily bombed in WWII, but has been sensitively rebuilt and the town's stately charm is apparent today.



Bamberg

Bamberg is located in northern Bavaria and is considered one of the most romantic of German cities. It is a thousand-year cultural and architectural site consisting of 2,300 buildings that is lively and multifaceted and was declared World Heritage by UNESCO. Full of small and winding alleys and tranquil areas along the river and in the many parks, Bamberg is a city with an original character and a very special atmosphere. 10% of the population of 100,000 attends University and a youthful atmosphere can be felt all over the town, offering many bars, pubs and restaurants and incidentally the highest concentration of beer breweries in the world! For culture enthusiasts there are music, theater and cinema performances every day of the year.

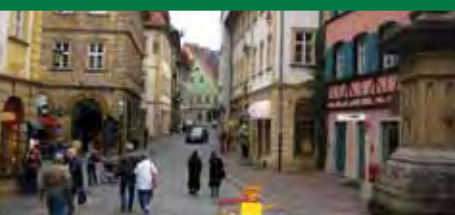


What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Beautiful colonial city
- Diverse mix of students
- Walking distance to school
- Not many tourists in Bamberg
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Closest airport is one hour away



Bamberg Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional German | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical German |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator German | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> German & Fun |

Bamberg School Facilities:

The school is located in the downtown area of Bamberg in a renovated 3 story building, very close to coffee shops, restaurants, markets and the University. It has 8 spacious classrooms with a great view to the main street and the river. There is also an office and meeting room, a teacher's room and a study room. 4 computers available with internet access for the students and WLAN. Capacity is 65 students/day.

Participants:

Most students are American, Italian, Spanish, British and Japanese.

GERMANY

Berlin

Berlin is laden with historical charm, a vast sprawling city with pockets of attractions dotted all over, from the old streets of East Berlin where little has changed in fifty years to the grand architecture of Museum-insel and Unter den Linden. Visitors will be pleasantly surprised by Berlin today, where one may find everything from authentic beer halls and old Soviet era haunts, to buzzing style bars and Latino nightclubs. Today's quintessential Berlin experience is to laze through a summer day in the Tiergarten with the rabble of construction just out of earshot, sipping on a chilled pilsner beer while you witness a city reinventing itself as one of the great European capitals.



Berlin Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional German | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical German |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educator German | <input type="checkbox"/> German & Fun |

Berlin School Facilities:

A campus with 5 buildings located in the trendy borough of Prenzlauer Berg, close to cafes and restaurants. 40 classrooms, media center with internet access and wireless internet, cafeteria, travel help desk and bicycle rental. 5 minute walk to the Metro station. Capacity is 200 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from US and Europe, but also from Asia and Latin America. Average age 25 but ranges from 16 to 76.

What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or residence
- School organizes activities
- Large cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students
- Many extra services for students (bike rental, internet, etc)

What We Don't Like:

- Homestays can be up to a 60 min commute
- 45 min sessions, less than most programs

Frankfurt

Frankfurt is a city as diverse as its striking skyline, where modern skyscrapers blend perfectly with older, more traditional German-style architecture. Situated on the banks of the river Main, Frankfurt is the financial center of Germany and the second largest financial center in Europe (behind London). After the work day is done Frankfurt comes to life through it's world famous dance clubs, cafes, and restaurants (more than just the home of the frankfurter). Beautiful cathedrals and museums dot the river's southern shoreline and it's the perfect size to manage on foot or by bicycle. Frankfurt is also known to be one of the cleanest cities in Germany, and was ranked 7th in the world for quality of living by Mercer Human Resource Consulting in 2007.



Frankfurt Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 15) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional German | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical German |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator German | <input type="checkbox"/> German & Fun |

Frankfurt School Facilities:

The school is located 10 mins from the Sachsenhausen, one of Frankfurt's most picturesque districts, situated on the river Main. This area was hardly touched during WWII and has retained its old world charm, covered in Museums and cathedrals, making it the most appealing area of Frankfurt for visitors. The school is equipped with Wi-Fi, an internet cafe, a multimedia room, a self-study center with books, cds, and other resources, as well as a student travel office & a student lounge. The school has 7 classrooms & can hold a capacity of 125 students/day during high season.

Participants:

International mix, most are Europeans; some North American & Asian students.

What We Like:

- School organizes activities
- Good location & close to public transportation
- Convenient base for travel in Germany

What We Don't Like:

- Sometimes large class sizes during busy summer months

GERMANY



Berlin Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Professional German
- ☒ Educator German
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical German
- ☐ German & Fun

Berlin School Facilities:

Located in a quiet neighborhood, the school is in a modern building next to a lavishly refurbished old factory building. It's just a 15-minute walk to the center of Reichstag and Brandenburg Gate and is also very close to Friedrich and Torstrasse. There are 15 comfortably furnished classrooms on the 2nd and 3rd floor of the building. The facility includes: Self-study center with books, CDs and media, multimedia room with 6 computers, internet cafe with 10 computers, laptop-cable and Wireless-LAN network access, student office, lounge with drink and snack-vending machines and a spacious roof terrace.

Participants:

Mostly from US and Europe, but also from Asia and Latin America.

Berlin

Berlin is laden with historical charm, a vast sprawling city with pockets of attractions dotted all over, from the old streets of East Berlin where little has changed in fifty years to the grand architecture of Museum-insel and Unter den Linden. Visitors will be pleasantly surprised by Berlin today, where one may find everything from authentic beer halls and old Soviet era haunts, to buzzing style bars and Latino nightclubs. Today's quintessential Berlin experience is to laze through a summer day in the Tiergarten with the rabble of construction just out of earshot, sipping on a chilled pilsner beer while you witness a city reinventing itself as one of the great European capitals.



What We Like:

- Large cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Many extra services for students
- Diverse mix of students
- School organizes activities

What We Don't Like:

- Homestays can be up to a 45 min. commute
- 45 min sessions, less than most programs



Frankfurt Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 15)
- ☒ Professional German
- ☒ Educator German
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical German
- ☐ German & Fun

Frankfurt School Facilities:

The school is located 10 mins from the Sachsenhausen, one of Frankfurt's most picturesque districts, situated on the river Main. This area was hardly touched during WWII and has retained its old world charm, covered in Museums and cathedrals, making it the most appealing area of Frankfurt for visitors. The school is equipped with Wi-Fi, an internet cafe, a multimedia room, a self-study center with books, cds, and other resources, as well as a student travel office & a student lounge. The school has 7 classrooms & can hold a capacity of 125 students/day during high season.

Participants:

International mix, most are Europeans; some North American & Asian students.

Frankfurt

Frankfurt is a city as diverse as its striking skyline, where modern skyscrapers blend perfectly with older, more traditional German-style architecture. Situated on the banks of the river Main, Frankfurt is the financial center of Germany and the second largest financial center in Europe (behind London). After the work day is done Frankfurt comes to life through it's world famous dance clubs, cafes, and restaurants (more than just the home of the frankfurter). Beautiful cathedrals and museums dot the river's southern shoreline and it's the perfect size to manage on foot or by bicycle. Frankfurt is also known to be one of the cleanest cities in Germany, and was ranked 7th in the world for quality of living by Mercer Human Resource Consulting in 2007.



What We Like:

- School organizes activities
- Good location & close to public transportation
- Convenient base for travel in Germany

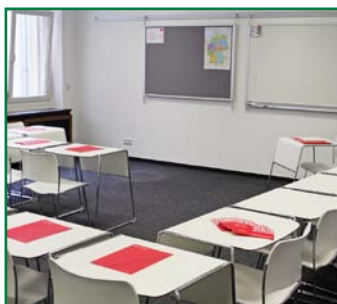
What We Don't Like:

- Sometimes large class sizes during busy summer months



Hamburg

Three rivers, two lakes, and a skyline of towering church spires surrounded by lush green parks provide visitors with a pleasant atmosphere to explore the second largest city in Germany. Located in the Northern part of Germany, Hamburg's Harbor is home to the second largest port in Europe, making Hamburg an important economic center for Germany and for the rest of Europe. The famous bahn in the St. Pauli district is home to a raucous, often hedonistic, alternative crowd, and played host for the Beatles' first concerts as band in 1960. This city is connected by over 2,300 bridges; more than Amsterdam and Venice combined. With all it has to offer, Hamburg is still perhaps most famously recognized for the beef patties that German immigrants introduced in New York City in the late 1800's.



What We Like:

- School is located in the city center
- School organizes some activities
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- 45 min sessions, less than most programs
- Year round weather is often cool with rain



Hamburg Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional German | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical German |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator German | <input type="checkbox"/> German & Fun |

Hamburg School Facilities:

The school is in the Esplanade Building, which is a historic art-deco commercial building in the heart of Hamburg. From the 200 square meter roof terrace students can enjoy a view on the Inner Alster – the large artificial inner-city lake – and the Jungfernstieg with its world-famous hotels and department stores. All classrooms are well lit and spacious and are equipped with high quality furniture and state-of-the-art communication media. The facility includes: Self-study center with books, CDs and media, multimedia room with 60 computers, spacious student library, laptop-cable and Wireless-LAN network access, student office, lounge with drink and snack-vending machines, spacious roof terrace.

Participants:

International Mix – European students and also many from Asia, South America and North America.

Munich

Located to the north of the Bavarian Alps, on the River Isar, Munich (München) is a city that combines proud provincialism with international glamour. Founded by Duke Henry the Lion in 1158, the city had become, within a century, the seat of the Wittelsbach dynasty, who ruled the duchy, electorate and kingdom of Bavaria until the end of World War I. Their influence is evident in the concentration of grand Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Neoclassical architecture adorning Munich's streets. Perhaps most importantly, the Wittelsbach's patronage of the arts and extensive art collections provided the basis for Munich's world-class museums and galleries.

The city acquired the name München ('home of the monks') from its first monastery, founded in the eighth century. Monasteries have since played an important role in the history of the city, not least by starting the beer brewing traditions for which the city has received worldwide renown. Munich's warm summers, garden restaurants, open-air stages, world famous Oktoberfest celebration and snowy winters with romantic Christmas markets make it a great place to visit year-round.



What We Like:

- Choice of homestay or residence
- Some activities organized by school
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)

What We Don't Like:

- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Usually a 20-30 minute commute to school



Munich Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional German | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical German |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator German | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> German & Fun |

Munich School Facilities:

The school is located in a modern building next to the pedestrian zone which offers shopping & dining. Capacity is 100 students/day.

