

# **Tips, Information & Suggestions for Students Studying in Granada, Spain Summer 2008**



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Resident Director, Granada 2008**

The information is provided to assist students in making their plans for attending and participating in the study abroad program in Granada, Spain in 2008. Stetson University College of Law is not responsible for changes in rates, schedules, dates or other facts contained herein or on the websites listed.

## OVERVIEW

Granada is the capital of the province with the same name, situated in the eastern part of the region of Andalucía, southern Spain. The city of Granada is located at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains at the confluences of the Darro and Genil rivers and also close to the sea. As the last Moorish capital on the Iberian Peninsula, it has a unique history with an artistic grandeur embracing Moorish palaces and Christian Renaissance treasures.

## ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Students can arrive in Granada by air, rail, or bus transport. You will be responsible for arranging your own transportation to Granada and then to the student housing located at the Hostal Costa Azul. We recommend students fly into Madrid and then catch a connecting flight to Granada. We then recommend that students use only the office metered taxis to get to the Hostel Costa Azul. If you have any kind of emergency, use the Contact Numbers listed on pg. 8 of this document.

United States citizens are required to have a valid passport for at least the entire period of intended stay. No visa is required for stays of up to three months.

### By Air

Most students fly into Madrid, though some do fly into Barcelona. The quickest way to get to Granada from either of these cities is by flight. Granada's Federico Garcia Lorca Granada - Jaen Airport is located 17km west to the city centre. It receives regular flight from Madrid, Barcelona, Mallorca, Las Palmas and Tenerife. There are buses (ticket is about 3 Euros) going to the city centre every hour while a taxi costs about 22 euros. From Madrid to Granada the flight takes about 50 minutes. Airport telephone: **958 24 52 37 - 958 24 52 38**

Some students chose to fly into Málaga. Costa del Sol international airport in Malaga is located 130 km from Granada. From Granada's airport you can get to the city by taxi or bus. Outside the arrival hall there are a taxi service and a bus station that runs nine daily buses to the city centre. For more information see [www.aena.es](http://www.aena.es). It takes about 90 minutes from Malaga to Granada by road. The bus fare is about 9 Euros (one way). The latest buses leave from Málaga at 10 pm. Therefore, if you arrive late, you may need to stay the night.

### By Train

While the train is a cheaper alternative than flying to Granada from Madrid or Barcelona, we recommend that only those who are fluent in Spanish use this option – otherwise it can turn into quite an adventure. Granada is well connected to other Spanish cities like Madrid, Barcelona, and the most important towns of the region. You will find several options including fast trains (“Alta Velocidad”) and regular trains, with and without stops. From Madrid to Granada it takes 4 ½ hours. Tickets may cost around 60 Euros.

The train station is located in Granada on Avenida Andaluces s/n, 1.5km west of the city centre and the main ticket office is located on Calle de los Reyes Catolicos. RENFE runs two daily trains to Madrid, one or two to Barcelona and Valencia and four daily trains run to Sevilla. For reservations and more information visit: [www.renfe.es](http://www.renfe.es). Tel: **958 27 12 72**

### By Bus

Getting to Granada by bus is a popular and the least expensive way of travelling. The buses are modern and comfortable, although the many mountains and heavy traffic can make travel very time consuming. Granada's bus station is Estacion de Autobuses de Granada on Carretera de Jaen, located 3km from the city centre. Alsina Graells runs daily buses to Seville, Malaga, Cordoba, Jaen and Almeria. Continental Auto runs buses to Madrid and Alsa runs buses along the coast as far as Barcelona.

Estacion de Autobuses de Granada offers a one-way ticket from Madrid (M. Alvaro) to Granada. A one-stop ticket can be purchased for about 15 Euros; there are also non-stop tickets for about 26 Euros. The ride takes about 5 hours. For more information visit [www.continental-auto.es](http://www.continental-auto.es) or [www.alsa.es](http://www.alsa.es).

**Don't forget to have the address of the hostel with you so you can hand it to the taxi driver. You may want to say "Por favor lléveme al Hostal Costa Azul. Esta es la Direccion. Gracias."**

## STUDENT HOUSING

Student Accommodations are provided at:

**Hostal Costa Azul**  
c/Rosario 5  
Granada 18009, Spain

Tel: (34) (958) 222 298

Fax: (34) (958) 228 635

<http://www.hostalcostaazul.com>

Check-in: Sunday June 8, 2008

Check-out by: Saturday, July 5, 2008

(unless you have made other arrangements with the hotel, for costs that you will be responsible for)

**Please Note:** All students, whether they are staying at the Costa Azul, the Anexo, or the Arte Vida apartments MUST check in at the Hostal. Ms. Marisa Ogea is the contact person for all three establishments and will be able to provide you with your room key and directions to your selected housing.

