



Housing Overview

Barcelona, Spain

Homestay

CEA Housing Policies

Students should be familiar with CEA's complete housing policies and CEA housing description and regulations below before confirming their housing application. CEA Housing policies can be found on our website: www.ceaStudyAbroad.com/docs/default-source/policy-library/CEA_Policies.

Homestay Overview

Homestays offer a unique opportunity to be immersed in the local culture and improve Spanish language skills. All homestays have been carefully selected to provide each student with an enriching experience in a welcoming environment. Host families can consist of two-parent household, retired or single parents and are located all across the city in safe residential neighborhoods. Although Homestay apartments vary in shape, size, décor and age, each one is considered suitable student accommodation.

All rooms are fully furnished including a bed, storage space, night table, desk with chair and lamp. There is heating (central or radiators) and a fan. In most homestays the bathroom is shared with other students/members of the family. Students are required to keep their bedrooms tidy and the floor free of items. As a guest in someone's home, students should always ask before using items in the home and respect private bedrooms and bathrooms.

Students should expect an average commute on public transportation of 30-40 minutes. Students could be placed with roommates or as the only student in the home. When possible, CEA tries to place homestay students near other CEA housing students.

Please note that the cost for public transportation is not included. Students should plan on budgeting accordingly for transportation. Please refer to the sample budget in your MYCEA Account for more information.

Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included seven days a week. Breakfast in Spain usually consists of cereal, milk, coffee and juice. Lunch is usually served between 1 – 3 PM and dinner is usually served between 9 – 10 PM and consists of soup, vegetables, meat, fish, pasta or rice. Fruit or yogurt is normal for dessert. Students must notify host family if they will miss a meal.

Snacks or food in between meals is the student's responsibility.

Phone and Internet

Students are allowed to receive brief phone calls before 9 PM but cannot make outgoing calls. Most students have a cell phone while in Spain and either contract a service prior to arrival, bring their own phone or purchase one in Barcelona. The CEA staff can give you more information about your options.

Wireless Internet is provided. Internet in Spain can be slower than what students are used to in the United States. CEA does not provide an individualized IT service for PC/MAC configuration and it is the responsibility of the student to make his/her own arrangements for any IT assistance.

Linens, Towels and Toiletries

Sheets, comforters/blankets, pillows and towels are provided. Sheets and towels will be changed once a week. Toilet paper and hand soap are provided. All other personal hygiene items are the student's responsibility.

Laundry

Homestay family will do two loads of laundry per week. At the beginning of the stay the student and family will agree on the day of the week. If the student would like to iron his/her clothes, please consult the homestay parent.

Cleaning

Student's room will be cleaned once a week and they will be informed of the schedule during the first week after arrival. At the beginning of the stay the student and family will agree on the day of the week. Each student is responsible for cleaning his/her room and keeping it tidy throughout the duration of the program as well as keeping all common areas clean.

Maintenance

In case of a maintenance issue, students should report it in the first instance to the homestay family. Students are asked to report any ongoing maintenance issues to the CEA Barcelona Housing Department who will act on behalf of the students in such cases as well as whenever a student requests assistance.

Local Rules & Regulations

Alcohol/Smoking/Drugs

A glass of wine at dinner is common practice in many Mediterranean families. However, alcohol abuse or signs of drunkenness is not accepted. Smoking and drug consumption or possession is not allowed in homestay apartments.

Guests

Guests (friends, significant others or family members) are not allowed without prior permission from the host family. Guests are not allowed before 10 AM or after 9 PM. Overnight guests are not permitted.

Curfew

There is no curfew for students. However, if the student will not be home for dinner or plans to spend the night elsewhere, he/she must inform the host family. Students must always be respectful of the neighbors and host family when coming home late.

Keys & Security

Each student will be given a set of keys to the apartment and shown how to double lock the door upon check-in. For the safety of the student and host family, it is very important that the apartment address is never with the keys, the keys are not given to anyone else, and that students double lock the apartment door every time they leave. In the event that keys are lost or stolen during the program, students will be responsible for the cost

of replacement as well as for the cost of a new lock should this need to be changed. Copies of keys can only be made by the host family.

CEA is not responsible for any lost or stolen personal items (laptops, jewelry, cell phones, cameras, bags, etc.). We strongly advise students to insure their personal belongings for the time that they will be abroad. Any student who is a victim of crime should notify the onsite staff as soon as possible so that they are informed of the necessary safety protocols.

Utilities

CEA will cover all reasonable utility expenses. Students who incur utility charges above and beyond what is considered normal by local standards will be responsible for paying the excessive charges. It may take up to three months for foreign utility bills to be issued; therefore, CEA reserves the right to hold program deposits until all utility bills have been reviewed. If the program security deposit does not cover all utility charges, the student will be billed accordingly. CEA reserves the right to withhold academic transcripts for any outstanding balance on student accounts.

Please note that utility rates are typically much higher than in the US. Students are expected to be mindful of this when using electricity, water and gas in their host country, and to be more conservative than they might otherwise be.

Damages

Host families are not responsible for any lost, damaged or stolen items belonging to the student. Students must keep their personal belongings in his/her bedroom. Students must respect all furniture, property, and other items provided. All damage, even unintentional, will be billed to the student responsible. If responsibility cannot be determined, the cost will be split equally among all residents.

Please note, if excessive cleaning and/or trash removal is required at the end of the program, students will be responsible for all additional costs incurred. In addition, CEA will, without liability, dispose of any personal items left in CEA housing at the end of this contract term. If the program damage deposit does not cover all charges, the student will be billed accordingly. CEA reserves the right to withhold academic transcripts for any outstanding balance on student accounts.

Housing Changes and Discipline

Living with a host family in a new culture can be challenging at first. Students should give themselves time to adjust to their new living situation. Most conflicts are due to miscommunication or a misunderstanding. CEA recommends that all students first try to talk to their host family about the issue. If they cannot come to an understanding, students should contact the CEA Housing Office. The Onsite staff will work with the family and the student to facilitate communication and try to resolve the conflict.

Students are guests in their homestay and must be respectful of house rules, property and to all family members and neighbors. Students who do not abide by the CEA Housing Rules and Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. Repeated breaches of CEA housing rules can lead to the removal from the homestay family and/or dismissal from the CEA academic program. If the student is removed from the housing assignment due to misconduct, and is allowed to remain on the program at the discretion of CEA, the student will forfeit

their \$300 security deposit. The student will not be offered a new CEA housing assignment, and no refunds will be available.

Conflicts

You agree to make CEA staff aware of any conflicts or significant disagreements regarding issues with roommates. Any information you share with a member of the staff can be shared with a third party if CEA considers it necessary. CEA staff has the authority to intervene and take appropriate action regarding such disputes which may include, without limitation, a change of housing assignments. You will be responsible for any costs associated with the resolution.