

# Homestay Immersion in Spain - Individual Travel

## 2010 Dates and Prices\*

Dates: Choose your summer dates!  
please plan to arrive and depart on weekends

**3 week program: \$2,120**

**4 week program: \$2,710**

(airfare not included)

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

## Program Highlights

- individual homestay placement with a Spanish family
- flexible program dates
- optional classes and cultural activities

## Welcome to Estepona, Spain!

Spend your summer on the sunny coast of southern Spain! If you enjoy the atmosphere of a small town and like the idea of having beautiful beaches at your doorstep, Estepona is a good place for you. Explore the local cuisine, stroll through the narrow streets in the city center, immerse yourself into the relaxed way of life!

## Program Structure

You can choose your own dates and stay for three or four weeks. Once you step off the plane in Málaga, you will be met by a local program representative and escorted to your host family. For the next weeks, you will eat, sleep, and play like the Spanish do. Enjoy experiencing the Spanish culture from the inside! If you want to include activities and excursions together with other international students, please see the options below. Throughout your stay, you will have the support of the local coordinator. Students from Oregon and Washington also have the opportunity to join a group immersion program which is led by a bilingual chaperone and includes roundtrip airfare from Portland or Seattle.

## Optional Classes and Activities

You can choose to add Spanish classes (\$650 for 3 weeks, 30 hours total), golfing lessons (\$1,120 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), or a tour package that includes excursions to Cañada, Puerto Banús, and Casares and a dinner in a *chiringuito* (\$220).

## Prerequisites

We recommend this homestay immersion program for students who have studied Spanish for at least three years, who really want to use and improve their language skills, and who feel ready to dive in to a different lifestyle and culture. You won't spend a lot of time with other American students, and you should not expect to do a lot of traveling. If you prefer a program that offers language classes and organized group activities, take a look at our homestay study programs in Spain, Costa Rica, and Ecuador!



*"My favorite parts were the conversations with my host mother, walking through town with my sister, going to the beach with friends, going to the markets, making Paella, and basically everything else I did in Estepona."*

*~Tara, 2008~*



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# Frequently Asked Questions

**What does the price include?** A homestay placement, travel insurance, pre-departure orientation materials, and on-site support in Spain.

**What is a host family?** Host families come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a strong interest in sharing their culture. All host families are screened by our partner organization in Spain and provide warm, welcoming homes for international students. There may be another student from a different country staying with the same family.

**Will there be someone my age in the home?** Not necessarily. Estepona is small and since teens in Spain tend to do activities with groups of friends rather than one-on-one, you will have opportunities to make friends outside your host family circle, too. If you take the Spanish language classes, you can meet local teens who are studying English. Many of the families also host a student from France, so you may have the chance to learn about French culture, too!

**Will my family speak English?** They might, but they know that you are coming to use and improve your Spanish skills, so they will encourage you to speak their language.

**When will I receive my host family placement information?** You will receive host family details and contact information in the week prior to your arrival date, possibly earlier.

**But what will I DO all day?** That depends on your host family's daily schedule and lifestyle. You can expect to speak Spanish, meet Spanish people, explore Estepona, and participate in family activities like meals, family gatherings, grocery shopping, or a few weekend outings. The key to enjoying an immersion program is to stay curious and take every opportunity to practice your Spanish and learn something new about your host culture. If you want, you can choose to add activities and excursions together with other international students.

**Will there be an orientation?** Once you are accepted into the program, we will send you comprehensive orientation materials that cover everything from packing suggestions to dealing with culture shock. If you live in Oregon or Washington, you can also join an evening orientation in April and a full-day orientation in May.

**When should I book my flight?** After you have officially been accepted into the program. Information about the arrival/departure airport and times will be included in your acceptance letter.

**Can I get high school credits for this program?** Possibly. Talk to your teachers before the end of the school year about the option of completing an independent study project during or after your stay abroad.

**What travel documents will I need?** That depends on the length of your program, your citizenship, and other individual factors. Entry requirements change frequently, so we strongly recommend that you contact your nearest Spanish embassy or consulate to get up-to-date information. Generally, U.S. citizens need a passport, but not a visa for a short-term stay. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary travel documents for your stay in Spain.

**Can I speak to people who have participated in the program before?** Definitely! Please contact our office and we can provide you with the email addresses of students who have been on this program.

**How do I apply?** Complete the initial application form and return it to ANDEO with a \$500 deposit. We will then send you a detailed application with questions about your family and interests, a medical statement and release form, an agreement that spells out behavior expectations, directions for writing a letter to your host family, and three reference forms. You will have about 3-4 weeks to complete this. The decision to accept you into the program will be made based on your completed application. If for any reason we cannot accept you into the program, your deposit will be refunded in full.

**What is the application deadline?** The deadline is May 1st. However, we recommend that you apply as soon as you feel that all your questions have been answered and you decided that this is the right program for you. Programs sometimes fill up early.

**Who should not apply for this program?** Students who are currently experiencing excessive behavior problems, drug or alcohol abuse, eating disorders or other psychological disorders that might interfere with the program, or students who have experienced these issues in the past year should not apply.

**Are there any scholarships?** No, ANDEO is a non-profit organization and we try to keep prices as low as possible for all participants. For students who want to fundraise for their program abroad, we have compiled some ideas and suggestions. You can find them on our website at [www.andeo.org](http://www.andeo.org).



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*Like having options? Take a look at our other homestay immersion programs in France, Germany and Mexico! We also offer homestay study programs in Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Germany, Japan and Spain!*

*ANDEO International Homestays - a nonprofit organization since 1981.*