Participants:

International mix with more than half of the participants from Europe. Average age range 21-35.



ITALY



Known for its diverse regions, rich culture, and fabulous food, boot-shaped Italy possesses perhaps the most instantly identifiable physical shape of any country in the world. You can visit Roman ruins, gawk at Renaissance art, stay in tiny hill towns, ski the Alps, explore the canals of Venice, and see more churches than you can imagine. Naturally, you can indulge in the elementary pleasures of good food, improving your wardrobe, and seeking out “la dolce vita.” From its beaches to its Alpine mountains, Italy vibrates with a special soul that is reflected in its people, music, and art.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Pompeii** – Easily accessible from Naples, this thriving resort town was buried under ash & mud during the devastating eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 AD.
- **Amalfi Coast** – Stretching for 31 miles along a cape from Sorrento to Salerno is one of Europe’s most beautiful coastlines.
- **Colosseum** (Colosseo) – Construction of the Colosseum was started by Emperor Vespasian in 72 AD and completed by his son, Titus, eight years later. The massive structure could seat more than 80,000 and hosted bloody gladiator and wild beast shows.
- **The Pantheon** – The Pantheon is the best-preserved building of Ancient Rome. The extraordinary dome is considered the most important achievement of ancient Roman architecture.
- **Canals of Venice** – Home to Marco Polo, Venice is a city of canals, not roads. It serenely escapes the noise of automobile traffic.
- **Duomo di Firenze** – The towering dome in Florence is one of the largest cathedrals in the world.
- **Vatican City** – In 1929, Mussolini gave the Pope full sovereignty over what is now the Citta del Vaticano. It has its own postal service, currency, newspaper, train station and army of Swiss Guards.





Florence

Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance, is considered the heartbeat of the country with its breathtaking architecture and sculpture, cultural events and museums. The streets of Florence radiate the charm of Italian culture.



What We Like:

- Choice of homestay or apartment
- Beautiful historical city
- Easy travel throughout country
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Many tourists in the summer



Florence Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Italian
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☒ Educator Italian
- ☐ Italian & Fun

Florence School Facilities:

Situated in a beautiful historical palazzo with a magnificent view of the Cathedral in the heart of downtown Florence, only a few minutes from most famous sights. The school facilities include 18 classrooms, a lounge area with snack, drink and coffee machines, a classroom with video facilities for film evenings, audio facilities and also free Internet access.

Participants:

International mix of students, most from USA, Germany, Switzerland and Austria.

Milan

Milan is the 2nd largest city in Italy, as well as its financial and fashion center. It is also a hub for national and international travel boasting the country's largest international airport, most rail connections and most modern subway system. It is a modern, cosmopolitan city with no shortage of cultural highlights. The city center has many good museums and a particularly good selection of world-class art exhibitions and individual pieces. The Brera Gallery is an international treasure house, on par with the Uffizi Gallery in Florence or London's National Gallery; and Michelangelo's last work, the extraordinary Pieta Rondanini, in the civic galleries of the Sforza Castle, is a surprise find for many of the city's visitors. If you tire from the great shopping, artistic treasures and fine dining, you can hop on a train and in less than an hour enjoy a relaxing day by one of the large lakes just outside the city.



What We Like:

- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Convenient base for travel in Italy
- Diverse country with much to see
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Commute time to school from some homestays can be 15-50 minutes



Milan Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Italian
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☐ Educator Italian
- ☒ Italian & Fun

Milan School Facilities:

The school is located in the Navigli zone and is part of a student campus that is well connected to the city center by subway & bus. The school facilities include 9 classrooms with air conditioning along with a library & free Internet cafe.

Participants:

International mix of students, mostly from USA, Germany, Japan & England.

ITALY



Rome

Rome is located in the middle of Italy on its western coast, about 20km inland. The sense of history, art and architecture in Rome is all-embracing and quite simply a feast for the eyes. There is a hectic vibrancy of anarchic traffic, piazzas, fountains and fabulous restaurants. The historic city center is quite small and most of the major sights are within a reasonable distance of the central railway station.

We offer two options for Rome, 1st Choice and a Budget-Friendly option.

1st Choice



Rome (First Choice) Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Italian
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☒ Educator Italian
- ☐ Italian & Fun

Rome (First Choice) School Facilities:

The school is located in an elegant typical aristocratic building in the center of Rome, in the pedestrian area halfway from the Piazza Novona, Castel S. Angelo and St. Peter Basilica. The school facilities include 13 spacious classrooms, a common room with vending machines, a computer room with free Internet access, a video room, a conference room and cafeteria where students can enjoy Mediterranean cuisine. This school has an elevator and is wheelchair accessible.

Participants:

International mix of students, mostly from USA, Holland, France, Switzerland & England.



What We Like:

- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Convenient base for travel in Italy
- Diverse country with much to see
- Diverse mix of students
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Shared room (private room is extra)
- Commute time to school from some homestays can be up to 50 minutes
- Many tourists in Rome

Budget-Friendly



Rome (Budget-Friendly) Courses offered:

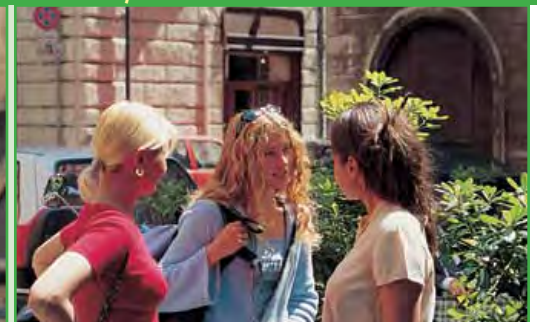
- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Italian
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☐ Educator Italian
- ☐ Italian & Fun

Rome (Budget-Friendly) School Facilities:

The school is located in a central yet quiet part of Rome, only a five-minute walk from the central train station and only 15 minutes from the Colosseum. Easy access to bus and underground lines. The school has 7 classrooms, a sunny terrace, free internet access, a common room with a coffee machine, a small library and a video room in which students can watch Italian films. Capacity is 40-60 students.

Participants:

International mix.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- Convenient base for travel in Italy
- Culturally rich in history & architecture
- 15-min walk to the Colosseum

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Many tourists in Rome



Siena

Siena is located in the heart of Tuscany and is known as the best-preserved medieval town in Italy. Set on three hills, the city is drawn together by winding alleys and steep steps, whilst the Piazza del Campo stands at its heart and the Duomo and St. Maria della Scala serve as additional cultural landmarks. This magnificent Cathedral, begun in 1230, is an important point of reference for Italian Gothic architecture since it provided a basic model for a cathedral and was subsequently adopted in many other Italian cities. Surrounded by olive groves and the vineyards of Chianti, Siena is a precious medieval town with great architectural treasures.



What We Like:

- School organizes some activities
- Beautiful colonial city
- Walking distance to school
- Not many tourists in Siena
- Possible to switch to school's other campuses in Florence, Milan, or Rome (1st)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Shared room (private room is extra)



Siena Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☐ Professional Italian
- ☐ Educator Italian
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☒ Italian & Fun

Siena School Facilities:

The school is located in a historical building at the medieval center of Siena. It is conveniently located close to historic monuments, museums, restaurants and shops. The school has large classrooms, a sun deck and administrative offices. Free Internet available.

Participants:

International mix of students, mostly from USA, Germany, Switzerland & Austria.

Sorrento

Sorrento stands on a dramatic line of 150-foot cliffs, looking north across the Bay of Naples. It was originally a Greek village whose name was derived from the mythical song of the mermaids. Sorrento is a flower-filled town which draws thousands of national and international visitors. The small town center boasts an impressive cathedral, a Franciscan church with a distinctive 13th-century cloister and many lovely seaside restaurants and cafes. Sorrento is a gateway to the romantic island of Capri as well as the historic city of Pompeii.



What We Like:

- School organizes some activities
- Beautiful colonial city
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Italians study English at this school

What We Don't Like:

- Outside of busy summer months, fewer activities & excursions
- Cost of living is higher than expected
- Many tourists in Sorrento



Sorrento Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☐ Professional Italian
- ☐ Educator Italian
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☒ Italian & Fun

Sorrento School Facilities:

The school is located in a historical former convent overlooking the Gulf of Naples with a wonderful view over the islands and Vesuvius. The school facilities include a reception area, elevator, 8 large classrooms equipped with air conditioning, tv, wi-fi connection, stereo and whiteboard, a students lounge with computers and free internet, language lab, teachers room, and a vending machine area to purchase coffee, soft drinks & snacks. A open space area with tables and chairs allows participants to enjoy the garden area filled with Mediterranean trees and plants.

Participants:

Mixed nationalities and ages. Independent travelers, college student & professionals.

ITALY



Taormina-Sicily



Taormina-Sicily Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Italian
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☐ Educator Italian
- ☒ Italian & Fun

Taormina-Sicily School Facilities:

The school is housed in a recently renovated Villa, Casa Silva. Facilities include spacious classrooms, a botanical garden, a new kitchen, snack bar, and cafeteria, and WIFI and Internet access. In addition to the language school, the building serves as a Cultural Center open both to the local community and to students with rooms built to host exhibitions, concerts, and theater.

Participants:

International mix of students and professionals. Europeans with some US and Canadian students.

Taormina is perfectly situated to offer students easy access to the beautiful and historically important treasures of Sicily. With a strong vocation for tourism, Taormina offers many hotels, restaurants, bars, discos, entertainment and sports (windsurfing, scuba diving, mountain-biking, mountain-climbing, rafting, tennis and golf). For walkers, the surroundings of Taormina are a beautiful paradise. There are several trails leading down to the sea and up to the picturesque village of Castelmola. You can also climb to the top of the highest mountain in the area, Monte Venere, where one of the three Greek Venus temples is rumored to have been. The entire region is also known worldwide for its traditional food and the very particular type of rich red wine made from the grapes grown on Mount Etna, which is the largest active volcano in Europe.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse mix of students
- Walking distance to school

What We Don't Like:

- Additional cost of transportation to Sicily
- Many tourists in Sicily



Venice Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 12)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Italian
- ☐ Medical Italian
- ☐ Educator Italian
- ☐ Italian & Fun

Venice School Facilities:

The school is located in the center of Venice in a "campo" well-known by Venetians called Santa Margherita. This area is popular with both students and residents for shopping or meeting friends at one of the several open air cafes. Their large sunny terrace overlooks the plaza. Students have free access to Internet and a resource library. Capacity is 70 students/day.

Participants:

International mixture, most are Europeans with some students from the US and Canada.

