

Residential Program Features

What is special about a *residential* program?

Immersion

Independence

Balance

Instead of staying in a sterile dorm or generic apartment isolated from the culture, you will be living in a Spanish/Catalan home in Barcelona. This gives you the best immersion experience developing life-long friends/"family" in Barcelona and being part of the culture not just an observer. Typically, you can come and go freely with advanced notice to your Spanish family so that they know when to cook meals for you and when not. The homes may require a 20-30 minute commute on the "Metro" to classes. The homestay experience for students in previous programs have been fantastic and are viewed as the **single most important aspect of the cultural understanding on the program.**

Immersion & Balance

You will get an in-depth experience **immersed** in the Spanish culture. You will have a great deal of independence (and responsibility). You will get a **balanced** education involving finance, language, and culture. There is no other Pamplin residential program to a Spanish speaking country. No other summer residential program in finance and culture. No other program gives you as much. It will be the experience of a life-time!

Independence

You don't need to give up your **independence** in a residential study abroad. Outside of class hours and planned excursions, you will be free to choose where you go, what and where you eat, how much you spend, when you go, and who you meet. You will be treated just as you would be going to summer school in Blacksburg. But the **responsibility** is a little heavier on you to show the best behavior as a representative of Virginia Tech and of the USA.