

*Live the Language
Learn the Culture*

Foreign Language and Cultural Immersion Since 1968
**NATIONAL REGISTRATION CENTER
FOR STUDY ABROAD**



Costa Rica

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National Registration Center for Study Abroad (NRCSA)

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INSTITUTO INTERAMERICANO DE IDIOMAS, S.A. – ALAJUELA, COSTA RICA

ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND THE CITY

Instituto Interamericano de Idiomas, S.A., internationally known as Intensa reflecting its "intensive" language programs, was founded in 1980. Currently, Instituto Interamericano de Idiomas, S.A. offers second language programs in Spanish and relies on a highly qualified teaching staff. The length of the Spanish study program can be as short as two weeks or as long as six months.

The northwest central valley town of Alajuela is Costa Rica's second city. Alajuela has a busy downtown area and a slightly warmer climate than nearby San Jose. The International Airport is just one kilometer from the town. A provincial capital, Alajuela's red domed cathedral completes its central square and park which, during the heat of the afternoon, is the perfect place to hang out and people watch.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

We specialize in offering immersion Spanish programs for people who desire to speak and read Spanish in a reasonably short period of time. With this objective in mind, our programs emphasize intensive conversation practice. We have found this to be one of the most effective and rapid ways of learning to converse and read in Spanish.

Students arrive in Alajuela with different language backgrounds. Consequently placement tests are given on the first day of classes to place students into small groups which match their conversational level. The groups range from complete beginner to advanced. Students will be moved to different groups as their Spanish improves to ensure they are always receiving the best instruction for their current language level. Under certain circumstances there may not be a group which matches the students current level. When this occurs the student will be given 3 hours of individual (one-on-one) lessons instead of 4 lessons in a group. This ensures that students should never feel like they are being over/underwhelmed by the course content. Small groups classes (and individual lessons) ensure you will receive the attention and extensive oral practice so essential to developing your language ability.

Custom text materials have been developed and are given to each student attending classes. The customized material uses a well-established language acquisition program, providing live, meaningful situations in which students can acquire communicative competence in speaking and reading Spanish. Performance objectives for language structures, culture, and pronunciation are clearly delineated as well as functional conversational goals.

Students who start later than Monday will not be able to make up missed hours. Lessons are not held on national holidays.

Basic Spanish Programs

Tutor 15, 20 & 25 hours per week. These programs include 2, 3, 4 or more weeks of study consisting of 3 to 5 lessons per day, Monday through Friday. Each lesson averages 53 minutes in length in a group setting or a tutorial. All programs stress maximum practice in conversation, under the direct guidance of a staff teacher.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Homestays The host families are from the Costa Rican middle class; most have had foreign students as guests before. Instituto Interamericano de Idiomas, S.A. will make every reasonable effort to match you and your interests with an appropriate family. The homestay includes a private room, and laundry service plus a good breakfast and a main meal. Homes are within easy commuting distance from the school. Students will be placed one student per family.

Hotel or aparthotel available on request and at additional cost.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

The school has supplemented the instruction program with a cultural program which includes field trips, Latin American dance lessons, and tours through the lush, green, picturesque countryside and to breathtaking tropical beaches.

TO REGISTER:

Complete the NRCSA Preregistration Form or contact the National Registration Center for Study Abroad at 823 North 2nd Street, P.O. Box 1393, Milwaukee, WI 53201 USA, or by calling (414) 278-0631; by Fax (414) 271-8884.

**Check out our website at <http://www.nrca.com> or
e-mail us at study@nrca.com**

ALL NRCSA PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Foreign language immersion classes
- ✓ Small interactive group and/or one-on-one instruction
- ✓ Culture program integrated into conversation classes, activities
- ✓ Meet-the-People interaction at school, homestays, & community events
- ✓ Orientation covering attractions, how to, health, safety, entertainment
- ✓ Academic assessments, placement-exit tests, Achievement Certificate
- ✓ Lodging (reduced fee if no lodging needed)
- ✓ Meals and/or cooking facilities at most centres
- ✓ Insurance: medical and accident - see below
- ✓ Emergency Hotline staffed 24 hours/day - see below
- ✓ Housing Coordinator familiar with area homestays, apartments, hotels
- ✓ Activity Coordinator facilitates transfers, cultural/social activities, tours
- ✓ Program Director experienced working with foreign participants
- ✓ Qualified, experienced, and certified educators
- ✓ Weekly proficiency goals and progress assessments
- ✓ Planning and Orientation materials
- ✓ International Ambiance, participants from around-the-world welcome
- ✓ Telecom assistance, web/e-mail access, usually on-site
- ✓ Local taxes for included services
- ✓ 24:7 Culture Immersion w/ native speakers: class, homestay, community
- ✓ **ALL NRCSA PROGRAMS INCLUDE the following INSURANCE***

ACCIDENT INSURANCE up to \$10,000 SICKNESS INSURANCE up to \$10,000

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION up to \$25,000

EMERGENCY REUNION up to \$5,000

REPATRIATION up to \$7,500

LIFE INSURANCE \$5,000

plus

24 HOUR EMERGENCY WORLDWIDE MULTI-LINGUAL TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE

MANY ALSO OFFER

- ✓ **Tours:** cultural visits, day and weekend fieldtrips
- ✓ **Art:** classes/workshops, craft, dance, theater, fashion, music, photo
- ✓ **Humanities:** culture, area studies, hist, lit, gov't, educ, comm, plus...
- ✓ **Health:** golf, swimming, tennis, diving, skiing, riding, plus...
- ✓ **Special:** vocabulary classes tailored to your professional needs
- ✓ **Lodging:** homestay, apartment, dorm, hotel, special diet
- ✓ **Food:** home cooking, cooking classes, dine-around, wine tasting
- ✓ **Family:** services, daycare, child classes, community services
- ✓ **Teacher:** training, workshops, practicums, practice teaching, ECH
- ✓ **Teen:** camps and youth programs (including experiential)
- ✓ **University:** credit, undergraduate and graduate
- ✓ **Professional:** development credit in many fields, licensure, CEU
- ✓ **Volunteer:** medical, social service, ecology, teach plus...
- ✓ **Internships:** business, media, arts, eco, tourism, computer, plus...
- ✓ **Business:** classes, visits, networking, executive support services
- ✓ **Peer-to-Peer:** share interests, network by profession or hobby
- ✓ **Current Events & Professional Workshops, Holiday Courses**
- ✓ **Distance** educ liaison service, independent studies, research assist
- ✓ **Free** books and course materials. Return at end of studies
- ✓ **Free** airport transfers and internet access
- ✓ **Assessment** reports for attendance, progress, acculturation if needed
- ✓ **Medical:** professional training, law, social work, sciences etc.

** If you have a problem while studying abroad, call the 24 hour hotline! Call Any Time from Anywhere! Medical or travel emergencies, legal or medical or embassy referrals, lost passport or luggage, emergency message relay, coordinating emergency prescription replacement or cash transfer, emergency translations, 24-hour medical monitoring. Problems seldom occur, but when they do, it is nice to know insurance and worldwide assistance are included in your cost for study dates prepaid through NRCSA as reflected on your NRCSA confirmation. Additional optional insurance available upon request. Refer to the certificate for specific terms, conditions and other details regarding benefits, limitations, eligibility and exclusions of this plan. Questions? Contact NRCSA: Tel: 414-278-0631 ... E-Mail: info@nrcca.com ... Web: <http://www.nrcca.com>*

For Questions, Concerns, or Registration, Contact NRCSA
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