



EARLY START PROGRAM

IAU Madrid



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Whether the language, the culture, the geography, or all three, navigating the city of Madrid is an exciting challenge. Students who have opted for the Early Start Program have chosen to begin this process of adaptation and orientation a week before the semester begins, allowing more time to adjust to the challenges of using Spanish in their everyday lives and not merely as a classroom exercise. This program will guide students through functional Spanish, no matter their initial level, as well as initiate their gradual adjustment to life in Madrid and orient them into the IAU program. For language courses, students will be divided into groups according to their Spanish levels.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Through in-course instruction in the language, field adaptation to local culture, and study tours to important areas and landmarks in the region we will:

- Jump-start the Spanish immersion process and ease into the new and exciting culture.
- Gain confidence in language skills and feel comfortable in everyday communication with locals.
- Participate in a hands-on environment with small classes and personal attention.
- Learn to navigate the city of Madrid through local excursions in a relaxed setting.
- Learn important intercultural differences such as body language, etiquette, do's and don'ts, stereotypes and misunderstandings.
- Find out the best tips for where to buy what in the area.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Note: All cultural activities and classes are subject to change.

Day 1

Arrivals and Move into Housing

Day 2

10:00 - 11:00am: Orientation

11:00 - 1:00pm: Spanish Class

1:00 - 2:30pm: Lunch

2:30 - 4:00pm: Walking Tour around *El Viejo Madrid* (Madrid old historical centre)

Day 3

9:00 - 12:00am: Spanish Class

12:15 - 1:15pm: Spanish Class

Lunch break

2:00 - 6:00pm:

Day 4

9:00 - 11:30am: Spanish Class

12:00 - 2:00pm: Spanish Class Part II

2:30 - 5:00 pm: Visit *Mercado de Chamartín* and lunch

Day 5

9:00 - 12:30am: Spanish Class

Lunch break

1:30 - 6:30pm: Field Study: *El Escorial*

Day 6

10:00-12:15: Project presentations

12:30-2:30: Madrid Guided Sightseeing Tour

2:30 - 4:00pm : *Group Lunch*

Day 7

7:00pm: *Flamenco Show* Welcome Reception

SPANISH FIRST CONTACT SKILLS COURSE CONTENTS

The following contents will be developed and adapted according to the real level of the students following a methodology based on a communicative approach focusing on working on intercultural skills and knowledge to ease the student life in Madrid.

Monday, Jan 16th

INTRODUCING OURSELVES

- **Personal information exchange:**

Personal and academic information: Linguistic resources to talk about personal details and studies we are doing

- **Greetings for daily use:**

Formal and informal contexts

- **How to express likes dislikes, interests and difficulties during learning process:**

Verbs and structures like *gustar, encantar, interesar, costar, sentirse + adjetivo (me cuesta/an, me siento seguro/a, inseguro/a...etc cuando...)*

Tuesday, Jan 17th

HOME AND CITY

- **Vocabulary:** Housing in Spain, kind of houses, parts and daily use objects, furniture, devices...etc. of the house, urban elements

- **Functional language:**

Describing a place

How to locate objects and spaces

How to express obligations, intentions and needs

- **Grammar contents:**

Verbs *ser, estar, hay, prepositions of place*

Necesitar+noun/infinitive verb

Tener que+ infinitive verb

Ir a+ infinitive verb

Wednesday, Jan 18th

SHOPPING, EATING AND COOKING

• **Vocabulary:**

Food, drinks, restaurants, bars, and different types of shops

• **Functional language:**

Talking about habits

Describing food and recipes

Asking for prices

Ordering and paying

• **Grammar contents:**

Presente de indicativo: -ar, -ir, -ir and some irregular verbs

Verbs poner, costar, traer

Thursday, Jan 19th

WORKING ON PROJECTS

Option A: *Cultural differences related to daily habits*

Option B: *Presentation of a typical Spanish recipe*

Option C: *Role Play at the restaurant*

Option D: *Presentation of a tourist route proposal in Alcalá de Henares or El Escorial*

Friday, Jan 20th

PROJECTS PRESENTATIONS AND FEEDBACK