

Before arriving at IQS

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PERSONA CIENCIA EMPRESA
UNIVERSITAT RAMON LLULL

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Students EU + EFTA

Students from the European Union (EU) + Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein (EFTA)

If you are an EU or EFTA student you do not need a visa to enter Spain. The only documentation you will need is your **passport or your identity card** from your country of origin.

When you arrive in Barcelona, you must contact the Student Life office, which will advise you on the steps you need to take following your arrival.

The first step you need to take is registering with the City Census (***empadronamiento***). This certificate provides proof of your residence in the municipality where you are living. Registration is mandatory for anyone residing for three months or longer in any Spanish municipality.

Students from outside the EU

All non-EU students must apply for the corresponding **student visa** at the [Spanish Embassy or closest Spanish Consulate](#) in their country of origin. They will tell you what documentation you need for the visa process. The documentation required may vary from one Spanish Consulate to another, and if a consular officer deems it appropriate, they may request additional information depending on the case.

When you are given your visa, verify that your visa shows the **period of validity** (issue and expiration dates) **and a Foreign Resident Identification Number (NIE)**.

When you arrive in Barcelona, you must contact the Student Life office, which will advise you on the steps you need to take following your arrival.

The first step you need to take is registering with the City Census (***empadronamiento***). This certificate provides proof of your residence in the municipality where you are living. Registration is mandatory for anyone residing for three months or longer in any Spanish municipality.

[Spanish Embassy / Spanish Consulate >](#)

Before your arrival

Important information to keep in mind before you travel:

Verify that your passport is valid, that your student visa has been correctly issued, and that **your visa is stamped** when you enter the Schengen area.

Health insurance:

→ Your health insurance must be valid for the duration of your stay, from the moment you leave your country of origin until the end of your time in Spain.

→ Your health insurance must have coverage with no waiting periods or co-payments.

→ It must include repatriation and civil liability insurance.

Make sure you have a place to stay for the first few days you are in Spain while you search for definitive accommodation.

If you have signed a contract for definitive accommodation prior to arriving, please be sure that is not a tourist listing. Otherwise, you will not be able to register with the Municipal Registry of Inhabitants (***empadronamiento***).

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Residences Next to IQS

We have signed agreements in place with the following residence halls closest to IQS that offer student accommodation.



Emile de Villaneuve >

C/ Marquesa de Vilallonga, 19
Tel.: +34 645 470 584
e-mail: emilie@grupomestral.es



Bonanova La Salle >

C/ Passeig de la Bonanova, 8
Tel.: +34 93 254 09 65 / 607 085 459
e-mail: info@residencialasalle.com



Universitaria Sarrià >

C/ Esports, 1-7
Tel.: +34 93 206 55 40
e-mail: campus@residenciasarria.com



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Other Residence Halls

Àgora >

C/Passeig dels Castanyers, 21
Tel.: +34 93166 90 00
e-mail: agoraresidents@cett.cat



The Loftwon Student Housing >

C/Séneca, 24-26
Tel.: +34 93 625 89 00
e-mail: julia.tor@xior.es



The Student Hotel >

Barcelona Marina
C/Sancho de Ávila 22
Tel.: +34 93 309 9830



Barcelona Poble Sec
Av. Parallel 101
Tel.: +34 933 29 96 67



e-mail:
education@thestudenthotel.com

Resa >

Investigadors Residence Hall
C/Hospital, 64
Tel.: +34 93 443 86 10
e-mail: investigadors@resa.es



La Ciutadella Residence Hall
Passeig Pujades, 33-37
Tel.: +34 93 394 32 00
e-mail: ciutadella@resa.es



Lesseps Residence Hall
Plaza Lesseps, 12
Tel.: +34 93 394 16 00
e-mail: lesseps@resa.es



Campus La Salle Residence Hall
Sant Joan de la Salle, 42
Tel.: +34 93 508 46 00
e-mail: campuslasallebcn@resa.es



... and more

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Other Options

If you are looking for accommodation other than a residence hall, we recommend using the following platforms that are exclusively for students:

Studentfy

Studentfy is an association in Barcelona that collaborates with IQS. Check their accommodation section to do a search.

[More info >](#)

BCU - Barcelona Centre Universitari

This platform offers information on accommodation as well as interesting information on issues related to higher education (research, conferences, living in Barcelona, etc.).

[More info >](#)

Habitatge Jove

This site lists various types of accommodation for university students. It is partnered with BCU.

[More info >](#)

Tips for renting a flat

If you want to rent a flat, it is important to take the following into consideration:

→ **Visit the flat** at different times and days of the week. **Familiarize yourself with the flat's surroundings** and find out about nearby public transportation options, what the neighbourhood offers (such as markets, shops, and primary care centres), and parking spaces.

→ **Verify the condition of the flat** thoroughly and **make sure it meets your needs**. Regarding a furnished flat, verify that the appliances work properly and make sure that the water, gas, and electricity utilities are in proper condition. We also recommend taking note of any damages or malfunctions you find in the flat so you are not later accused of causing them.

