

**Program Dates: May 15<sup>th</sup> – June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

## **Program Overview**

Our month-long Spanish language and culture program in Costa Rica is conducted in collaboration with a University in Florida. This summer language program in Costa Rica has been running for a number of years. The program is designed to accelerate and enhance students' knowledge of the Spanish language, while allowing them to become immersed in Costa Rican culture at the same time.

The program features Spanish language classes from beginning through intermediate levels, taught by ILISA and university instructors in pleasant facilities. Class sizes are small, up to 10 students, by design to facilitate learning. Organized cultural excursions to locales outside of San Jose during the weekends complement classes.



## **Location**

Costa Rica boasts a wealth of natural scenic beauty and a pleasant climate year-round. San Jose, the program site, is the capital and geographical heart of Costa Rica. The language institute in San Pedro where students attend classes is situated in the center of the city, close to museums, parks, a wide variety of cafes and restaurants, and shopping centers. A very economical and reliable city bus system allows participants to travel between the city and the suburbs a short distance away, where many of the program's homestay accommodations are located. On day-out excursions from the city, participants will experience the contrasts and variety of scenery in the region around San Jose, the Central Valley. Weekend travel will allow time for travel to Costa Rica's famous volcanoes, its Caribbean and Pacific beaches, white-water rivers and immense tropical forest reserves.



## Host Institution ILISA



### Academic Program and Course Information

In this intensive program, students will be enrolled in language classes from Monday-Friday for four hours or one-half of the day. Classes will be determined by the student's level of proficiency or student's home institution. Spanish classes are offered at all levels.

Depending on the student's level, he/she may be placed in classes taught by institute teaching staff or one class taught by the institute.

#### Program Schedule:

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May 15<sup>th</sup> Transportation from the airport\*

May 16<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup> Homestay for students in houses around the school for 4 weeks. Homestay program includes breakfast, dinner and laundry. Please specify students that we have a group of students arriving on June 12th and if they need to stay longer in the house, they have to let us know in advance.

May 17<sup>th</sup> Coordination meeting at the school to give the students a brief introduction to our program.

May 18<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup> Spanish classes at ILISA Language Institute: including Monday to Friday or 4 hours of classes per day, Monday, workbooks, teaching material, certificate of attendance, student ID and 20 hrs of internet. Also includes use of social areas, cafeteria, etc.

May 22<sup>th</sup> Tour to Poas Volcano and La Paz Waterfall Gardens including: transportation, entrance fee to both parks, visit to coffee shop, guide, lunch.

May 28<sup>th</sup> Tour to Orosi Valley and Lankaster Gardens: this tour includes transportation, entrance fee, guide, lunch.

May 29<sup>h</sup> – May 30<sup>th</sup> 1night/2days Tour to Arenal Volcano and Canopy Tour including:

- Transportation to la Fortuna, San Carlos.
- Lunch
- Entrance fee to hot springs.
- Dinner.
- Stay in double/triple standard rooms .

- Forest trail tour at the hotel.
- Canopy Tour.
- Lunch
- Transportation back to San José.

June 8<sup>th</sup> Farewell Dinner at Ram Luna: includes transportation, dinner and masquerade.

June 12<sup>th</sup> Last day of our program. Transportation back to the airport, 3 shuttles scheduled from the school.

## Program Costs

### Estimated Program fee: \$2000

Included:

On-site program direction by ILISA

Language classes taught by qualified language institute instructors

Homestay accommodations with breakfast and dinner daily.

Workbooks and class material.

Airport pick up.

Group excursions: transportation, some meals and entrance fees.

Not Included:

International Airfare (estimate \$350-550)

Personal spending (lunches at \$3-5; entertainment to vary by individual)

### Payment Schedule

April 15: \$300 per student.

May 1st: \$1700 Balance of Program Fees

## Living Arrangements

The program uses homestay accommodations in which students live with local families carefully selected by the language institute. This arrangement provides a more in-depth understanding of the daily life of Costa Ricans, who are noted for their friendliness. As well, language acquisition is much enhanced by daily interaction with the homestay families and the opportunity to practice speaking Spanish outside the classroom. Another advantage of homestay lodging is that it includes breakfast and dinner daily, thereby making the program more economical for the student. Internet access is available in around 90% of the homestay residences, and is available at the institute and at plentiful internet cafes. Please note that we would place a maximum of 2 students per home.

## Who Can Participate?

Prior language experience is not required for participation in the program. Intermediate and advanced students of Spanish will particularly benefit from the Summer Spanish Language Program in Costa Rica.

## How to Apply

Contact ILISA directly [spanish@ilisa.com](mailto:spanish@ilisa.com)

## **Getting There**

Student will be responsible for reserving and purchasing your international transportation to and from San Jose, Costa Rica.

Preparing for your trip:

<http://studentsabroad.state.gov/html-site/StudentAbroadHome.html>

## **Cancellation and Refund Policy**

The deposit is \$ 300 and it is payable before arrival. Once it has been paid it is non-refundable.