Known as La Serenissima, "the most serene," Venice is a unique and beautiful treasure. This floating city is built on 117 small islands, has some 150 canals and 409 bridges. The historic center is divided into 6 sestieri (quarters). It covers a deceptively small area; walking from Cannaregio in the northwest to Dorsoduro in the south should take only 30 minutes. The city's 'main street' is the Grand Canal, which passes each of the districts as it twists along the length of Venice from the railway station to San Marco. Although it may be small, Venice offers a seemingly endless list of art venues, architectural masterpieces, cultural activities and (of course) shopping and eating!



What We Like:

- Private room
- Choice of homestay or apartment
- School organizes some activities
- Beautiful and unique city
- Diverse mix of students
- Walking distance to school
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention

What We Don't Like:

- Many tourists in the summer
- No meals included in homestay (use of kitchen available)



Viareggio

Wide sandy beaches line the coast of this traditional Italian town on the Tuscan Riviera (or Versilia), while a tall mountain serves as a dramatic backdrop. Viareggio gives visitors an authentic feel while still providing the wide sandy beaches and excellent nightlife of a resort town. The town is small enough to be easily walkable and it is easy to meet the friendly natives. A visit to Viareggio means an opportunity to sample the fresh seafood specialties and visit the nearby historical towns of Florence, Pisa, Pietrasanta and more.



What We Like:

- Private room in host family
- Laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Diverse mix of students

What We Don't Like:

- Extra charge for studying Apr - Nov
- 45-min sessions, less than most programs



Viareggio Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 12) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Italian | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Italian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Italian | <input type="checkbox"/> Italian & Fun |

Viareggio School Facilities:

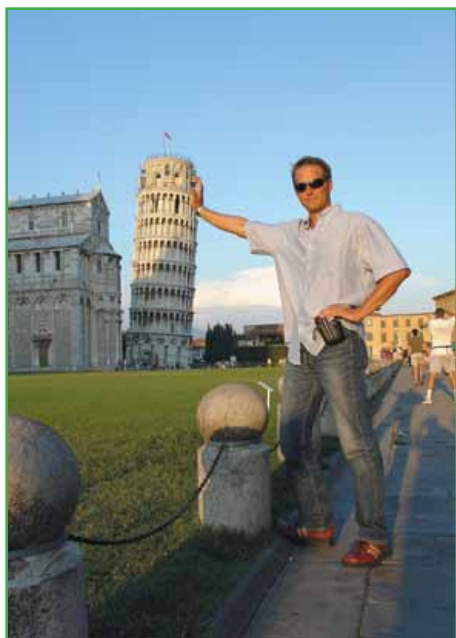
The campus is located in the center of Viareggio, within walking distance from the beach. There is a nice terrace, a gazebo and a small garden. The school is next to a pine forest where you can go jogging, rent a bicycle or play tennis. The whole town is within walking distance of the school. Capacity is 120/day.

Participants:

Mostly university students, professionals and independent travelers. Average age is 25. More young students in the summer.

"I recommend this program to anyone who the desire to explore a culture they have always held an interest in. It was a great experience in my life."

– Nicole B., Bartender



"The program was better than we expected. AmeriSpan and the school were both well organized. The school provided great opportunities for excursions and tours."

– Scott S., Insurance Industry

"Firstly, I love that the cost of the program was very reasonable. I also love how friendly and helpful everyone is when you call for help or for more information. The staff was extremely helpful. I really loved the program and all that we did. In the future I hope to travel with AmeriSpan again."

– Jessalyn J., Student



JAPAN



Somewhere between the elegant formality of Japanese manners and the candid, between the sanitized shopping malls and the unexpected rural festivals, everyone finds their own vision of Japan. Whether you end up taking photos of a reproduction Eiffel Tower, surfing an indoor wave, or taking a snooze in a nap capsule, you will do best to come with an open mind and be prepared for surprise.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Tea Ceremony** – Today, the ceremony is used as a means of training concentration of spirit and of learning manners. There are several schools for this in Japan. Many hotels have a tea ceremony room.
- **Hot Springs** – Japan has many volcanoes and consequently many hot springs (Onsen). Locals like to spend holidays near the springs.
- **Kenrokuen** – This garden in Kanazawa is known as one of the most beautiful gardens in Japan. It combines the six attributes that a garden should have: spaciousness, seclusion, human ingenuity, antiquity, water and panoramic views.
- **Nagano** – Most popular ski resorts are located in the Chubu region and Hokkaido. Hakuba in Nagano is one of them (Chubu region). The 1998 Winter Olympics were held in Nagano.
- **Sumo Wrestling** – The national sport of Japan. These tournaments are extremely popular events!
- **Tokyo Disneyland** – Home of the "Jungle Cruise," "Space Mountain," and, of course, the "Pirates of the Caribbean."



The 100 Yen Store

Japan is a must-see destination for students of all ages and interests. Famously known for its beautiful seasons, intriguing cuisine, wacky game shows, polite etiquette and fascinating culture, this country has many things to offer. However, one very important thing not to be missed are the numerous 100 Yen stores which are found throughout Tokyo! The 100 Yen store of Japan is comparable to the dollar store of the states but offers a plethora of souvenirs, house wares, children's toys, food items, cosmetics; practically everything one could want and need. While it is true that Japan can be expensive, those strapped on cash or have to buy several gifts can turn to the 100 Yen store. Perhaps one of the best stores can be found in Harajuku and is 4 stories high. If you pair the 100 Yen shopping with a nice (cheap) bowl of Ramen noodles, you can have a thrifty day!





Kanazawa

Kanazawa is located on the coast of Honshu, Japan's main island. Not only is Kanazawa's natural scenery a colorful delight year-round, but every seasonal change is so carefully celebrated in traditional cuisine, decor and yearly events, that one comes to feel as if there are more than four seasons. It is a modern city, even though it was built in the 15th century and is one of Japan's foremost castle towns. The city boasts many places of interest, such as the splendid Kenrokuen, known as one of the three most beautiful gardens in Japan and Ishikawa-mon, the commanding gate to the old castle grounds.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Always one family member or neighbor who speaks English
- Some cultural activities: tea ceremonies, origami, calligraphy, etc. (extra cost)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Program only open March - November
- Must speak English to participate
- Most students need to take train from Tokyo



Kanazawa Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 13) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Japanese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese & Fun |

Kanazawa School Facilities:

Housed in the modern International Exchange Center. Located in the city center, a short walk to the main train station, the Yokoyasu-cho shopping area & the Omicho Market. 5 classrooms, lecture room, quiet study room & student leisure area. Public library available in the International Exchange Center.

Participants:

International mix.

Tokyo

Tokyo's population of 12 million plus is crammed together (more than 14,000 per sq mile) and this makes the city crowded, alive, hectic, exciting and overwhelming all at the same time. Tokyo actually is a web of interconnected "villages" consisting of 23 city wards, 26 cities, 5 towns and 8 villages. Home to the Imperial Palace, Japan's capital is a city of contrasts blending its ancient character with modern economic power of Japan.



What We Like:

- Private room & laundry service
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students

What We Don't Like:

- 50-min sessions, less than most schools
- Usually a 60-min commute to school
- Cost of living is higher than expected



Tokyo Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 20) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Japanese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese & Fun |

Tokyo School Facilities:

Located in an 8-story building in Chiyoda-ku, a business district with many Japanese universities, the school is conveniently located just a short walk to nearby train stations such as Jimbo-cho, Kudanshita and Suidobashi Stations. The facilities include 9 classrooms, computer center for students to use with WiFi access. The area is also particularly nice because of all the nearby shops and cafes. The school capacity is for 300 students per day.

Participants:

Mostly European and Asian, some American students. Students are mostly in their 20's.

KOREA



South Korea occupies the southern half of the Korean Peninsula that lies between the Yellow Sea and the East Sea. It is bordered to the north by North Korea, China to the west and Japan (across the Korea Strait) to the southeast. For most of the 20th century, South Korea was hardly the Land of the Morning Calm, as it calls itself. From the Japanese occupation to the Korean War to 1997's economic crisis, life there was mostly about calamity. But the country seems to have left most of its troubles behind. In its headlong rush to modernize and get ahead, South Korea has put much of its traditional heritage at risk. The country's age-old search for tranquility lingers in the pockets of traditional culture and unspoiled scenery that remain. Outside of the urban areas, the country is green and mountainous. The South Korean people enjoy the outdoors and nature. South Korea may look small on the map, but it is full of wonderful pockets of culture to explore.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Bongeunsa Temple (Seoul)** - Founded in 794, but was rebuilt in 1498 when restrictions on Buddhists were eased. Bongeunsa also runs a program where visitors can experience different aspects of a monk's life. No talk is allowed.
- **Gyeongju** - This small, provincial town in eastern Korea was the capital of the ancient kingdom of Silla and contains outstanding examples of Korean Buddhist art in the form of sculptures, pagodas and the remains of temples, tombs, shrines, palaces, pleasure gardens & castles.
- **Jeju-do** - The "Hawaii of South Korea." South Korea's largest island boasts dramatic views, waterfalls, volcanic cones & beaches. The spectacular Haenyo dive takes place off the eastern tip of Jeju-do at the foot of a volcanic cone. Around 20% of the Jeju earn their living from the sea & in many families the women have been divers for generations. Now many of them are in their 70s.
- **National Parks** - South Korea's national parks cover 6.6% of the country and most forms of development are prohibited. The largest mountain park is Jirisan National Park and the largest marine park is Dadohae.



Seoul

Home to over 10 million people, Seoul is South Korea's capital and a city full of contrasts where the old city blends its ancient character with the sophisticated, hustle 'n' bustle of modern day Korea. Situated in one of the most mountainous regions in the world, South Korea offers breathtaking scenery including plunging coastlines, undulating hills, valleys and coastal plains. This ancient city has been the capital of Korea since the 14th century. Some of the old city gates can still be seen - most notably the South Gate (or Nam-Dae-Mun), which like Paris' Champs-Elysees is situated right in the middle of a modern city, serving as a constant symbol of Korea's proud past intersecting with its bright future. Seoul's subway system is clean, punctual and goes everywhere. Street signs are usually in both Korean and English which make it easier than one might imagine to navigate.



Seoul Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 15) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Korean | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Korean |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Korean | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Korean & Fun |

Seoul School Facilities:

Students, independent travelers & professionals from many different countries. Wide range of nationalities with the majority from Europe.

Participants:

Students, independent travelers & professionals from many different countries. Wide range of nationalities with the majority from Europe.

