

## 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 homestay in Alicante. Each homestay has been carefully chosen to ensure the best possible living arrangements. Homestays may consist of a single host mom (with or without children) or a traditional two-parent household. Staying with a family is a great way to complement your academic experience, practice your language skills, and have first-hand exposure to Spanish culture. All homestays 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/or 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 will be provided three meals per day, seven days a week. Students should keep in mind that meals in Spain are different from what they are accustomed to in the U.S. Breakfast is typically very light, consisting of fruit or toast with jam and coffee. Lunch is the largest meal of the day and is usually eaten between 2:30 – 3:30 pm. Dinner is a bit lighter and is usually eaten between 9:00 – 10:00 pm. Students are expected to eat at the times designated by their family and in some cases may not have access to the kitchen between meals. In addition, students are expected to notify their family if they will be arriving late for or missing any meals.

### **Phone**

Homestays do not provide a phone. 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.

### **Internet**

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

### **Linens & Towels**

Students will be provided with all bed linens and towels by their host family.

### **Laundry**

Students will receive laundry service at least once per week.

### **Smoking**

Smoking may be permitted in some homestays. Each host family will provide specific details about whether smoking is allowed in their home and if so, where smoking is permitted.

### **Amenities**

All rooms are furnished with a bed, desk, closet, and possible dresser. A shared or private bathroom is also provided. Students will be considered a family member; however, should always ask before using items in the home.

### **Guests**

CEA CAPA students must notify their host family in advance if they plan to bring a guest into the home and will be responsible for the conduct of their guests while in CEA CAPA housing. Friends, family members, overnight and late-night guests are not permitted in any housing assignment.

### **Curfew**

There is no curfew in any homestay. However, you should be respectful of your host family and notify them if you plan on 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.

### **Utilities**

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.

### **Damages**

All 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.