## BASIC & MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

### Before You Leave

#### Register Your Trip

The United States State Department requests that U.S. citizens register their trip online. Registration provides an added level of security to your trip in case something happens to you while abroad or the area you are visiting experiences civil unrest. You will need to know your passport number, the countries you are traveling to, and the dates traveling. You can register at: <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>.

#### Home Bank & Credit Cards

If you plan on using your ATM/debit card abroad, you need to inform your bank of the dates and countries you will be traveling to. Likewise, if you plan on using your credit card(s), you also need to notify your credit card companies with the same information. Otherwise, you may not be able to withdraw money or charge items while you are traveling as many banks and credit card companies will "block" credit cards if they observe them being used outside the U.S.

Some banks and credit card companies charge an additional percentage when you make purchases while traveling outside the U.S. This charge varies by issuer and may be called a currency exchange fee or a foreign transaction fee. If you expect to use a card while traveling outside of the U.S., select a card that has a currency conversion fee structure that is favorable to you.

Finally, ask your credit card company how to report the loss of your card from abroad. “1-800” numbers do not work from abroad. Your company should have a toll-free number that you can call while you are overseas.

## **Staying in Granada**

### Culture

Many Americans often suffer what is called “culture shock” on arrival in Europe. Europe differs greatly from the U.S. in such areas as class structure, attitudes to service, and standard of living. The quality of accommodation(s), gender attitudes, etc. is quite different than in the U.S., so it is essential that you prepare yourself mentally for the fact that you are going to a foreign country, and not just a smaller version of the U.S. The way to deal with these differences is to be prepared for them, learn about them, and to try to be as open minded as possible about what you encounter.

Spaniards tend to wake up later in the morning, and also go to bed later in the evening, than other Europeans. Thus, meals are eaten later than other European countries. Lunch is between 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm and Dinner (*La cena*) starts around 9 pm and even later during summer or weekends. Bars usually are open all day and close late at night. In general, nightlife in Spain is very busy, with the discotheques open until 4:00 am.

### Currency /Banks

Upon arrival, you should immediately change some U.S. currency into the local currency. Both air and train stations have currency conversion desks. The Euro (€) is the official currency of Spain. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2, 1, .50, .20, .10, .05, .02 and .01. To view the current currency conversion, visit [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com) or <http://finance.yahoo.com/currency>. Banks are usually open Monday through Friday from 8.30 am to 2 pm.

### Electric Appliances

Electricity in Granada is supplied at 220 or 225 volts and a frequency of 50Hz. You may want to bring plug adapters, a transformer, or a converter and batteries to operate your equipment.

### Food and Restaurants

The food in Granada has a distinct Mediterranean flavor with some Arab and Moroccan influences. There are many restaurants, many with plenty outdoor seating, where you can find anything from fast food to gourmet meals. Make sure to try gazpacho, a cold tomato-based soup, which is a summer staple. For restaurant information visit [www.granadainfo.com](http://www.granadainfo.com).

About the Tapas: Spanish Tapas are snacks that are typically, but not necessarily, served with drinks. In Granada, some common tapas are “jamón serrano”, “chorizo”, potatoes and fish tapas.

### Groceries

Granada has many small open markets for fruits, meats and vegetables. There is a small open market right across from the Hostal Costa zul, a small grocery store in the corner, and several pharmacies. Big supermarkets like El Corte Inglés, Alampo and Carrefour can be found throughout the city. A couple of blocks away from the hostel at walking distance is a Corte Ingles. In many of these stores and in the “estancos” (tobacco shops) you may purchase calling cards.

### Health/Hospitals

The quality of health care and hospital facilities in Granada (and throughout Spain) is generally of a high standard. Keep in mind that even if some doctors may speak some English, if you do not

speak Spanish, it is best to take someone along with you who can translate, in case you cannot explain your problem or do not understand the treatment. Two of the hospitals in Granada are:

**Hospital Clinico Univ. San Cecilio**

Avenida Doctor Oloriz, 16

Phone number: 958023000

**Hospital San Juan de Dios, Granada City**

C/. San Juan de Dios, 15

Phone number: 958020000 or 958022314

Hours of Operation

Most shops, churches, museums and businesses close for a two-hour siesta at midday. Usually, working hours are 9.30 am – 1.30 pm and 4.30 pm – 7.30 pm from Monday to Friday. Large department stores and shopping centers usually stay open from 9 am to 9 pm. Standard museum hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, and Sundays and holidays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

International and Local Calling

The cheapest way to call home from Granada is by using calling cards. You can bring one with you and/or purchase one locally. They are sold at the “estancos” close to Costa Azul.