What We Like:

- Private Room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students
- Koreans study at this school

What We Don't Like:

- Usually a 30-45 min commute to school

POLAND

POLISH

Located in the heart of Europe, Poland has a radically different look about it these days, having exchanged the grayish tinge of a state-regulated society for the anything-goes attitude of a private enterprise. Polish people have vigorously maintained a distinct sense of culture and community despite the trend towards a more modern life. Also, Polish hospitality is legendary and there's a natural progression from a chance meeting to an introduction to the extended family. A diverse range of activities is available for all to enjoy such as basking in the sun on the beautiful Baltic coastal beaches, camping and hiking on the rocky mountain peaks and soaking up Polish culture in one of the many historical institutes or breathtaking cathedrals.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Jasna Gora Monastery** - This beautiful monastery located in Czestochowa (just a 2-hr bus ride from Krakow) has been a pilgrimage destination for hundreds of years. People from all over the world visit Jasna Gora to view the magnificent painting of the Virgin Mary.
- **Auschwitz** - Every year more than 1 million people visit the Auschwitz Birkenau concentration camps located in Southern Poland about 50 km west of Krakow. Several concentration and extermination camps were established and occupied by the German Nazis in the beginning of 1940 until 1945.
- **Gdansk** - Lying on the Southern coast of the Baltic Sea, many tourists flock to this city for its well-preserved nature & environmentally-friendly atmosphere. Gdansk is comprised of beaches, bathing grounds, zoological gardens and the famous Oliwa Park.
- **Royal Castle at Wawel Hill** - One of Krakow's finest attractions, the castle was home to 3 dynasties of Poland's monarchs. The interior is filled with priceless, rare & ancient artworks.
- **Raclawice Panorama** - A breathtaking panoramic painting of the Battle of Raclawice, an important event when a Polish rebellion defeated the Russian army.



Krakow

This ancient capital of Poland, Krakow, was the only major city in the country to have come out of World War II virtually undamaged. This magical city, on the banks of the Wisla River, has one of the best-preserved medieval city centers in Europe. Krakow contains dozens of churches covering almost every architectural period and is surrounded by monasteries and abbeys. In terms of tourism, Krakow has emerged as a rival to Prague and is thought to be a jewel of Central/Eastern Europe. Due to the increasing numbers of visitors, the city center has more cafes, pubs and ethnic restaurants opening which only adds to Krakow's already thriving nightlife. The student population of the city numbers over 180,000 and their presence gives Krakow a refreshing youthful feel.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Locals study language at this school

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- Many tourists in Krakow
- Usually a 20-30 minute bus ride to school



Krakow Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Polish | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Polish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Polish | <input type="checkbox"/> Polish & Fun |

Krakow School Facilities:

Downtown in the historic part of the city, Stare Miasto. Only a ten-minute walk to Main Market, Europe's biggest square and the city's true historic heart. The square contains an endless sea of cafes and pubs and is popular amongst both tourists and locals. Classes take place in a newly refurbished historical building, housing eight modern classrooms with audio and video capabilities. There is also a small library and a computer room with Internet access. Capacity is 200 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe, North America and Asia; college students and young professionals.

BRAZIL



Originally colonized by Portugal, Brazil is by far the largest country in South America. It is a country diverse in culture, landscape and style. The country is covered by dense Amazon rainforest in the north and central regions. The coastal regions of Brazil offer some of the most famous and beautiful beaches in the world. Each city in Brazil has its own unique character ranging from the modern capital of Brasilia to the tourist capital of Rio de Janeiro to the port city of Maceio. Portuguese is the language spoken in Brazil.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Amazon Jungle** – Known for eco-tourism with many varieties of flora and fauna not found in other parts of the world. Many choose to take riverboat cruises or stay in jungle lodges to see the Amazon.
- **Iguazu Falls** – In dense jungle where Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina meet, these waterfalls may be the most spectacular on the planet.
- **Carnival** – Although Rio de Janeiro is best known for its Carnival celebration, most Brazilian towns do have spectacular festivities. The celebrations take place right before the start of Lent.



Maceio

Maceio is a port city located on the east coast of Brazil and is about a 2-hour flight north from Rio. It is the state capital of Alagoas and is best known for its tropical lagoons and beaches. Because Maceio is largely undiscovered by foreign tourists, it is a great destination for language students.



Maceio Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Portuguese
- ☒ Medical Portuguese
- ☐ Educator Portuguese
- ☐ Portuguese & Fun

Maceio School Facilities:

The school is located a 5-min walk from the beach. Two buildings separated by a lush garden with 6 classrooms, a kitchen and common area. Capacity is 50 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from the US, Canada, Europe & Australia. mainly college students, professionals and independent travelers.

What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Walking distance to school
- Not many tourists in Maceio
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- No afternoon activities included in program cost



Rio de Janeiro

The 2nd largest city in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro (pop. 10 million), is situated on the southeast coast of Brazil. The city is wedged between the mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. Language travelers can have the best of both worlds in Rio. They can enjoy the big city atmosphere or relax on famous beaches such as Copacabana or Ipanema.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Also excellent for advanced students
- Interactive video laser discs used in class

What We Don't Like:

- Large, very poor city with high crime rate
- In summer months, homestays can be up to a 60-min commute
- If there are fewer than 4 students per group, class hours will be reduced. Participants seeking academic credit for program may need to purchase private classes to ensure required hours



Rio de Janeiro Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Portuguese
- ☐ Medical Portuguese
- ☐ Educator Portuguese
- ☐ Portuguese & Fun

Rio de Janeiro School Facilities:

The school is centrally located in Rio's business center, close to museums & other cultural sites. The school's clean, modern & comfortable facilities occupy an entire floor and feature 10 classrooms with TVs & DVD players, central heat, air-conditioning & computers with free Internet & WiFi. Right under the school is an amazing cafe where you can taste Brazil's world-famous coffee.

Participants:

Mostly from the US, Canada, Europe, & Australia. College students, professionals & independent travelers. English is taught to locals here.

Salvador

One of Brazil's most fascinating cities is Salvador da Bahia, often referred to as Bahia or Salvador. Here you can find impressive colonial architecture, art galleries, baroque churches and beautiful beaches. Salvador, Brazil's third largest city, embraces a mixture of African, Portuguese and Amerindian cultures, most evident in their dance, music and cuisine. The city's cuisine utilizes typical African ingredients such as palm oil, peanuts and coconut milk. Several other colorful African traditions displayed around Salvador are capoeira (an African-Brazilian martial arts dance) and the lively candomble ceremony (a religious blend of African and Catholic influences). This mix of cultural flair makes it a very delightful destination for both Brazilians and tourists alike.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Only one student per family
- Proximity to beaches
- Walking distance to school
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Culture classes

What We Don't Like:

- Some beaches right in city are dirty
- Many tourists in Salvador



Salvador Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 9)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Portuguese
- ☐ Medical Portuguese
- ☐ Educator Portuguese
- ☒ Portuguese & Fun

Salvador School Facilities:

School is located in a neighborhood called Barra on a quiet residential street only a 5-min walk from the beach. The school is a 2 story building with a sunny terrace, kitchen for cooking class & dance room. The school offers 6 air-conditioned classrooms, a computer with free internet access & tea or coffee during break. Capacity 90 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from U.S. and Europe. Majority of students are in early 20's and 30's.

BRAZIL

Sao Paulo

The biggest city in South America and one of the three largest in the world, Sao Paulo is considered one of Latin America's most important industrial and financial centers. It is the industrial center of Brazil, responsible for over 30% of Brazil's annual GNP and headquarters to the majority of Brazilian and multinational corporations. Strong industrial development and cultural diversity have provided Sao Paulo with the largest, most cultured and educated middle class in Brazil. Sao Paulo offers the excitement and nightlife of one of the world's most dynamic cities.



Sao Paulo Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☒ Professional Portuguese
- ☐ Medical Portuguese
- ☐ Educator Portuguese
- ☐ Portuguese & Fun

Sao Paulo School Facilities:

The school is located in the neighborhood of Jardins, an upscale area of Sao Paulo, with easy access to any part of the city. There is an abundance of shopping, restaurants & nightlife. A large university is located nearby. The school offers a casual atmosphere with both indoor & outdoor space for studying and relaxing. Free email service is available to the students. The school building is a converted villa with 6 classrooms, an entertainment room with Internet, TV, DVD player, stereo and mineral water and coffee, free of charge. They also have a kitchen with microwave and refrigerator. Capacity 30 students/day.

Participants:

The majority are from Europe. Some from U.S. & China. Mostly college students and professionals.

What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Proximity to beaches
- Diverse country with much to see
- Diverse mix of students
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Possible to switch to school's other campus in Maceio
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- More than one student per family
- Large, very poor city with high crime rate



"I really enjoyed the professors at your school in Sao Paulo. This was my second visit. I love the city. Being able to study Portuguese and spend time there was wonderful. Wish I could have done another two weeks."

- Peter L., Attorney

"The Rio experience was excellent. The people at the school were warm, professional, and always willing to help. The quality of the instruction was also top notch. The homestay was wonderful, they really made the difference in the experience. Words can't describe how well I was received by the family."

- Eduardo S., Sales.



PORTUGAL

Portugal during the 14th and 15th centuries was one of the most powerful nations in the world, ruling an empire from America to Asia. Although Portugal shares the Iberian Peninsula with Spain, its language and culture are unique. Its shores are lined with sandy beaches and its towns range in size from cosmopolitan cities to charming fishing villages. Modern Portugal, with its stable democracy and fast-growing economy, has brought about cultural revival and international recognition.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Torre de Belem (Tower of Belem)** – A symbol of Portuguese grandeur, surrounded by the ocean on three sides. Built under Manuel I as a harbor fortress, this well-known tower is still a symbol of Portuguese grandeur despite its receding beach.
- **Lagos** - On the south coast of the Algarve, is one of the country's most popular resorts. Most visitors are drawn to the superb beaches.
- **Parque Nacional da Peneda-Geres** – Wilderness park in the far north of Portugal, near the Spanish border, has spectacular scenery. The park features hiking, swimming, horseback riding and canoeing.
- **Douro Valley** – This valley is one of Portugal's scenic highlights. Port-wine vineyards sprawl across the hillsides and boat cruises along the Rio Douro make for a perfect way to soak up the atmosphere.
- **Sagres** – Tiny fishing port perched on the cliffs of southwestern Portugal. The village, a center for boat-building and lobster-fishing, is in close proximity to Lagos. Nearby are several pleasant beaches.



