

Spain Homestay Immersion - Individual Travel

2009 Dates & Price

Choose your summer dates!

Please plan to arrive/depart Spain on weekends.

3 weeks: \$2,120*

4 weeks: \$2,710*

Airfare not included.



Welcome to Estepona in Southern Spain !

Spend your summer on the sunny coast of Southern Spain! You'll stay with a local family who will welcome you into their home and share their language and culture. Explore the narrow cobbled streets in the old quarter of Estepona, stop at a street café in the Plaza de las Flores, or just play on one of the beautiful beaches. You'll enjoy a relaxing vacation while experiencing Spanish culture from the inside!

Choose the dates that fit your summer schedule. When you fly into Málaga you will be met by the bilingual local coordinator who will arrange the transportation to your host family. The local coordinator will be available throughout your stay to help you get the most out of your homestay experience.

Optional Classes and Activities Include: Spanish classes (\$650 for 3 weeks, 30 hours total). Golf classes (\$1,210 for 12 hours of class and 7 rounds). Tennis, dance, or sailing classes (\$310 for 10 hours, \$390 for 16 hours, \$490 for 24 hours). Tour package (\$220) includes excursions to Cañada, Puerto Banús, Casares, and dinner in a Chiringuito. Call for details!

**We reserve the right to adjust program prices if there is a major change in the currency exchange rate. In this event, applicants may cancel and receive a full refund.*

Frequently Asked Questions

What is an independent homestay immersion program? A homestay immersion program is a chance for you to experience a culture from the inside, as one of the family. As the name implies, you immerse yourself in the culture of Spain by speaking the language, eating the food, and sharing daily life with a welcoming host family. On the independent immersion program, you can choose your own dates and make your own flight arrangements. Students from Oregon and Washington also have the option of joining our group immersion program which is led by a bilingual chaperone and includes roundtrip airfare from Portland, OR to Madrid.

Am I ready for an independent homestay immersion program? We recommend the independent homestay immersion program for students who have studied Spanish in high school for at least three years, who are 16 -18 years old, and who have the maturity to travel alone and communicate when necessary with the local coordinator, and who really want to use and improve their language skills. If you prefer a program that has language classes and group activities, consider our homestay/study programs in Spain, Costa Rica, or Ecuador.

How are host families selected and matched? Families in Estepona first complete a host application form that includes details about their home, their hobbies and their family members. Then they are interviewed in their homes by a local coordinator. Finally, the families who are selected to host are carefully matched with students who share their interests.

Are host families paid? Yes, families receive a small weekly stipend to help cover their expenses. We think you will find that they are very welcoming hosts who are experienced at sharing their culture and helping you learn their language and customs.

...FAQs Continue on back →

Frequently Asked Questions

When will I get information about my host family? You will receive detailed information about your family prior to departure.

Will there be teenagers in the family? Not always. Estepona is small and since teens in Spain tend to do activities with groups of friends more than one-to-one dating, you'll have opportunities to make friends outside your host family circle too. Students who take language classes will have the opportunity to meet Spanish teens studying English. Most families also host a French student who is studying Spanish too, providing you the opportunity to not only learn about Spain, but France as well!

How will I get from the airport to my host family? You will be met at the Málaga airport by the local program coordinator who will take you to your host family in Estepona.

Will my family speak English? Maybe...but they know that you are coming to use and improve your foreign language skills, so they'll encourage you to speak Spanish!

But what will I DO all day? This is a common question, and of course the answer varies from family to family. Host families go out of their way to welcome our students and make them feel at home and part of the family. A lot of your day-to-day activities will be with friends (swimming, sports, shopping, lots of talking!), or family activities like meal preparation (still an important part of the day for most families) and family get-togethers.

What if I have a problem with my family? You'll have an experienced support network there to help. Bilingual local coordinators are always available to answer questions or help with problems. We find that most homestay problems are based on cultural or language misunderstandings that are easily solved with counseling. However if a situation appears irreconcilable, the local coordinator may seek a fresh start with a new host family. Our goal is to ensure a rewarding homestay experience for every student and host family.

When should I book my flight? Do not book your flights until you have been officially accepted into the program. Information about the arrival city and arrival/departure times will be included in your acceptance packet.

Will I get any orientation materials? Yes. In the spring you will receive a parent/student orientation packet with detailed information about everything from packing and insurance, to passports and culture shock.

Do I need to get a visa? US citizens do not need a visa. You are responsible for getting your own passport.

How much spending money should I bring? We recommend that you bring about \$400-\$500 for the month.

What if I get sick? All students are covered by a comprehensive medical insurance policy. You will receive an insurance booklet and claim form before departure. If you need to see a doctor or visit a hospital, take these along.

When are payments due? The first deposit of \$300 is due with your initial application. An additional payment will be due a month later with your completed application packet. You will receive a schedule of the remaining payments and details of the cancellation policy in your application packet.

When is the final application deadline? The final application deadline for this, and most, summer programs is April 1st. However, some programs fill earlier, and summer flights to Europe sell out quickly. We suggest applying as soon as possible, both to insure your place in the program and to give yourself more time to prepare for the experience.

Who should not apply for this program? In order to assure a successful experience for students and for the host families, students who are currently experiencing excessive behavior problems, drug or alcohol abuse, or eating disorders; or students who have experienced these issues within the past year should not apply. Students who develop these problems prior to departure will not be allowed to participate.

Are there any scholarships? Unfortunately not. We are a non-profit organization and we try to keep our prices as low as possible for all students. However we can send you some helpful information about fundraising; some students have raised up to \$2,000 using our fundraising suggestions!

Can I talk with students who have participated in your program? Of course! Please contact us at 503.274.1776 (in Portland), 1.800.274.6007 or info@andeo.org. We will be happy to give you names and email addresses of previous participants and their parents.

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