SIM cards are another option if you have a compatible AT&T or T-Mobile phone. For more information call 1-888-762-6373 or go to <http://www.rangeroamer.com/countries/Spain.aspx>.

Country code: 34

Granada area code: 958

Outgoing international code: 00

Internet

The Costa Azul has wireless internet access in its lobby. There are also many bars and cafes that offer Internet access. Most hotels offer Internet access to their guests. Some nearby cyber cafes are: Hecho Granada on Calle Mulhacen 9, Madar Internet on Caldereria Nueva 12, Web Café on Gonzalo Gallas 1 and Relaejo Net on Calle Sta Escolastica 13.

Nightlife

Nightlife starts much later in Spain than in America. It is not uncommon for people to go out very late at night and return home just before sunrise. There are two main zones where the bars are located, Pedro Alarcón and Calle Elvira.

Safety

Granada is a generally safe; however, petty theft such as bag snatching does happen especially at tourist sites. Make sure to secure valuables and watch people who try to get close to you. Keep in mind what the US Department of State recommends, “Travelers should remain alert to their personal security and exercise caution. Travelers are encouraged to carry limited cash, only one credit card, and a copy of their passport; leaving extra cash, extra credit cards, passports and personal documents in a safe location. When carrying documents, credit cards or cash, you are encouraged to secure them in a hard-to-reach place and not to carry all valuables together in a purse or backpack.”<sup>1</sup>

For the latest security information, Americans traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department’s internet web site at: <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution Public Announcement, Travel Warnings and Public Announcements can be found. Up-to-date information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S. The Department of State urges American citizens to take responsibility for their own personal

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1024.html#safety](http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1024.html#safety)

security while traveling overseas. For general information about appropriate measures travelers can take to protect themselves in an overseas environment, see the Department of State's pamphlet "A Safe Trip Abroad" at [http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety\\_1747.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1747.html).

### Shopping

The Corte Inglés located in Carrera Del Genil, 20-2218009 Granada is a very popular department store. You will find shops, restaurants and movie theatres at the Centro Comercial Neptuno, a small mall, located at Arabial, s/n 18003.

### Tipping

Tipping is not obligatory and has no fixed rules, but it is common to tip 5% to 10% if service was good. It is also common to tip hotel porters and taxi drivers.

### Tourism: Bono Turístico

You can access tourist sites at a reduced price if you use a *Bono Turístico* card. For more information please visit: <http://caja.caja-granada.es/Apli/bononuevo/mainEN.htm>.

### Transportation

We do not recommend that you drive in Granada. You can walk to most points of interest, while another option is the bus. A single ride costs 1 euro. For visitors, the best routes are: **Bus 32** from Old Granada to the Alhambra; **Bus 30** from Plaza Nueva to the Alhambra; and **Bus 3** bus from the terminal to Avenida de la Constitución, Gran Vía, and Plaza Isabel la Católica where you can find the major boulevards for shopping. Schedules of the buses are posted at the bus stops. For information about public transportation, call tel. 90-071-09-00; [www.granada.org](http://www.granada.org).

### Weather and Time

During the summer, Granada's temperatures are mostly high, in the 80's, but dry. Granada is 6 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST) and 9 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time (PST).

## WHAT TO PACK

Plan ahead and pack light. It is expensive to pay for excess baggage and you will be able to get your clothes laundered at laundromats and at the Hostal Costa Azul. If you are housed at one of the apartments you will be able to do your own laundry. Make a list of your own personal needs and do NOT forget to bring enough prescription medicines. You should always keep your medications and all your valuables in your carry-on luggage or purse.

Basic classroom supplies (legal pads, pens, pencils, highlighters).

Bathing suit. Once there, you may want to go to the nearby beaches.

Battery-operated alarm clock so you're on time to class!

Business attire. You will visit courtrooms and meet local attorneys in Granada and Gibraltar.

Casual clothes to wear in the classroom.

Comfortable walking shoes. Many streets in Granada are cobblestone and you will walk a lot.

Copies of your passport, plane tickets and credit cards.