"Lisbon is a great city to learn Portuguese. It is friendly, small and easy to get around by metro. The language instructor was great, and the teaching methods effective."

– Katandria Love J., Trilingual Speech-Language Pathologist

Faro

Famous for its beaches, this capital city of the Algarve region is a haven for the language traveler who loves to worship the sun. Despite having part of the old city destroyed by an earthquake in 1755, Faro is dotted with gleaming white villages. With just a turn of the corner, one can explore the fish market, shop for handicrafts and finally venture into the active nightlife with the locals.



Faro Courses offered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 8) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Portuguese | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Portuguese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Portuguese | <input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese & Fun |

Faro School Facilities:

The school is located in the heart of the city, within walking distance of both the waterfront and some of the city's major monuments. It is near St. Antonio street, a popular pedestrian shopping street. There are 8 fully-equipped classrooms, TV, video/audio players/recorders, computer & private language laboratory.

Participants:

Mainly from Northern Europe, North America and Brazil. Wide age range with average age 26.

What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes activities
- Proximity to beaches

What We Don't Like:

- Only breakfast provided
- Many tourists in some areas of Faro

PORTUGAL



Lisbon Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Portuguese
- ☐ Medical Portuguese
- ☐ Educator Portuguese
- ☐ Portuguese & Fun

Lisbon School Facilities:

Located in both a residential & business area, near the beautiful Eduard VII Park this school has 20 classrooms and is equipped with a TV, video/ audio players/recorders, computer & private language laboratory. Capacity 85 students/day.

Participants:

Mostly from Europe & North America.
Wide age range.

Lisbon

The capital of Portugal, home to about 1 million people, possesses the charm and excitement of the old and the new. The city is lively and varied, yet has a surprisingly easy-going pace. From the broad scenic streets to the quaint neighborhood districts to the towering city skyscrapers, its different landscapes make Lisbon a diverse city for the language traveler. Lisbon has been acknowledged as a world center for two landmark celebrations: in 1994, Lisbon was named a European City of Culture; in 1998, Lisbon hosted the last World Expo of the millennium.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes activities
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- High standard of living (little culture shock)
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Only breakfast provided



Porto Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Portuguese
- ☐ Medical Portuguese
- ☐ Educator Portuguese
- ☐ Portuguese & Fun

Porto School Facilities:

The school is located in the heart of Porto, close to shops, restaurants, cultural monuments, theatres and services (ie: banks, post office). The intimate school setting offers a few classrooms and general social area. Capacity is 24 students/day.

Participants:

Most are 25-35 year old professionals and independent travelers from Europe.

Porto

As the 2nd largest city in Portugal, Porto is this city's official name, however many foreigners refer to it as Oporto. The names are direct from the city's greatest claim to fame, port wine and the reference to the port. There is much more to this lively city built on the granite bluffs above the Rio Duoro than its port wine. This sophisticated and modern city is a center for all types of arts and commerce.

The city prospered under the Romans and was the birthplace of Prince Henry the Navigator, a driving force behind the great maritime discoveries of the 15th and 16th centuries. A trading agreement with England in 1703 bought wealth to the town and saw the start of the famous Port wine trade. Today, the regions of this city all possess unique atmospheres when comparing each neighborhood. The combination of twisting, narrow streets; granite churches and orange-tiled houses, the graceful bridges spanning the gorge and welcoming down to earth people helped Porto earn a place on the UNESCO World Heritage site and Cultural Capital of Europe in 2001.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes some activities
- Small program with intimate atmosphere and personal attention
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

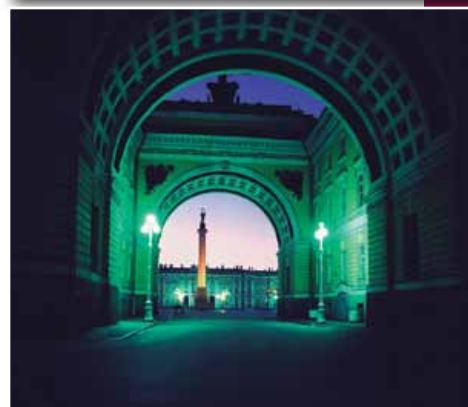
- Usually, a 15-20 minute bus ride to school

RUSSIA

In just a few short years, life in the largest country on Earth – the Russian Federation – has changed dramatically. In 1991, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) ceased to exist. In its place are the Russian Federation (Russia) and 14 independent countries. Russia stretches from the Gulf of Finland to the Bering Strait and is home to more than 100 ethnic groups. Known as “the lungs of Europe,” Russia features the world’s largest forest reserves and its lakes contain approximately one-quarter of the world’s unfrozen fresh water. From mountains to its extensive coastline, and with access to three of the world’s oceans, Russia offers beautiful and vast geographic diversity.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Red Square** - Red Square separates the area where Russia’s current President resides, and its business district Kitai-gorod. Moscow’s, and quite possibly Russia’s, most famous square, the name is said to refer to the colorful bricks surrounding the Square. There is no connection to Communism, as its history stretches back to Czarist Russia’s 15th century pre-communist rule. Then, it was used as a place to purchase food or livestock, while now it serves as a central open-air location to celebrate official government events, soak in the spirit of ancient Russia and take photos in front of other neighboring must-see sites like St. Basil’s Cathedral. This has stood on the southern end of the Square since the rule of Ivan the Terrible in the 16th century. You also must visit Lenin’s Mausoleum, where the Soviet leader’s embalmed body has attracted tourists for years. Rumors say access to the mausoleum may be discontinued in the future so you had better plan to get there soon!
- **Trans-Siberian Railway** - The longest railway in the world was built beginning in 1891 and took 26 years to complete. It serves as a way to connect western cities in European Russia and Russia’s capital to its Far Eastern provinces including the important Pacific port of Vladivostok. The six-day trip covers 5,869 miles and eight time zones with other popular routes that connect Moscow to Beijing! It’s said to be perfect for travelers who set a week aside to enjoy the lovely scenery like country-side farms to hills, cliffs, bridges, rivers and forests. You also won’t miss the 25 million-year-old Lake Baikal, with crystal clear waters that are the deepest in the world!
- **St. Petersburg Boat Tour** - With so many sights to see in St. Petersburg, a boat tour is a great way to view many of them. From imperial palaces to gardens, fountains and bridges, an hour-long boat tour on a high-speed “Meteor” by night or day along the Neva River to the Palace at Peterhof or the Valaam Monastery is a relaxing must-do!



“I cannot compliment this school more; absolutely effective and patient instructors and extremely disciplined to make sure that students don’t use English as a crutch.”

– Jericho Jose G., Real Estate Investor



“I was impressed by your professionalism and candidness. In a few short days AmeriSpan made all the arrangements for what turned out to be a perfect trip.”

– Zicky H., Management Consultant

RUSSIA

Moscow

This capital city of Russia would not be called beautiful. However, Moscow is a very dynamic city, an up and coming cultural center post-communism. Great Russian writers and artists whose works were banned in the past are quickly regaining the creative renown and honor they enjoyed decades ago. It has been described as the political, scientific, historical, architectural and business center of the country. While its old Russian-style structures are being radically preserved, so is the people's morale. There are many restaurants, bars, clubs and colorful markets that hum with activity.

Moscow Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 8)
- ☐ Professional Russian
- ☐ Educator Russian
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Russian
- ☐ Russian & Fun

Moscow School Facilities:

Located in the central part of the city, a 5-min walk from the Belorusskaya Railway Station, a train terminal from Berlin & Warsaw. School facilities are in one of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs buildings & the remainder of the building is used by foreign diplomats & the international press. 10 classrooms with audio-visual equipment. Free internet access for students. Capacity is 100 students/day.

Participants:

International mixture, many are Europeans, some North American.



What We Like:

- Private room
- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Diverse mix of students
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Basic living conditions
- Cold during winter

St. Petersburg

St. Petersburg, the second largest city in the nation with 6 million inhabitants, is the home of the Czars and one of Europe's most beautiful cities. This is a city of palaces, renowned cultural institutions, museums, and outdoor landmarks - all reflecting the diversity and history of this grand city. Adding to the atmosphere are the many branches of the Neva river, giving St. Petersburg an almost Venice-like feel. It is called the 'Cultural Capital of Russia' and lives up to the title with year-round festivals, like the White Nights festivities at Midsummer.

The St. Petersburg school premises are situated just off Nevsky Prospekt between the Russian Museum, the Mikhailovsky Zamok (built by Pavel I, son of Catherine the Great), the circus and near two very nice parks. The area offers some of the finest examples of St. Petersburg architecture and is close to the Fontanka and Neva rivers. The closest metro station (Nevsky Prospekt/Gostiny Dvor) is a five minute walk away. A wide range of cafés, bars, restaurants and shops are available within walking distance.



St. Petersburg Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 10)
- ☐ Professional Russian
- ☒ Educator Russian
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Medical Russian
- ☐ Russian & Fun

St. Petersburg School Facilities:

The school is located on the second floor of a nice, historic 19th century building. The school features 13 spacious and bright classrooms, all suitable for group or mini-group classes. All classrooms are equipped with modern wall-mounted TV/DVD sets. Free WiFi, a self-access center and a small cafeteria are at the disposal of our students.

Participants:

International mixture, many are Europeans with some North American students.

What We Like:

- Private room
- Historical city with fabulous sights
- Many cultural events & festivals take place in St. Petersburg
- Diverse mix of students
- Academic credit available

What We Don't Like:

- Cold during winter
- Basic living conditions

UKRAINE

Learning Russian abroad in Kiev, Ukraine is one of many language immersion programs offered by AmeriSpan. Visitors to Ukraine, a former part of the Soviet Union, will be delighted to find a country in transition from Soviet Union bureaucracy to a more modern European way of life. Since the revolution in 2004, Ukraine has welcomed a freer press, more open attitude, and an improving economy. This new, emerging national identity has been realized by hosting the Eurovision Song Contest in 2005, being named co-host of the 2012 European Football Championship, and perhaps bidding for the 2018 Winter Olympics.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Odesa** – Located on the Black Sea, Odesa is Ukraine's largest commercial port. Founded in the late 18th Century by Catherine the Great, European immigrants created a charming, stylish, and cultured city, filled with sunny beaches and nightlife.
- **Lviv** - Known as the "Florence of the East," Lviv is probably the least Soviet city in Ukraine. The city center, deemed a UNESCO World Heritage site, features Neoclassical, Rococo, Baroque, Renaissance, and Gothic architecture. Lviv is easily navigable on foot, filled with exquisite churches, and still largely undiscovered by tourists.
- **Crimea and Crimean Mountains** – Incredible landscape awaits in Crimea: Sheer mountain cliffs meet the beaches of the Black Sea. The Crimean coastline, with its fabulous Mediterranean climate, includes tourist locations such as Yalta, but also intriguing Byzantine cave cities and was once a stop on the Silk Road from China.
- **Carpathian Mountains** – Skiing and hiking abound in the Carpathian Mountains. This range is home to the largest populations of brown bears, wolves, chamois, and lynx in Europe, as well as one third of all of Europe's plant species.
- **Vylkovo** – The "Venice of Ukraine," is known for its navigable canal network, but is much more a sleepy fishing village than the real Venice. Vylkovo is an entrance to the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, which straddles Romania and Ukraine, and contains Europe's largest wetlands.



