

Terms & Conditions of the Program

Participant's name:

The participant and parents are responsible for reading, understanding, and signing these Terms & Conditions. The Terms of Participation have been designed to give everyone the foundation for a successful, safe and satisfying gap year experience in Spain. If the academic participant fails to abide by any of the following Terms of Participation, this may result in early termination from the program and the participant's return to the country of origin.

1. I understand that the purpose of the program is to participate in a non-academic program in Spain. In addition to learning the language and customs of Spain, I am expected to make every effort to adapt to the culture and lifestyle of that country. I understand that there may be significant cultural, economic and lifestyle differences between my country of origin and Spain, including customs, values, and acceptable behavior.
2. I understand that I am expected to adjust to the host families selected for me, regardless of their ethnicity or background. I also understand that host families represent a wide range of socioeconomic levels, which may vary greatly from my own. Spanish Gap Year will reevaluate a host family placement before departure for Spain, or during the program, if there are valid concerns for the participant's well-being or safety.
3. I will not compare my host family to other families, nor will I discuss their private matters with others. I will try to resolve conflicts with the help of my Spanish Gap Year local coordinators through discussion and compromise. I acknowledge that I cannot change host families at will. I understand switching families is always a last resort and trust that Spanish Gap Year will find a family that is a suitable match for me.
4. I will respect each member of the host family and will follow their rules about curfew, dating, use of electronic devices etc. I will do my best to initiate participation in family mealtimes, chores, and other family activities. I will endeavor to limit my time alone, in an effort to prevent culture shock, boredom or loneliness.
5. Spanish Laws: I will respect Spanish laws. Breaking the law may lead to early program termination.
6. Drugs: I will not possess, use or be with others using drugs, including marihuana.
7. Alcohol: I will respect the **two-drink limit** established by Spanish Gap Year and drink only in a sensible manner, while in a safe environment and only when accompanied by my peers and/or program leaders. The legal age for drinking in Spain is 18. However, breaking the two-drink limit rule, and/or behaving recklessly, will be grounds for program termination.

8. Sexual Conduct: I will not engage in any sexual contact or sexual activity that involves a member of the Spanish Gap Year team or of any of my host families. Sexual relations with anyone from the SGY team or a host family member are strictly forbidden and are grounds for program termination.
9. Smoking/Tobacco: The legal age for buying cigarettes in Spain is 18. Smoking at home is allowed only with the permission of the host parents. Smoking during activities is forbidden.
10. Weapons: I will not purchase, handle, or use guns (including air-projectile guns such as those used in paintball or other games), knives, or brass knuckles at any time. Participants are not allowed to participate in any type of violent activity.
11. Driving: Participants are not permitted to drive any motor vehicle during the program (including motorcycles, mopeds and cars).
12. Hitchhiking: Participants are not permitted to hitchhike.
13. Participants are not permitted to hold part-time jobs. Participants will travel visa-free into the EU for 90 days, hence, they do not have the right to accept paid employment.
14. Participants must always be aware of their responsibility as gap year program participants and make a determined effort during their activities, with their peers, host families and host community to behave adequately and politely.
15. Participants must attend activities daily, unless sick and under a doctor's care, or with special permission from parents/host parents.
16. I will provide a doctor's letter of explanation in English to accompany all prescription drugs, over the counter drugs (other than ibuprofen or acetaminophen), and herbal supplements that I bring with me to Spain, or that are sent to me while on the program.
17. I will not participate in unsafe activities such as skydiving, hang gliding, bungee jumping etc. I will confirm insurance coverage for any potentially dangerous activity. I will request approval for and will never take part alone in such sports such as snow sports (snowboarding, snow skiing, inner tubing, etc.); or other potentially dangerous activities. For all potentially dangerous activities that are allowed, I will take all extra precautions that are appropriate for the activity, such as wearing a helmet, protection equipment etc.
18. I will always wear a seatbelt when traveling by car. Failure to wear seat belts can cause serious injury in the event of an accident.
19. Should a problem arise during the program, that is not an emergency, I will contact my Spanish Gap Year program leader, in order to facilitate a timely and efficient resolution to the problem. In case of an emergency or hospitalization, I will contact my Spanish Gap Year program leader as soon as possible.
20. I understand that my host family is responsible for housing, basic transportation, and three meals per day. I am responsible for all other expenses including personal food and toiletry items. I must also have an active credit card available for emergency funds, such as medical or other unexpected expenses.
21. I understand that any pre-existing condition will not be covered by Spanish Gap Year's insurance. If it becomes apparent, after my arrival in Spain, that I have previously undisclosed health issues, the program reserves the right to end my program and require early repatriation at my cost. All pre-existing conditions will require advance purchase of medical insurance with an appropriate international insurance carrier. This insurance cannot be purchased after entry into Spain. Proof of insurance must be provided to Spanish Gap Year before departure. It is required that the participant and parents disclose all previous mental and physical treatments or health issues that the participant may have had. The participant agrees to disclose all this information fully and faithfully.

TERMS OF PAYMENT

APPLICATION PROCESS

Our application process consists of five steps:

- Candidate interview
- Application completion
- Application review
- Booking fee transfer
 - Fee: \$3,160
 - Deadline: we ask for 20% of the program fee to secure a place. Participants can transfer their booking deposit as soon as they have received confirmation that we have reviewed their application and we are confident that Spanish Gap Year is suitable for them.
- Transfer of fee balance
 - Fee: \$12,640
 - Deadline: 30 days prior to the start of the program.

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

- COVID-19: If the program is cancelled due to COVID-19 related issues, the participant will receive a full refund of the program fee.
- Low numbers: if Spanish Gap Year cancels the program 30 days prior to the start date, due to insufficient numbers, the participant will be offered two options:
 - Option one: full refund of the program fee.
 - Option two: an alternative tailor-made gap year in Spain.
- Cancellation by the participant:
 - Cancellation due to serious health issues: full refund of the program fee, regardless of cancellation date. Spanish Gap Year will request that the participant provides proof of serious health issues.
 - Cancellation due to other issues:
 - Less than 30 days prior to start date: no refund of program fee
 - 30-60 days prior to start date: 50% refund of program fee
 - 60-90 days prior to start date: 80% refund of program fee