

In the NORTH IN THE Spanish HEARTLAND



SPANISH IMMERSION FOR TILLICUM STUDENTS

BABEL

GABINETE de TRĂDUȚĂTORĂȘ e INTERPRETES

LEARN & ENJOY

Where?

Santander is a seaside town situated in the north of Spain with a population of 185,000 inhabitants. This lovely place is located in a beautiful region of green landscapes with a combination of beautiful beaches and mountain areas. Its mild climate and lively atmosphere in summer makes it the perfect destination for a peaceful and relaxing summer stay; it also has good facilities and many resources.

Santander is a convenient size for getting around and has good transport infrastructures. It is a convenient and safe town with good resources and facilities, which makes it an affordable place to live in. The whole province, Cantabria, has beautiful landscapes and Santander boasts a wonderful seaside walk within the town and fantastic long beaches. It is perfectly-equipped for kids.

The city has major tourist attractions and food in particular has a great appeal for visitors; its seafood, fresh fish, rabas (a traditional local dish), meat dishes, and regional specialties like the cocido montañés bean stew, its confectionary... All this is a delight for the senses.



And best of all, Cantabria is one of the cradles of the Spanish language where **perfect Castellano** is spoken. It is not for nothing that the Menéndez Pelayo International University is located here with its prestigious program of Spanish courses; every year it hosts groups of students from all over the world who want to learn our language.





Dates

1st-15th and 15th-31st August 2020
(to be confirmed).

Lodging

The students stay in student accommodation or at a school in Santander. Full board is included.



Spanish Immersion Course Profile

Provisional program

- MORNING (9-13h) – CLASS: DYNAMIC LINGUISTIC ACTIVITIES

Eva Ibáñez, the Spanish teaching assistant at Tillicum for 2019, will be the coordinator of the academic part of the course. She will make sure that the activities fit the students' level of proficiency and the contents taught in the different grades at school.

Having been part of the Tillicum project for the Spanish language, we are sure the course will be the perfect way to reinforce the contents you have already learned at school this year. The atmosphere will be dynamic and natural to allow participants to experience total immersion with native Spanish teachers who are experts in this type of projects.

OUR MAIN GOAL: The development of COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE. The perception of the language as a means to an end: communication in Spanish.

How do we achieve this?

We believe in the importance of relating language to real life and therefore introduce real-life situations to students by:

- Debating and providing the best solution to a number of problems
 - Improvising in daily situations according to their age.
- Roleplays
- Activities aimed at extending their vocabulary. Daily lists of new vocabulary and its use in a communicative way.
 - Activities focusing on developing their oral skills:
 - 15-minute one-to-one conversation with the teachers three times a week.
 - Performing short and amusing theatre plays.
 - Making up and acting out stories or guessing the ending of short stories.





- Telling stories that they make up in groups.
- Improvising situations in which students have to react and lead a conversation with partners.

- Presentations of team projects in class according to their level of Spanish.
- Music workshops (writing and learning song lyrics).
- Listening to stories told by the students using new everyday vocabulary.
- Repeating grammar structures in routine and fun situations.

Language workshops are intended to be motivating by:

- Presenting situations they can relate to.
- Working in pairs or small groups.
- Working on a final fun project, a show, creating fictional worlds...
- Using gamification.

To give just a few examples...


LUNCH – Students will have lunch in groups always with one counselor per table. Counselors will rotate so that the kids can get to know all of them. This dynamic will be repeated at dinner time. This ensures immersion and continuous speaking with the leaders.

AFTERNOON AND EVENING ACTIVITIES

(15:00–19:00h) – The coastal city of Santander offers a lot of fun activities for the kids. Some of the activities that can be carried out are:

- **Sightseeing** – In small groups, we will take them to the various tourist attractions: the Península and Palacio de la Magdalena, downtown, Centro Botín, El Sardinero beaches, Paseo Mataleñas, Maritime Museum, Palacio de Festivales (theatre hall), the Lighthouse, the Cabárceno Nature Park (one of the biggest animal parks with all species living in relative freedom)...

- **Adventure:** Enjoying water activities like surfing, SUP (stand up paddle), rafting, sailing, snorkeling, canoeing, the Forestal Park Santander adventure park (zip line, Tibetan bridge...) and several other adventure parks in the province... In Santander we can go on exciting boat trips to pretty fishing ports, El Puntal beach, a quite unspoilt long stretch of sand, islands...and a daily activity

A group of children are playing outdoors with a large, colorful parachute. In the foreground, the back of a child's head with dark hair in a ponytail is visible. To the right, a boy in a purple t-shirt and a white cap looks towards the camera. Next to him, a boy in a blue t-shirt and a colorful cap looks off to the side. The background shows a grassy field with trees and a clear sky.

organized by the CEAR sailing centre (crossing the bay in a sailing boat).