Kiev

Kiev (also spelled Kyiv), the capital and largest city of Ukraine, has a population of about 2.7 million. Set in a naturally beautiful location on the banks of the Dnipro River, in north central Ukraine, the numerous golden-domed cathedrals glitter in the sunlight as you stroll along Khreshchatyk, Kiev's main street. A charming mix of old and new architecture and culture, and excellent food, drink, and nightlife greet travelers, as do the city beaches at Hydropark.

One of the oldest cities in Eastern Europe, Russian and Ukrainian are widely spoken in Kiev, including shops and restaurants. While in Kiev, make sure to see the fascinating Chernobyl Museum, the impressive Motherland Statue and WWII memorials. Another intriguing site is the Percherska Lavra, a cave monastery where priests dug out caves and lived as hermits. You can see mummified monks, and there is still an underground church in use today. Finally, make sure to stop by St. Sophia's Cathedral, one of the oldest remaining churches in Kiev, filled with exquisite mosaics.



What We Like:

- Private room
- School organizes many activities
- Great city with much to offer
- Interactive video & DVDs used in some classes

What We Don't Like:

- 45-min sessions, less than most programs
- No meals provided in most host family
- Some homestays are up to 30-40 mins from school by subway



Kiev Courses offered:

- ☒ Group Classes (max 6)
- ☒ Private Classes
- ☐ Professional Language
- ☐ Medical Language
- ☐ Educator Language
- ☐ Language & Fun

Note: Russian or Ukrainian language offered

Kiev School Facilities:

The school is located in the historic downtown, Podil district, 3 minutes by foot from one of the central subway stations. All classrooms are equipped with whiteboards, comfortable furniture, video and audio equipment.

Participants:

Mixed nationalities and ages, with many students coming from North America and European countries such as Germany, France and the U.K.

THAILAND



"Chiang Mai really is a nice setup and a great community. I was very satisfied with my teacher who was very hard working, personable, knowledgeable, and even tempered."

- Dustin R., Student

"I loved this trip. The teaching was good, the lodging was superbly adequate, and the city more than charming. The best part of my trip was living in Chiang Mai on my own and studying for 10 weeks at a very reasonable price, and in lovely accommodations. The worst part of my trip was when it ended."

- Jonathan T., Student

Thailand borders Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Laos and Cambodia. The east coast lies along the Gulf of Thailand while the west coast joins with the Andaman Sea. Because of its many neighbors, each region has a distinct feel unlike any of the others. With its breathtaking natural beauty and warm and hospitable people, Thailand remains one of the most popular South Asian destinations for tourists. Thailand is divided into 4 natural regions: The mountains and forests of the North; the vast rice fields of the Central Plains; the semi-arid farm lands of the Northeast plateau; and the tropical islands and long coastline of the Southern peninsula. Thailand is the only Southeastern Asian country that was never colonized. You can find remnants of almost 1,000 years of history all through the country.

PLACES TO SEE & THINGS TO DO:

- **Wat Phra Keaw & the Emerald Buddha** - This spectacular temple shares its grounds with Bangkok's Grand Palace, former home of the monarchy. Despite its small size, the Emerald Buddha is the most revered Buddhist image in Thailand.
- **Wat Pho** - Wat Pho is the largest and oldest temple in Bangkok, built over 200 years ago. It now houses one of Thailand's largest Reclining Buddha images and a school of traditional Thai massage.
- **Chatuchak Weekend Market** - The most famous market in Thailand, open Saturday and Sunday, hosts thousands of vendors hawking their wares. Shoppers can find everything here including souvenirs, tribal crafts, trendy clothes, flowers, house wares, textiles, and new family pets.
- **Ayuthaya** - This former capital was once the most powerful city in Southeast Asia. The city was later sacked and burned by the Burmese. Now its ruins stand as a symbol of nationalism and religion for Thais. It was named an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981.
- **Isan** - The Northeastern region hosts to some of the friendliest people in the country and a variety of interesting sites including Khao Yai National Park, Pimai, Sala Kaew Ku Sculpture Park, and Ban Chiang is the birthplace of Thai civilization.
- **Doi Inthanon National Park** - Located in Chiang Mai Province, the park is home to Thailand's tallest peak. The mountain boasts three impressive waterfalls. The park is also one of the top destinations in Southeast Asia for bird watchers.
- **Andaman Coast** - After being hit by the 2006 Tsunami, Thailand's western coast has bounced back and is stronger than ever. Jade waters, sandy beaches, dense jungle, and soaring limestone cliff remain proving the areas natural beauty could not be shaken.





Bangkok

Bangkok is Thailand's most notable city. The capital is the center of business, banking, fashion, and tourism for Thailand and much of Southeast Asia. But beneath the commerce lies a city built on tradition. The heart of Thai society beats through this vibrant and colorful city. Around every corner lies a traditional temple glistening in the sun and monks in saffron robes. Just beyond lie the shiny new shopping complexes and mini-marts. The past and present now live harmoniously in Bangkok under the bright Southeast Asian sun.



What We Like:

- Cosmopolitan city with much to offer
- Good weather year-round
- Convenient base for travel in Thailand
- Thai locals study English at this school

What We Don't Like:

- No homestays
- Many tourists in Bangkok
- Air pollution from buses is heavy in some areas of the city



Bangkok Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Classes (max 15) | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Thai | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Thai |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Thai | <input type="checkbox"/> Thai & Fun |

Bangkok School Facilities:

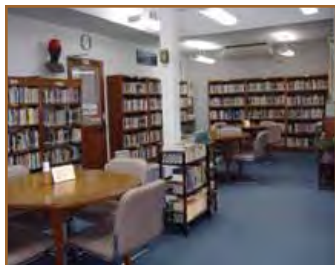
The school is located in downtown Bangkok in Ratchadamri and is easily accessible by Bangkok's BTS Skytrain and extensive bus system. The school is within walking distance to some of the city's most popular neighborhoods including Siam, Silom, and Sukhumvit. Thai language classes are held on the 3rd floor of a building that also teaches English to Thais. There is a cafeteria and outdoor garden and lounge area for students.

Participants:

A diverse mix of ages and nationalities. Independent travelers, students & professionals.

Chiang Mai

Thailand's gateway to the country's north was founded in 1296. You can still see the moat that encircled the original city, and there are 300 wats, including Wat Chiang Man (home of the 1800-year-old 10-cm-high Crystal Buddha), Wat Phra Singh (built in the classic northern-Thai style) and Wat Chedi Luang (partially ruined by earthquake, cannon fire and recent restoration efforts). Doi Suthep, topped by one of Thailand's holiest wats, rises 1,676 m to the west of the city providing a dramatic backdrop and, should you venture up, fine views of the city.



What We Like:

- Private classes (faster than group)
- Great city to explore on foot
- Diverse mix of international students
- Diverse country with much to see
- Good weather year-round
- Thai locals study English at this school

What We Don't Like:

- Noisy city traffic in some areas
- No homestays
- No organized activities



Chiang Mai Courses offered:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group Classes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Thai | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Thai |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Thai | <input type="checkbox"/> Thai & Fun |

Chiang Mai School Facilities:

Located in the old city, near the fortified walls and moat, with its own garden. It is close to shops, restaurants, bars and an Internet cafe.

Participants:

The school also teaches English to Thai students. A diverse mix of Europeans, Australians and some North Americans.

PROGRAM PARTICULARS

Please read the following carefully. This will insure an efficient registration process and avoid any misunderstandings.

Enrollment & Payment

To insure a space at any AmeriSpan program, it is important to register as far in advance from your desired start date as possible, especially for summer programs. Registration consists of:

1. Submitting a completed application and a \$100 registration fee OR
 2. Submitting a completed application, \$100 registration fee and full payment.
- The total cost for the program is due 4 weeks prior to the start date. Applications and full payments received less than four weeks prior to the start date will be subject to an additional \$35 late fee.

All payments may be made with personal check (preferred method!), money order, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover.

For multi-site programs, full payment for the entire program is due four weeks prior to your first program's start date.

Registration Process

Within 2-3 weeks of receiving your application, AmeriSpan will send you the "Need-To-Know" country fact sheets and a confirmation letter. The fact sheets contain some tips about things to bring, getting there, climate, cultural differences, money, visas, etc. The confirmation letter will include school particulars, summary of charges, accommodation details, and any other important information.

Your final confirmation is only sent after AmeriSpan receives your full payment and all other necessary information, such as airline arrival particulars. Check these confirmations carefully to make sure that everything is correct. If there is an error, call us immediately. NEVER purchase a non-refundable or non-cancelable airline ticket before you have been confirmed by AmeriSpan.

Refund Policies (excluding Alajuela, Costa Rica & Amman, Jordan)

For those programs not covered as part of AmeriSpan's Triple Guarantee the \$100 registration fee is non-refundable for any reason unless arrangements cannot be made for the dates you wish to attend. You are entitled to a full refund, excluding non-refundable registration fee, when you cancel more than two weeks before your start date. If you cancel with less than 2 weeks notice you will be billed for 25% of the program cost and registration fee.

Once any AmeriSpan program has begun no refund will be issued. If you combine two or more sites to create a multi-country/city program, no money will be refunded once the first program has begun. If you cancel a program due to a personal emergency and you notify AmeriSpan in writing, we will review your claim and may issue a partial refund. For programs in Alajuela, Costa Rica and Amman, Jordan, please refer to our Terms & Conditions, page 98.

Making Changes

You may change your start date at any time. All changes within 2 wks of the scheduled start date are subject to an additional \$50 fee. If you have begun a multi-country/city program, you may NOT cancel or substitute locations but you may be able to change the start dates for a \$50 fee.

