

The Canterbury Languages Institute in Puigcerdà FAQ

I am a III Former. Am I too young to participate?

Absolutely not! This program is perfect for the younger student (III and IV Formers) because it is family-based and there will be a Canterbury faculty on the ground the entire time, teaching classes and on the excursions. When not in class or on an excursion, you will be with your host family and they will take care of you as if you were one of their own. Also, Puigcerdà is a very welcoming and safe town (population 9,000), great for walking and exploring. You can get everywhere in Puigcerdá on foot in 10 minutes!

I am only in Spanish 1 now. Will my Spanish be good enough to participate in the Institute?

When you first arrive in Spain, it may seem like Spanish people speak 1,000 MPH. Also, they will use words that you haven't learned yet. So, no matter what level you are in, it will be hard at the start. But within a few days your brain will adjust and you will start to see a difference in what you comprehend. Also, you will have your old friend, "**Más despacio, por favor**". In addition, the classes are geared to different levels of language learners, so you will be expected to express yourself at *your* level. Finally, your learning curve will be steep, which means you will be learning a lot!

2 and 1/2 weeks away from home sounds like a lot—I'm not sure I can handle that. Any advice?

You are right. There is nothing we can tell you that will make the first few days go faster or make you feel better or more comfortable. The start of your stay in Spain might be hard. You will miss your family and friends. You will only understand half of what people say. Your brain will hurt!

But remember, we will keep you very busy on a daily basis. Plus, before you know it, the words will start to slow down for you, and you will understand almost everything you hear. Then, all of a sudden you will be at the end of week 2, saying good-byes wondering where the time went! Then you will spend 3 whirlwind days in Barcelona and you won't want to leave! You won't believe how fast the time flies.

There is no doubt that the beginning might be hard, but the rewards will far outweigh those difficulties. Because of this, try to always focus on the end of the experience. If you focus on how you will feel at the end of the program, the difficult start will be easier to manage.

How much does The Institute cost? Is it expensive?

The Institute costs around \$3,800, depending on the number of participants. The all-inclusive price covers airfare, transportation to and from airports, transportation in Spain, meals, museum fees, Canterbury faculty chaperone and teacher on the ground, etc. The only item not covered is your spending money (Coca-Cola, ice cream, snacks, shopping, souvenirs, etc.).

How do I find out more about this AWESOME experience?

- Well, go talk to [Mr. Omaña](#). He has all of the answers!
- Talk to students at Canterbury who have participated in The Institute:

Students who participated in the **summer 2018 Institute** are:

Katherine Dellamere Gillian Marma Abby Omaña

Students who participated in the **summer 2019 Institute** are:

Giselle Bradshaw Katelyn Pizzano Logan Sanford Chiara Vaccaro

Your parents can:

- Call Director of International Programs Julio Omaña with questions: 860-671-0820.
- Email Julio Omaña with questions: jomana@cbury.org

When is the application for this trip due?

Only students who are seriously considering participating in this experience should sign-up through the link on the Parent Portal in Veracross. There will be informational meetings and presentations at school after Christmas Break.