→ **Important!** Verify that the flat has a valid certificate of habitability (this document guarantees that a dwelling is fit to be occupied). The **certificate of habitability** must be provided by the owner along with the energy efficiency certificate. The energy efficiency certificate, issued by an authorized specialist, certifies a building's characteristics in terms of energy consumption and CO2 emissions.

→ **Do not make any payments before signing the rental contract** or before carefully reading all clauses in the contract. Also note that the contract will be registered with the [Association of Property Managers](#) or the [Barcelona Chamber of Urban Property](#).

→ In general, you will be the one who is responsible for starting up and registering for basic services such as electricity, water, and gas along with telephone and internet services if you wish. If you rent a flat that already has the basic services registered and operating, you must change the name and/or direct debit information on the accounts.

→ Talk to the landlord about any [insurance policies](#) that have been taken out for the flat and what they cover.

→ More links of interest: [Portal informativo Ayuntamiento de Barcelona](#)

[Association of Property](#) >

[Barcelona Chamber of Urban Property](#) >

[Register Basic Services](#) >

[Insurance Policies](#) >

[Ayuntamiento de Barcelona](#) >

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If you want to rent a room in a shared flat with other people, please keep in mind the following:

→ If the person renting the room to you is not the owner (that is, they rent the apartment and want to sublet one of the rooms), they must have the owner's consent **in writing**.

→ The **price** a room is rented for may never be higher than the price the tenant must pay for the total lease of the rented property.

→ If you're asked to pay a deposit, you should ask for the contract to be formalized in writing.

→ Based on the agreements you make beforehand, you will have to share the cost of **expenses for electricity, water, gas, internet, and so on** with your flatmates.

→ Please see the [Urban Leasing Act](#) for information on avoiding compromising situations.

→ More links of interest: [Portal informativo Ayuntamiento de Barcelona](#)

[Urban Leasing Act >](#)

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If you want to live in a flat, please read these instructions carefully to avoid incidents when renting an entire flat or a room in a shared flat.

→ We recommend making **payments by credit card**. If there is an incident, you can ask your bank to cancel the payment, whereas if you make your payment via direct deposit or a bank transfer, you will have to negotiate the refund directly with the company or person with whom you have contracted the service.

→ **Review the contract that they sent you.** It must be on an agency's official letterhead or on official contract paper. A single sheet of paper is not valid.

→ **You can also ask for the documentation** needed to register with the City Census (***empadronamiento***). If they tell you they cannot or will not provide it to you, you can be certain that it is not a trustworthy rental option as they are legally obliged to provide such documentation.

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EU and EFTA students

As you will **reside in Spain for longer than 90 days**, you must provide proof of **health insurance coverage**, either with the [European Health Insurance Card](#) (EHIC) or through private coverage. Please bear in mind that private insurance offers coverage for other complementary items that the EHIC does **not include**, such as coverage in the event of an **accident, repatriation, civil liability, and more**. To complement your coverage under the European Health Insurance Card, IQS recommends taking out a policy with [ONCAMPUS ESTUDIA](#).

Whatever your coverage, we also recommend becoming familiar with [Canal Salut](#). This website is operated by the Catalan Department of Health. Through this site, along with your European Health Insurance Card, you can find the Primary Care Centre (CAP) assigned to you (you are assigned one based on your address), get an appointment with a doctor, etc.

[European Health Insurance Card >](#)

[Oncampus Estudia >](#)

[Canal Salut >](#)

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As you will reside in Spain for longer than 90 days, you must provide proof of health insurance without waiting periods or co-payments. IQS recommends [ONCAMPUS ESTUDIA](#). You must have health insurance that covers your entire time in Spain prior to arriving in Spain. When you arrive in Spain, you must prove to the immigration office that you have health insurance.

Although you will not be covered by the Spanish national healthcare service, we recommend becoming familiar with [Canal Salut](#), the health services website in Catalonia. You can find relevant information about healthcare through this site.

[Oncampus Estudia >](#)

[Canal Salut >](#)

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Cost of living in Barcelona

The approximate cost of living in Barcelona for students is at least from €1,200 a month. This chart gives you an idea of the cost of things that can be found in the city.

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Monthly cost of rent

1 or 2 bedroom flat €750 - €1,200

Room in a shared flat €350 - €600

Room in a student residence hall €600 - €1,000

Food

Lunchtime restaurant meal (approximate) €15

Weekly groceries €40 - €50

Sports

Monthly gym fee €45 - €100

Transportation

T-Casual ticket (10 bus or metro trips in 1 zone) €11.35

Annual Bicing membership (urban bike share) €50

Leisure

Movie ticket €10

Concert ticket €15 - €50

Nightclub cover charge €10 - €20

Please note that these figures are only a **rough estimate**. Everything will depend on your personal decisions.