Local Holidays

Classes canceled in honor local holidays will not be made up and are not subject to any refund.

Reduction of Hours

At some group programs, if there are not enough other students at your Spanish level, your hours may be reduced. The same amount of material will be covered with private instruction, or 2 to 1 instruction.

Class Hours & Schedules

Classes are scheduled either in the morning, the afternoon, or the morning and the afternoon. AmeriSpan CANNOT guarantee specific scheduling requests. Scheduling is set by each individual partner school and may be affected by the program that you select, your Spanish level and/or the time of year that you are participating.

Organized Activities

Some schools offer complimentary organized activities such as Latin dance classes, movies, lectures and small trips. If the activity is a small trip outside of the school, there might be some minor expenses, such as bus fare and entrance fees. Many students depart for the weekend as soon as class is completed on Friday. Few, if any, schools offer activities on Fridays because of this reason. Please note that in this catalog we use the term "Daily Activities," which means activities Monday through Thursday.

Sister Campuses

Several programs offer the option of spending one or more weeks at another campus in the jungle, at the beach, or in another city or village. There may be extra charges associated with participating. Full details are available upon arrival at the main campus. The special campuses are mentioned throughout this catalog for informational purposes only. AmeriSpan cannot guarantee that the special campus program will be operating or have space during your trip. A few allow you to register prior to your trip and prices are listed on our price sheet.





Textbooks & Materials

Each school handles this differently and policies change frequently. At some programs you will be required to purchase all your books. At other programs you are not required to purchase the books but may be required to make a deposit that will be refunded when the textbook is returned. In some cases, participants studying for a month or longer may finish their first book and need to buy an additional book on site.

Deposits & On-Site Charges

While participating in this program, you may be responsible for paying additional funds related to your own actions while on-site. Some schools will collect deposits upon your arrival while others will collect only if you incur these charges. Typical extra charges can include but are not limited to: lost keys, property damage, overstaying in your lodging, hosting overnight guests in your lodging, and lost books.

Multi-Site Programs

When combining 2 or more programs, you must study a minimum of 2 weeks at each location.

Companions of Participants

In most programs, children, spouses, and friends may accompany participants and live in the same homestay. Please check with us beforehand to verify if this option is possible in your location of choice. Homestay prices for companions vary for each program.

Behavioral Expectations

Participants are expected to be courteous and respectful guests. Illegal drug use, abusive behavior at any age, or alcoholic consumption by minors cannot be tolerated. AmeriSpan reserves the right to refuse to serve, to cancel and/or terminate participation for any person who fails to comply with the policies of the program provider (e.g. school, tour operator, program organizer), or for any other reason deemed necessary, in the sole discretion of AmeriSpan. AmeriSpan further reserves the right, without escort and without refund, to send home any participant who violates the rules stated above. The return trip will be at the expense of the participant or the participant's family.

Friends of AmeriSpan Discounts

Military Personnel & Veterans Discount

If you are in the military or a veteran, you are eligible to receive 10% off any of our programs year-round! Provide a copy of your Military ID with your application to receive the discount. AmeriSpan salutes our troops and thanks you for all you do.

Repeat Customer Discount

Once you have participated in any AmeriSpan language travel program, you will receive a 10% discount on any future programs regardless of your destination.

Teacher Take-A-Friend

If you are teacher or employed by an academic institution, you and your travel companion are eligible to receive 10% off any of our programs when you travel with someone else. This includes traveling with your spouse, other family members, a friend, or co-worker. Make sure to let us know that you are a teacher traveling with a friend when registering. If registering online, use discount code: TEACHER.

Police Officer & Fire Fighter Discount

If you are a police officer, fire fighter or employed in the law enforcement field, you are eligible to receive 5% off any of our programs year-round! Provide proof with your application. If registering online, use discount code: POLICE.

Airline Employee Discount

If you are employed by an airline, you are eligible to receive 5% off any of our programs year-round! Provide a copy of your employee ID with your application. If registering online, use discount code: AIRLINE.

Discount Rules & Limitations

All AmeriSpan discounts are based on the cost of the language program. Excursion packages, additional homestay days, additional travel insurance and registration fees are not eligible for any discounts. Professional Programs (Business, SALUD & MAESTRO) and one-week programs are not eligible for any discounts. Discounts are not combinable unless stated otherwise and will not exceed \$200 per person.

"I had wonderful teachers who were very enthusiastic and motivating. The family I stayed with was so welcoming and warm. They went out of their way to make me comfortable, helped me with whatever I needed, were a joy to be around, and helped my learning tremendously. I continue to correspond with them today."

- Maya T., Pharmacist



RATING YOUR LANGUAGE LEVEL

Carefully read the following descriptions and determine which category best describes your skills. Keep in mind that you will be given a placement test once you arrive at the school.

Overview

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AmeriSpan's Language Levels vs. CEF Levels

AmeriSpan's language levels are different than CEF's language levels. AmeriSpan's Levels are based on ACTFL's OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview) as most language immersion programs are focused on developing Speaking & Listening skills. The CEF (Common European Framework) Levels were developed by the Council of Europe in order to try and set clear, attainable standards at different levels of language learning for European languages. CEF's scale incorporates reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, and are used by universities, corporations and other organizations when evaluating foreign applicants. To get a chart that compares AmeriSpan and CEF levels, go here on the web:

http://www.amerispan.com/pdf_files/language_level_comparison.pdf

Low Beginner (CEF level: A1)

No real functional ability in the language. Speech is characterized by a few memorized words or phrases. Unable to handle a typical "survival situation". Utterances rarely consist of more than two or three words with frequent long pauses. Understanding limited to occasional words, cognates, and short slowly spoken utterances. No practical communicative writing skills.

IN OTHER WORDS: *You know a few words and phrases, but would not be able to hold a basic survival situation type conversation (ordering food, asking for bus information, getting a hotel room price, etc.). You have no writing skills in the language, but can recognize some written words.*

Mid Beginner (CEF level: A1)

Speaking ability still limited to memorized words and phrases, although quantity is increased. Vocabulary is limited to expressing very basic needs and courtesies. Utterances are limited to a few words at a time with frequent pauses. Can understand simple commonly used phrases and questions. Requires native speaker to speak slowly and often repeat phrase before comprehension is achieved.

IN OTHER WORDS: *You can introduce yourself and ask someone's name. You can ask and answer the questions, "How are you? Where are you from?". You can handle some basic survival situations such as ordering a meal. You know the alphabet and some numbers.*

High Beginner (CEF level: A2)

Limited to simple conversation dealing with common everyday themes. Ability to operate in only a very limited capacity with difficulty constructing sentences properly in the present tense. Can ask and answer questions based on memorized utterances. Vocabulary is sufficient only for handling simple, elementary needs and expressing basic courtesies. Frequent repetition and slower speech is required for comprehension. Can read standardized messages, phrases, expressions, schedules, menus, and signs. Can supply information on simple forms and documents.

IN OTHER WORDS: *You can have a basic conversation in the present tense. You can handle a basic survival situation such as making hotel reservations. Your speech is slow with frequent pauses. You can understand what is said if it is said slowly and repeated a few times. You can ask and tell time and the date. You can ask basic what and when questions. You can use possessive adjectives. You can talk about the weather. You are aware of when to use formal and informal 2nd person. You still sometimes require slow and repeated speech in order to understand what is being said.*



Low Intermediate (CEF level: A2)

Able to handle successfully only a limited number of interactive, task-oriented, and social situations. Capable of using simple structures and a general, limited vocabulary. Speaks with general ease in the present tense and can give simple commands. Can get by in restaurants, banks, asking directions, and discussing familiar topics. Can initiate and respond to simple statements. Able to understand sentence length utterances. Misunderstandings frequently arise but with repetition and slower speech can understand and be understood. Able to understand main ideas or some facts from simple texts. Capable of writing short messages.

IN OTHER WORDS: *You feel comfortable speaking in the present tense. Your vocabulary is extended to include such topics as clothing, colors, foods, recreational activities, professions. You can express likes and dislikes. You can ask and understand directions. You can talk about clothing. Ask about cost. For Spanish, you are familiar with when to use "ser" and "estar". You know some irregular verbs like "tener" and "dar". You can use expressions with "tener".*

Mid Intermediate (CEF level: B1)

Able to handle basic communicative tasks and social situations. Can ask and answer questions and participate in simple conversations on topics beyond basic needs such as leisure activities and personal history. Sentence length is increased, but still characterized by frequent pauses. Can understand sentence length utterances in face to face conversation as well as over the phone.

IN OTHER WORDS: *You can identify most places in a town and give directions to them. You can request information, express opinions. Can ask and tell where someone is going, how they are getting there, what they will do and when. You have limited use of simple future tense and present progressive tenses.*

High Intermediate (CEF level: B1)

Can understand and use tenses such as the simple present, present progressive, preterit and simple future. Have knowledge of the subjunctive in a limited capacity. Can talk easily about self and others. Ability to converse on topics beyond immediate needs such as personal history, leisure interests and work. Has frequent errors in grammar and vocabulary but uses more irregular verbs and has increased vocabulary.

IN OTHER WORDS: *You can express surprise, emotion, certainty, and doubt. You can say what one can and can't do. You can give reasons for something. You can hold a telephone conversation. Can discuss simple health problems. You can ask and tell how long something lasts. You feel comfortable in most conversational contexts, but are still limited in how well you can express yourself.*

Low Advanced (CEF: B2)

Mid Advanced (CEF: C1)

High Advanced/Superior (CEF: C2)

Rate yourself according to your skill in performing the following tasks:

Ability to speak the language with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal contexts. Can handle unknown topics and situations, give supported opinions, hypothesize, provide complicated explanations, and can describe in detail with a great deal of precision any practical, social, professional, or abstract topic. Ability to use all tenses and usual idioms.