- **Beach time:** Cantabria boasts some of the most beautiful beaches in the country, wonderful wild nature, and magnificent cliffs which well deserve a visit. Beach time is completely safe and thoroughly monitored by a large number of leaders.

- Daily or weekend tours out of town:

- **Daily tours:** The Cabárceno Nature Park, the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, visiting prehistoric caves like the Altamira replica, and natural caves with a rich ancestral flavor.

- **Weekend tours:** A trip to Madrid (a visit to the most important Spanish museums to appreciate our history) and to nearby cities like San Sebastián, Bilbao in the Basque Country, and Gijón in Asturias.

A large number of places of interest can be visited in this part of the country and we have only mentioned a few here.

DINNER

NIGHT ACTIVITY – A fun activity before going to bed is always a good idea to end the day! It is summer time and lots of fantastic and mysterious experiences await us in the night!

ELE teachers (Spanish native teachers)



The team is made up of **qualified Spanish teachers specializing in teaching this language to foreign students (ELE)**. They are linguists who are also competent in English so as to communicate with the child (in an emergency) and the family. They all know the best way in which foreign kids can assimilate the language without this being a chore.

LEADERS

We strictly observe official regulations on teams of qualified leaders with their coordinator. We are very particular about ensuring that the team complies with the requirements for caring for children according to current regulations.

Best of all, we know what keeps kids amused and therefore make them happy so that they will never forget their stay.

Teachers will be responsible for the morning academic program while leaders will be in charge of the groups for free-time activities and visits at any time and also for regular 24-hour monitoring.

Both teachers and counselors will take care of the kids round the clock and accompany them on trips out of town.

Each group of 8 students will be assigned one teacher/counselor who will guide and help them whenever they need anything.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

We pay special attention to health and observe strict safety regulations. We can help with the process of contracting private health insurance. Transport is available 24 hours a day in case of an emergency; the city hospital is one of the best in Spain (Hospital Universitario Marqués de Valdecilla) and private insurances allow assistance at any private hospital to avoid overcrowding in the event of an emergency. We are covered by full civil liability insurance.

MEALS

Our meals are prepared by professional cooks.

The diets are adapted to the individual health needs of each participant. We monitor strictly the allergies and incompatibilities mentioned on the inscription form.

The whole family can follow the adventures of all the participants on the course blog.

True adventures in Spanish!

Our main concern is to make your kids happy while they learn!

FLIGHTS

Flights will be organized with a travel agency specializing in course programs for large travel groups. We take charge of all procedures involved and will keep you continuously informed of all the steps to follow. Each group of participants will be accompanied by the leader responsible (one for each group of 8) right from the beginning of the journey at the airport of departure (Seattle-Madrid-Seattle) and throughout the whole journey.

Steps to follow:

1. **DEADLINE FOR SHOWING INTEREST** – Please fill in the form appearing on the link and send it to us automatically before 25th June 2019. This does not imply a formal commitment of acceptance. Then we will be able to provide you with all the details and will inform you of a further deadline to formalize your registration in due time if you decide to participate. Please bear in mind that the sooner that we know the estimated number of students taking part the sooner we will be able to give you more details about the prices, the activities and the accommodation as we will organize the process according to a specific number of applications.

2. **PRICES** – When we have an estimated number of students we will calculate an overall price for the experience. Prices will include the full stay except for daily and weekend trips which will be charged separately but indicated at the initial information. We recommend taking out individual health insurance; you can count on our help to organize this.

3. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE** – We expect to be able to start the registration procedures from the second fortnight of September and will set a deadline for this in the coming weeks.

The course will start in August 2020.

Enquiries

For any further questions do not hesitate to contact:

1. **Marisol Alonso** (the project manager at Babel Gabinete de Traducción, the organizing company).
2. **Eva Ibáñez** (the Spanish assistant at Tillicum this year and the coordinator of the academic part of the Spanish immersion course).



who
WE
are

Babel Gabinete de Traductores e Intérpretes is a company based in Santander city. Our main objective is to provide translating and interpreting services in every language of the world. We have been developing a successful business for over 20 years. As translators and language lovers we seek constant innovation and new ways of providing the best quality services; we started to work with language courses designed for specific target groups. This is why we have been organizing our English Immersion summer course for years now, we offer Spanish courses taught by ELE (teaching Spanish as a foreign language) specialized teachers and other tailor-made English Immersion courses for professionals from diverse sectors.



BABEL

GABINETE de TRĂDUȚĂTORĂȘ e INTERPRETES