Electric transformer, converter, and/or batteries to use your electric appliances in Spain.

Glasses and/or contacts and a spare pair and/or your prescription in case you need to replace

International Student I.D. Card (ISIC card) & Emergency Contact Card.

Light jacket/raincoat especially if you plan to go for hikes in the Sierra Nevada.

Light sweater.

Medication – all that you will need for your entire trip. Bring them on the plane with you. To avoid problems when passing through customs, keep medicines in their original, labeled containers. Bring copies of your prescriptions and the generic names for the drugs.

Money belt or waist bag for your money and valuables. Wear it on the plane.

Small umbrella.

Toiletries (travel kit). You can buy more toiletries in Granada as you run out of these.

## WHAT TO LEAVE BEHIND

Don't bring anything you would hate to lose. Leave at home valuable or expensive-looking jewelry, irreplaceable family objects, all unnecessary credit cards, your Social Security card, library card, and similar items you may routinely carry in your wallet.

Leave a copy of your itinerary with family or friends at home in case they need to contact you in an emergency.

Look for packing tips at:

- <http://www.travelsense.org/tips/packing.asp> or
- [http://goeurope.about.com/od/packingtips/ss/packing\\_tips\\_2.htm](http://goeurope.about.com/od/packingtips/ss/packing_tips_2.htm)

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

### Stetson University College of Law

Office of Graduate & Int'l Programs  
Associate Dean John Cooper

Address: 1401 61st Street South  
Gulfport, Fl 33707

Phone: (727) 562-7849 or (727) 562-7857

Fax: (727) 231-0723

E-mail: [cooper@law.stetson.edu](mailto:cooper@law.stetson.edu)  
[international@law.stetson.edu](mailto:international@law.stetson.edu)

### Resident Director in Granada

Professor Jeffrey Minneti

E-mail: [minneti@law.stetson.edu](mailto:minneti@law.stetson.edu)

### Universidad de Granada

Contact: Professor Fernando Esteban

Address: Plaza de la Universidad,  
1 Granada, 18001 SPAIN

Phone: (34) (958) 240 404 (office)

Fax: (34) (958) 241 917

E-mail: [festeban@ugr.es](mailto:festeban@ugr.es)

Website: <http://www.ugr.es>

### Hostal Costa Azul

Contact: Marisa Ogea

Address: c/ Rosario 5  
Granada 18009, Spain

Phone: (34) (958) 222 298

Fax: (34) (958) 228 635

E-mail: [marisa@hostalcostaazul.com](mailto:marisa@hostalcostaazul.com)

Website: <http://www.hostalcostaazul.com>

### U.S Embassy in Madrid

Address: c/Serrano  
75 28006 Madrid, Spain

Phone: (34) (91) 587 2240

(34) (91) 587-2200 (after-hours emergencies phone)

Hours: Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 1:00pm on a walk-in basis.

**!!! IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES DIAL 112 !!!**

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Centralized emergency line: 112

Police: 092

Medical emergencies: 061

Fire Service: 080

Emergency Doctor: 1003

On Duty pharmacies: 900 171 727

## USEFUL LINKS

### Granada Tourism Information

- City Guide: <http://www.tobook.com/CityGuide/Granada>
- Frommers Travel Guide: <http://www.frommers.com/destinations/granada/0158010001.html>
- Granada Tourist Information: <http://granadainfo.com/english.htm>
- Sightseeing in Granada: <http://www.red2000.com/spain/granada/index.html>
- Spain for Visitors: <http://www.spainforvisitors.com/>
- Spain Tourists' Office: <http://www.spaintour.com/>
- Virtual Tourist: <http://www.virtourist.com/europe/granada/index.html>

### Travel Information

- Granada City Pass: <http://caja.caja-granada.es/Apli/bononuevo/mainEN.htm>
- How to Get to Granada: <http://granadainfo.com/granadatravel.htm>

### School

- Spanish Language School: <http://www.dq-granada.com/dq-granada/addresses.asp>
- University of Granada: <http://www.ugr.es> (in Spanish)

### Miscellaneous

- Cell Phones: <http://www.rangeroamer.com/countries/Spain.aspx>
- Emergency Numbers:  
[http://www.belt.es/articulos/telefonos\\_emergencia/telefono.asp?id=15&name=41](http://www.belt.es/articulos/telefonos_emergencia/telefono.asp?id=15&name=41)
- Weather: <http://www.findlocalweather.com/forecast.php?icao=LEGR>