LANGUAGE PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Mail To: P.O. Box 58129, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8129
FedEx To: 1500 Walnut Street, Suite 1306, Philadelphia, PA 19102-3514
Fax To: 215-751-1986
Questions: 800-879-6640 or 215-751-1100



AmeriSpan Study Abroad
The Bridge Between Cultures

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Country: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birthdate: ____/____/____ Sex: Male/Female Occupation: _____ Employer/School: _____

Nationality: _____ Passport No.: _____ How you heard about us: _____

Please List the Name(s) of Any Especially Helpful AmeriSpan Staff Member(s): _____

Emergency contact (name & telephone): _____

Target Language? _____ Level: Zero/Beginner/Intermediate/Advanced - Low/Mid/High (www.amerispan.com/level)

Target Language Level Comments: _____

Any knowledge of other languages? _____

Study Location: _____ Hrs/day: _____ Weeks: _____ Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Airport Pick-up: Yes/No Arrival Date/Time/Airline & Flight # (if available): _____

Would you like a study abroad airfare specialist to send you an airfare quote? Yes/No

Lodging: Homestay/Apartment/Residence/Dorm/None Start Date: _____ End Date: _____ Room: Private/Shared

Companion?: Yes/No (name: _____) Same Lodging? Yes/No Same Room?: Yes/No Same Bed?: Yes/No

HOMESTAY REQUESTS

Rank	Host Family Requests	Yes	No	Either
	Children			
	Smokers			

Please note that we do our best with homestay requests but we can't guarantee anything.

Please rank your requests in the order of importance.

	Special Dietary Needs:
	Allergies:
	Anything Else:

PROGRAM COSTS

Registration Fee (in addition to program cost) Please note \$200 due if registering for Alajuela, Costa Rica.	\$100 or \$200
Program (separate applications if combining different programs)	
Airport Pick-up, if offered (<u>yes/no</u>)	
Other (late fee, extra homestay days, excursions, private room upgrade, etc.):	
TOTAL COST	

Check/Visa/MC/AMEX/Discover # _____ Exp. Date: _____ CCV/CCV2: _____ Amount: _____

Cardholder's Name (if different than above) _____

Billing Address (if different than above) _____

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SIGN THE BOTTOM OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Registration and Payment

To insure a space at any AmeriSpan program, it is important to register as far in advance from your desired start date as possible (especially for summer programs). Registration consists of: 1. Submitting a completed application and a \$100 registration fee **OR** 2. Submitting a completed application, \$100 registration fee and full payment. **The total cost for the program is due 4 weeks prior to the start date.** Applications and full payments received less than four weeks prior to the start date will be subject to a \$35 late fee. Payments can be paid with personal check (preferred method), money order, VISA, Mastercard, American Express or Discover. Within 2-3 weeks of receiving your application, AmeriSpan will mail you the "Need-To-Know" factsheets, confirmation letter and additional information. After full payment and other missing information (such as airline arrival particulars) are received, a final confirmation will be mailed.

Refund Policies (Except Alajuela Costa Rica & Amman Jordan & Cairo Egypt)

The one-time registration fee (\$100) and all other monies paid to AmeriSpan is fully refundable for any reason up to 2 weeks prior to your scheduled arrival date. If you cancel with less than 2 weeks notice you will receive a refund (excluding registration fee) less a 25% penalty. **You will be entitled to no refund after the program starts.** If you combine two or more sites to create a multi-country/city program, no money will be refunded once the first program has begun. If you cancel a program due to a personal emergency and you notify AmeriSpan in writing, we will review your claim and may be able to issue a partial refund.

The above refund policy is exactly the same in cases of cancellation due to war, terrorism or similar cases. Programs can get canceled and/or changed, AmeriSpan is not responsible for these changes. AmeriSpan reserves the right to substitute comparable programs or refund tuition. AmeriSpan's liability is limited to all money paid for the program.

Classes canceled in honor of local holidays will not be made up and are not subject to any refund.

Refund Policy for Alajuela Costa Rica

The one-time registration fee (\$200) is not refundable for any reason. Please not application will not be processed unless \$200 non-refundable fee is paid in full with registration. If you cancel with less than 2 weeks notice you will receive a refund (excluding \$200 registration fee) less a 25% penalty. **You will be entitled to no refund after the program starts.**

Refund Policy for Amman Jordan & Cairo Egypt

The one-time registration fee (\$100) is not refundable for any reason. If you cancel with less than 4 weeks notice you will receive a refund (excluding registration fee) less a 50% penalty. **You will be entitled to no refund after the program starts.**

Making changes

You may change your start date at anytime. All changes within two weeks of the scheduled start date are subject to an additional \$50 fee. If you have begun a multi-site program, you may NOT cancel or substitute locations, but you may be able to change the start dates for a \$50 fee.

Satisfaction Guarantee

Your satisfaction is our main concern. If you are not satisfied, we'll pay for a week of group language classes at the same program or another of your choice. To invoke the Satisfaction Guarantee, please submit a letter upon completion of your program which describes why you are dissatisfied with the language component of your program. We use this information to evaluate and improve the program for future participants.

Within 3 weeks, we will issue you a coupon for one week of group language classes (does not include lodging) at the same program or any of our other programs teaching the same language. You may use this free week of classes at any time in the future.

110% Price Guarantee

For purposes of invoking the 110% Price Guarantee, the other program's price needs to be at least \$10 less than AmeriSpan's published price AND the program needs to be comparable to AmeriSpan's program. For complete details refer to: http://www.amerispan.com/triple_guarantee.asp

Transferable Academic Credit from Brookhaven College

If you wish to receive transferable academic credit (offered at select program locations only) please indicate by circling Brookhaven on this application form. For complete details refer to: http://www.amerispan.com/language_schools/credit_brookhaven/

Liability

While participating in this program, you may be exposed to certain risks. These exposures include, but are not limited to accident and/or sickness without readily available medical facilities, the forces of nature, travel in the air, travel on the ground, terrorism, and war. By signing this form you are assuming all these risks and agreeing to indemnify AmeriSpan, their officers, owners, directors, and employees harmless for any and all liability that may arise in connection with your participation. AmeriSpan cannot take responsibility for participants' behavior and potential consequences.

Deposits & On-Site Charges

While participating in this program, you may be responsible for paying additional funds related to your own actions while on-site. Some schools will collect deposits upon your arrival while others will collect only if you incur these charges. Typical extra charges can include but are not limited to: lost keys, property damage, overstay in your lodging, hosting overnight guests in your lodging, and lost books.

Flight Packages

You must let us know at least 8 weeks in advance to book a flight package (Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras, Peru & Venezuela). You must submit the package fee with your flight details in order to book your spot.

Behavioral Expectations

AmeriSpan's programs are geared toward adults. AmeriSpan cannot be responsible for providing supervision of any kind either through the schools or through the homestay families. Although many programs have options for students under the age of 16, no one under the age of 16, will be accepted into the program unless accompanied by an adult (exceptions made for special, supervised Teen Programs and Camps during the summer). In addition to the parent's signature on the front of the application, additional waivers may apply.

Participants are expected to be courteous and respectful guests and to obey all local laws. Illegal drug use or abusive behavior at any age or alcoholic consumption by minors cannot be tolerated. AmeriSpan reserves the right to refuse to serve, to cancel and/or terminate participation for any person who fails to comply with the policies of the program provider (e.g. school, tour operator, program organizer), or for any other reason deemed necessary, in the sole discretion of AmeriSpan. AmeriSpan further reserves the right, without escort and without refund to send home any participant who violates the rules stated above. The return trip will be at the expense of the participant or the participant's family.

I have read and agree with all the Terms & Conditions on this application.

Signature*: _____ Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____

* If under 18, legal guardian must sign this application



NO RISK GUARANTEES

1. Satisfaction Guarantee

Your satisfaction is our main concern. If you aren't satisfied, we'll pay for a week of group classes at the same program or another of your choice.

2. 110% Price Guarantee

You never pay more with AmeriSpan because if you find a price lower than ours, we'll match it and take another 10% off.

3. Full Money-Back Guarantee

Change your mind for any reason and we'll refund 100% of any money paid to AmeriSpan... no questions asked.

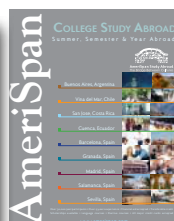
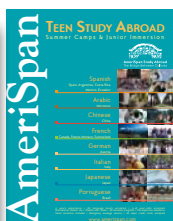
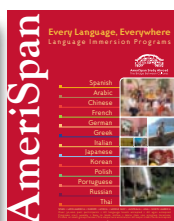
4. Foreign Currency Guarantee

AmeriSpan lists all program prices in one currency (US dollars) so our clients can easily compare similar programs in different countries. Because the US Dollar has exchange rate fluctuations, we offer the "AmeriSpan's Foreign Currency Guarantee". This guarantee applies to our language programs in Europe and Asia. If AmeriSpan's published price is higher than the local currency price then we adjust your price.



AmeriSpan's Guarantee is the best in the industry. There is never a risk in choosing an AmeriSpan program because you'll get the best program, best price and can cancel for any reason and get a full refund on every dollar we have received for your program.

REQUEST CATALOGS TODAY!



Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Just cut out this form and mail or fax to:

AmeriSpan Study Abroad
P.O. Box 58129
Philadelphia, PA 19102-8129 USA
Fax: 215-751-1986

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• Programs for Educators & Teachers

PAST PARTICIPANTS SAY IT BEST:

"I returned home light years ahead of where I was when I left. Do I recommend AmeriSpan? You betcha. The experience from start to finish was nothing less than first class. All the teachers were friendly, highly qualified, interesting and efficient. Their teaching methods were totally in Spanish, fast paced and interesting."

– William S., Spanish/ESL teacher

"The school in Cairo was extremely well-run. I learned more in a month in Cairo than in two years of study at my home university. The teachers were great."

– Lucas S., Student

"The language institute and instruction in Chania, Crete were superb - way beyond what I expected. I intend to re-enroll in the future for further instruction."

– Katherine A., Sailing Instructor

"The instructors were some of the best I have ever encountered, and I have the intention of returning next summer for further language study. The Fez program was wonderful."

– Adam G., PhD Candidate, History Dept, UC Irvine

"Everything was excellent from the first phone call to AmeriSpan until even after my classes ended. The school was even better than expected. The instructors, the activities and the school itself were the best part of the program."

– Meredith R., Travel Advisor

"To my delight I found the AmeriSpan program in Ecuador to be of the highest professional level... The teachers were excellent and the teaching methods superb. I particularly liked the one-on-one instruction concentrating on my particular needs as a bilingual educator. In conclusion, I enjoyed my program in Ecuador and am already making plans to return next year."

– Sandra M., Teacher

"Overall, AmeriSpan is a great organization because it simplifies studying abroad, consolidates many aspects of the process, and provides a cheaper alternative to people who want to study abroad without spending a fortune. I learned a lot about the city and Spanish culture and also improved my Spanish substantially. The classes were good because of the great diversity of students I met from so many countries. I did really enjoy the Culture classes, as I was able to greatly practice my conversational skills as well as learn a lot about Spanish culture in ways that no textbook could."

– Zara M., Student

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