

Housing Policies

Students should be familiar with CEA CAPA's *Participant Housing Agreement Form* prior to the program start date. This information was provided to students in their pre-departure materials and can also be found on our website at <https://www.ceastudyabroad.com/student-policy>.

Description

You will be living in a CEA CAPA student apartment. Apartments are co-ed and are shared with other CEA CAPA students. Students will have either a single or shared room, depending on the submitted housing preference form and on-site availability. All apartments are located within Alicante's city center; however, the university is located outside of the city, so you should expect a 25–30-minute commute to your university classes.

General Rules & Guidelines

1. I agree that I am a guest in my host country and am prepared to learn about and adapt to the cultural differences that I may encounter. I understand that the rules and etiquette in my assigned housing may be different than what I may be accustomed to at my home institution.
2. I agree to be respectful of my roommates and their personal items. I understand that part of my experience is learning to live with others and to respect and appreciate personal differences. I understand that if I am unable to resolve any conflict that may arise between my roommates and me within a reasonable timeframe, that on-site staff has the authority to intervene and take appropriate actions, which may include, but may not be limited to, a change of housing. I further understand that I will be responsible for any costs incurred because of such an event.
3. I agree to be respectful of all residential and building property. This includes all items within my room, shared common areas, and the building. This also includes keeping my room and apartment clean throughout the duration of my program. Please see *Damages* section below for further details regarding cleaning.
4. I agree to be respectful of my neighbors, both within my building and in the surrounding areas. This includes keeping noise levels down and being discreet and quiet in the surrounding streets when coming home late. In many countries, it is against the law to make excessive noise after 10 pm.
5. I understand that as a representative of CEA CAPA, my home university, and the U.S., I am expected to conduct myself in a considerate and respectful manner while in my housing.
6. I agree not to consume any illegal substance in my housing.
7. I agree to thoroughly read the guidelines included below, and I understand that I will be held responsible for adhering to them for the duration of my program.

Meals

Students residing in an apartment do not receive a meal plan. Apartment kitchens are fully equipped with basic kitchenware for students to prepare their own meals. There are supermarkets and many different shopping and dining options throughout the city and at the university.

Amenities

All rooms will be furnished with a bed and closet and/or dresser, as well as limited storage space. Bedrooms might include a desk and private bathroom. All apartments will have a shared full bathroom. In addition, common areas will be furnished with a TV, couch, and dining table with chairs.

Utilities

Most apartments are equipped with gas tanks in or next to their kitchens. Students will be provided with a full gas tank upon check-in but will be responsible for buying replacement gas tanks during their stay. On-site staff will guide students on how to order a new gas tank.

CEA CAPA will cover reasonable utility expenses. Students who incur utility charges above and beyond what is deemed reasonable by CEA CAPA will be responsible for paying the excessive charges. Please note that electricity and water are more expensive in Spain. Students are expected to be mindful of this when using electricity and water in Spain, and to be more conservative than they might otherwise be accustomed to. If students incur in excessive use of electricity and water, they will be responsible for excessive billing.

Central Heating

Apartments in Alicante are not equipped with central heating. However, an oil heater may be provided for the living room, as needed. Because electric heaters present a fire hazard, students are not allowed to buy and use them in any CEA CAPA housing.

Air Conditioning

Apartments in Alicante might be equipped with air conditioning, for those that are not, fans will be provided.

Internet

Apartments are equipped with internet access. Internet is provided mainly for academic purposes. In addition, students will have access to computer labs at the university.

Internet connection problems or repairs

Students must notify on-site staff in writing if a technical problem occurs. Since these issues are out of the scope of the local resident staff, repairs might take up to a week to get solved.

Damages

Students must respect all furniture, property, and other items provided in the apartments. All damages, even unintentional, will be billed to the student responsible. If responsibility cannot be determined, the cost will be split equally among all residents. CEA CAPA reserves the right to withhold academic transcripts for any outstanding balance on student accounts.

Repairs

Students must notify on-site staff in writing and with a picture or video of any repairs that need to be done at the apartment. CEA CAPA resident staff will contact the technical services to report the problem and arrange a time to visit the apartment.

Guests

CEA CAPA students are responsible for the conduct of their guests while in CEA CAPA housing. Guests must be always accompanied by a resident. Overnight guests and visitors after 10 pm are not permitted in any housing assignment.

Curfew

There is no curfew in any apartment. However, students should be respectful of their roommates when coming home late.

Keys & Security

Each student will be issued keys to their housing upon check-in. Under no circumstances may students make a copy of their keys. If keys are lost during the program, students will be responsible for the cost of replacement. Charges might also include changing the door lock. Students must report lost keys to on-site staff immediately and follow any additional security procedures dictated by their specific housing assignment/facility.

Linens, Towels, & Blankets

Linens, towels, and blankets are not provided in the apartments; however, on-site staff will leave items donated by past students for you to use. Rather than bringing a set from home, we recommend that you wait until you get onsite to buy them. Most of the beds are twin size, however, European mattress sizes vary slightly from the U.S.

Phone

The apartments are not equipped with phones. CEA CAPA requires that students have a local phone number available to staff for emergency contact purposes. Relying on Wi-Fi for communication is not dependable and will not ensure that on-site staff can reach you in the case of an emergency. Students may choose to acquire an international phone plan (most expensive option), set up an eSIM card prior to arrival (mid-point option), or acquire a Spanish SIM card after arrival (least expensive option). Please note that for the last two options your mobile phone must be unlocked by your home provider.

During orientation, on-site staff will follow up with students regarding local cell phone options. However, we encourage students to research their options and choose the one that best meets their needs before arriving in Alicante. Students must share local cell phone numbers with on-site staff within 5 business days following arrival.

Laundry

Each apartment is equipped with a washing machine. Dryers are not included, but drying racks are provided. Students are responsible for purchasing their own laundry detergent.

Smoking

Smoking and vaping are strictly prohibited in any CEA CAPA housing unit or facility, including any balcony or terrace that may be attached to the program housing unit.

Sound Environment

If students suspect the beginning of an infestation in CEA CAPA housing at any point during their stay, they must alert housing staff immediately, so that the proper eradication steps can be taken. If the infestation is severe and requires students to vacate the premises during treatment, alternative housing may be provided until it is considered safe to return by the housing provider or pest control expert. The onsite team will work closely with the impacted students to resolve the issue and keep them informed throughout the process. Financial responsibility for alternative housing, treatments, and exterminations for infestations, including insects, bedbugs, mice, etc. are studied on a case-by-case basis, considering the general upkeep of the room and common spaces within the apartment, how long students have been living there, and whether proper precautions had been taken previously. Please note that treatments, exterminations, and cleanings can be chargeable up to 300 euros per student. Additionally, Students are encouraged to take the proper precautions, outlined during orientation, to avoid these kinds of maintenance issues.