

Gap Program in San Sebastián, Spain

Individually Customized Programs

ANDEO's Gap programs are very flexible and can be customized to fit your goals and interests. The two core components are small-group language courses and a homestay with a local family. From there, you can choose your own path. For example, you can take surfing lessons, join a teacher training course, or prepare for the DELE exam. Programs can be as short as four weeks or as long as a full year and start any Monday. Academic credit is available.

2010 Cost Estimate: \$5,300 for a 12-week program
(airfare not included; 4-week to 12-month programs possible)

San Sebastián

Welcome to the cultural capital of the Basque country! The city offers a rich palate of cultural events from traditional celebrations to film festivals much more than what you would expect from a city of less than 180,000 people! It is located close to the mountains and directly on the beach. Another highlight is the local cuisine, especially the regional variety of the Spanish tapas, called pinxtos.

The Language Institute

Study Spanish only 10 minutes from the beach! The language institute is located close to the beautiful Cristina Enea Park and the district of Egia, which is famous for its coffee shops and tapas bars. During breaks, you can enjoy the open-air terrace or browse the library of books, magazines, and newspapers. As a student, you can take advantage of the free wi-fi network.

The Classes

In your classes, you will focus on practical use of your language skills and learn through hands-on exercises. The standard intensive course includes twenty sessions per week, in groups of up to 12 international students. Classes are usually held from 9:30 to 13:00, and sometimes in the afternoon. You also have the option of adding private lessons or taking a more intensive group program in the summer.

Cultural Activities

Dive into the unique culture of the Basque country! San Sebastián is the home of many colorful festivals that celebrate its culture and history. You can also join activities organized by the language institute, for example museum visits, excursions to historical sites, and sports or social events. Many of these activities are free for students, but you will need to budget a little extra for some entrance fees and transportation costs.

Special Option: Spanish and Surfing

Take advantage of the fantastic waves at Zurriola beach! It is a great place to learn how to surf, but also offers challenges for experienced surfers. Lessons are scheduled in the afternoon, after your Spanish classes, for one hour each weekday. All materials are provided.

Accommodations

A homestay with a local family is the best way to immerse yourself into the daily life in San Sebastián. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a strong interest in sharing their culture. Breakfast is included in your homestay; dinner with your host family can be arranged for an additional fee.



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ANDEO International Homestays - a nonprofit organization since 1981.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the cost estimate include? The estimate includes tuition for the language course, study materials, home-stay placement with breakfast each day, some cultural activities, pre-departure orientation materials, and ongoing support in your preparations and during your stay in San Sebastián. If you want to add special options, please contact ANDEO for a cost estimate.

Can I study if I am a beginner? Yes, you can start as a complete beginner. Call for specific beginner start dates!

When will I receive my host family placement information? You will receive host family details and contact information in the week prior to your arrival date.

Will I receive any orientation materials? Yes. Once you are accepted into the program, we will send you comprehensive orientation materials that cover everything from packing suggestions to dealing with culture shock.

Will I have access to email? Yes, you can take advantage of the free wi-fi connection at the language institute. If you don't want to bring your laptop, you can go to an internet café.

Will the institute be closed for any holidays? Yes. The institute is closed for all national holidays in Spain.

Can I get credits for studying abroad? Yes! Whether you are a high school graduate, a university student working toward a degree, or a teacher looking for professional development, you can get credit for continuing your education abroad. Earn 5 to 10 credits by signing up for a variety of courses offered by *We Study Abroad*, an accredited college program linked with Seattle Central Community College. Please visit www.westudyabroad.com for details.

Do I need travel insurance? We strongly recommend that you get travel insurance that includes a medical plan. Prices depend upon trip length and participant age. You can compare different policies online or by contacting your local travel agent.

Will I need a visa? That depends on the length of your program, your citizenship, and other individual factors. Visa requirements change frequently, so we strongly recommend that you contact your nearest Spanish consulate or embassy to make sure you have the most up-to-date information about all rules and regulations that apply to your stay. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary travel documents for your program in Spain. If you need any documents from ANDEO or our partner organization abroad, we will do our best to provide them to you.

Can I speak to people who have participated in the program before? Definitely! Please contact our office and we can provide you with the emails of students who have participated in this program.

How do I apply? To apply, complete the initial Gap application and return it with a \$500 deposit. You can download an application at www.andeo.org. Your deposit will be applied to the total program price. Upon receipt of your program registration and deposit, we will send you a detailed orientation packet. The balance of your program fees will be due 30 days before your program start date.

What is your cancellation policy? If you cancel your program more than 45 days prior to your start date, we will refund the amount you have paid toward your program fee except for the \$200 non-refundable deposit as well as any cancellation fees charged by the language institute. The cancellation fees vary from program to program, so please feel free to ask us about the fees that apply to yours. For cancellations made less than 45 days prior to your program start date, your \$500 deposit will be forfeited, and you will also be responsible for the cancellation fees charged by the institute. If ANDEO cancels your program, you will receive a full refund.

If you have any further questions or would like to start planning your program in Spain, please contact ANDEO at info@andeo.org, 503.274.1776 or 800.274.6007. We look forward to working with you!



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Like having options? Take a look at our other Gap programs in Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Peru, and Spain!

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