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Getting around Barcelona

→ We recommend visiting the [TMB](#) (**Barcelona Metropolitan Transport**) website to find out about the transportation network and timetables for getting around Barcelona.

TMB >

→ Another good way to get around Barcelona is through [Bicing](#). Managed by the city of Barcelona, Bicing is Barcelona's bike share service and has locations all throughout the city.

Bicing >

→ **If you are under the age of 25** and you will use public transportation two or more times a day, we recommend purchasing the [T-Jove](#) card. This card offers unlimited travel on the entire public transportation network for 90 days.

T-Jove >

→ If you only use public transportation occasionally, we recommend the T-Casual ticket. This ticket covers 10 trips and is valid for approximately one year.

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Barcelona International Welcome Desk

Is a service offered by the Barcelona City Council that welcomes international citizens and helps them get established to carry out their personal or professional objectives.

This portal offers highly **relevant information** on:

[Legal paperwork >](#)[How to get around the city >](#)[Healthcare >](#)[Safety >](#)[Banks and payments >](#)[Accommodation >](#)

In addition, you can also download:

↓ [Moving to Barcelona](#)

↓ [Tips to feel at home in Barcelona](#)

[Barcelona International Welcome Desk >](#)

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Safety tips for Barcelona

We recommend reading the [Welcome to Barcelona](#) document. **Created by the City Council of Barcelona**, this document offers safety and city living tips. You can download it in 9 languages: German, English, Spanish, Catalan, French, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and Chinese.

Barcelona is a beautiful city and is quite safe. The streets are full of life, often until well after midnight. Don't be afraid to take the metro or buses. They are safe and inexpensive.

Barcelona is a friendly and safe city. However, it is a big city and crowds and confusion in certain situations can make it easy for thieves to steal things unnoticed.

ALWAYS keep an eye on your belongings, especially in public squares, bars, restaurants, the metro, busy places, etc.

[Welcome to Barcelona >](#)

Recommendations:

→ **Never** leave your bag unattended when going to the bathroom, to order a drink, etc. Always keep it with you.

→ Don't keep your phone in your back pocket.

→ Unless necessary, leave important documents (such as your passport) and valuables at home.

→ Keep copies of your passport, tickets, credit cards, etc. in a safe place at your home. This makes it easier to replace them in the event of a theft.

→ Take a photocopy of your passport with you, not your actual passport. Oftentimes, carrying a photocopy of your passport and/or other identification documents is sufficient (travel purchases, doctor's office, cultural activities, etc.).

Emergency telephone numbers

Here are the main emergency telephone numbers you should know:

→ **General Emergencies: 112**

→ Ambulance service: 061

→ Fire department: 080

→ Mossos d'Esquadra: 088
(Catalan regional police force)

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Use of the Catalan language

Everyone in Barcelona can speak both Spanish and Catalan. If you plan to reside in Barcelona for an extended period of time (more than one year), we recommend learning both languages. You can learn Catalan online [here](#).

Learn Catalan Online >

In case you want to use Catalan, the following is a list of useful words and phrases you can start practicing right away!

English
Spanish
Catalan

Hello
Hola
Hola

Please
Por favor
Si us plau

What's your name?
¿Cómo te llamas?
Com et dius?

Thanks, thanks a lot
Gracias, muchas gracias
Gràcies, moltes gràcies

Good Morning
Buenos días
Bon dia

How are you?
¿Qué tal?
Qué tal?

My name is...
Me llamo...
Em dic...

Do you speak English?
¿Hablas inglés?
Parles anglès?

Good afternoon
Buenas tardes
Bona tarda

I'm great, and you?
Muy bien ¿y tu?
Molt bé, i tu?

I don't understand
No lo entiendo
No ho entenc

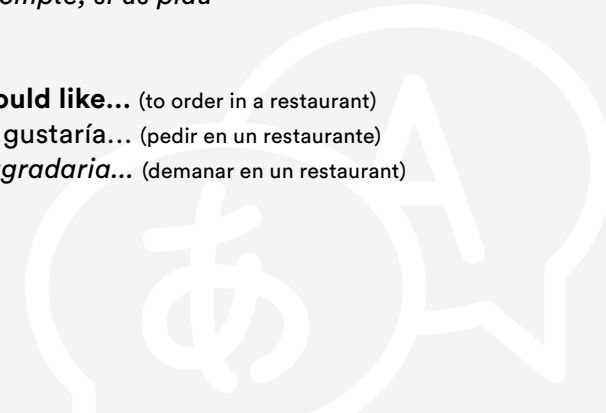
The bill, please
La cuenta, por favor
El compte, si us plau

Goodbye
Adios
Adéu

I'm sorry
Perdón
Perdó

I love you
Te quiero
T'estimo

I would like... (to order in a restaurant)
Me gustaría... (pedir en un restaurante)
M'agradaria... (demanar en un restaurant)



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