

The Porvenir Times

International College of Seville Newsletter, March 2019



Cultural Visit to Seville's Alcázar palace.

IN OUR MARCH ISSUE:

WELCOME WEEK

Hear all about the first week of fun organized for our students upon arrival to their new home city.

CULTURAL VISITS AND TRIPS

See the different guided tours our Spring students have taken during their first month in Seville.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Learn all about the activities in which our students have taken part in this month!

UPCOMING NEWS

Read about what's new and coming at the ICS this Spring semester.

STUDENT CORNER

"My first week in Spain" by Parkland College student, Savannah Weishaar, and "A walk through time in Itálica" by University of Hawaii at Manoa student, Christian López.



Visit to the ancient Roman city of Itálica.

To view all of our student blogs visit: ics-seville.org/blogs

Spring Semester Welcome Week

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR FACEBOOK FOR MORE PICTURES AND DETAILS](#)



My first week in Spain.



As the taxi dropped me off in front of my apartment I felt a wave of emotions come over me. With an increasing amount of anxiety, I rang the apartment I thought was mine. I was greeted by my host sister Pauli and the family dog Bodhi. Luckily for me, between the little Spanish I knew and the little English Pauli knew, she was able to show me around my new home pretty well. However, between my roommate not arriving yet, being immersed in a completely different environment, and all the jet lag I felt pretty out of sorts my first day in Spain. Little did I know I would have such an amazing week ahead of me!

The next day we had orientation. My host mother Maria walked me to the ICS — about a ten minute walk. I got more acquainted with other students as well as with the program. After this, I started to become a little more comfortable with my surroundings and my host family. That evening we went with ICS to a restaurant called “Los Cien Montaditos” where we enjoyed some typical “tapas”. Afterwards, several of the students went to a bar down the street and continued to get to know one another while playing foosball and watching a soccer game on TV with lots of locals. It was a great start to the program.

On Friday morning we walked through the Maria Luisa Park as well as the University of Sevilla. I was amazed by the beauty of the Park, especially the Plaza de España. I knew I would be spending a lot of time there this semester. And even though I would not be taking classes at the University I enjoyed the short tour where we got to learn the history of the building — it was actually the largest tobacco factory in Europe at one point! Each day of the first week we had different activities organized for us. We were taken for churros & chocolate, to see the largest wooden structure in the world, for Flamenco and Belly dancing and even a cruise down the river!



I am extremely glad that ICS had a whole week of activities planned for us. Although it was a little tiring I got to know the city better, see some amazing sites, and get to know everybody in the program. Moving to a different country can be a very difficult transition. I was worried about culture shock, but I feel as though ICS has minimized that substantially by accompanying us our first few days here. I feel a lot more comfortable and most of my anxieties have been replaced with excitement to see what this semester has to offer. So although I am living in a new place, surrounded by new people, immersed in a new culture — I definitely think I have also found a new home.

A Walk through time in Itálica.

Students, administrators, lend me your ears! This past month, the ICS took its students on a trip through the ancient city of Itálica where we got to explore the ruins of a once bustling Roman settlement. Bath houses, mosaic tiles, and cobble stone streets stretch across grass covered hills that literally disappear under the neighboring town of Santiponce. While the Spanish government has taken steps to excavate a good portion of this once Beverley Hills-esque neighborhood, most of the city is still buried.

The history of Itálica begins around the year 125BC when the Roman army invaded the area. Many soldiers were injured during the long battle so instead of moving onto the next place right away, they decided to setup camp and recover. Well, that camp turned into a town that turned into a thriving city, which in its heyday held around 30,000 inhabitants. It was also the birthplace of 2 Roman emperors: Hadrian and Trojan. At the top of the hill, seemingly watching over the city, is a statue of Hadrian.

You don't have to be an archaeologist to realize the value of going into your backyard and uncovering a nearly 2000 year old Roman artifact. And yet, Spaniards living in the surrounding homes oftentimes dig up statues, mosaics and other ruins. However, instead of telling somebody about it, they'll usually just cover them backup. When I spoke to my host mom about it, she told us that it's because the government could end up taking their land without compensating in any way. I guess it's better to have a secret-ancient-marble-statue-coat-hanger than gambling on being credited for a new historical site.

Our trip to Itálica was rounded off by following the footsteps of gladiators into the underbelly of the 3rd largest amphitheater in Europe. Unfortunately for visitors, a good 2/3 of the coliseum has been vandalized, looted or used by the Spanish government to build local highways. It didn't stop our students from snapping some great pics and fighting for honor and glory. All in all, Itálica is an amazing place to step back in time and get an idea of what being an ancient aristocratic expat would've been like. For the foodies out there, be sure to visit Ventorrillo Canario for the best local meats in the area.



VISITING A CITY RICH IN HISTORY

Guided tours by Professor John Boyle



Click on pictures to see Facebook albums.

THE MARÍA LUISA PARK

In 1893 María Luisa, the Duchess of Montpensier, donated part of her private gardens to the city of Seville for use as a public park. With the Ibero-American World Fair of 1929 and the construction of the Plaza de España and Plaza de América the park became one of Seville's most important tourist references.

ANCIENT ROMAN CITY OF ITÁLICA

The city of Itálica, located in the outskirts of Seville, was the birthplace of the Roman emperors Trajan and Hadrian. Founded in 206 BC, it was one of the earliest Roman settlements in Spain. There are remarkable mosaics, an impressive amphitheater and archeological remains that give more than a glimpse of life during the Roman Empire.

THE ALCÁZAR PALACE

The Alcázar Palace was built by Castilian Christians on the site of a Muslim residential fortress. It is a preeminent example of Mudéjar architecture in the Iberian Peninsula, and is universally renowned as one of the most beautiful. It is also the oldest royal palace still in use in Europe.

TRAVELING TO THE TOWN OF CÓRDOBA

A day spent visiting the Ancient Muslim Mosque, the medieval Jewish quarters, and the summer palace of the Catholic Sovereigns in one of the most charming towns of Spain.



[Click on pictures to see Facebook album.](#)

DURING THIS MONTH

Extracurricular Activities

OUR STUDENTS TOOK PART IN ALL KINDS OF ACTIVITIES!



SPANISH COOKING CLASSES

In a festive atmosphere our students have learned how to make two of Spain's best known and most loved dishes: "Paella" and "Tortilla Española", or the Potato Omelette.

SEASONAL PARTIES

We had a surprise celebration for our students and professors with a fresh fruit and chocolate table for Valentine's day

FEDERATED SOCCER

What a great turn-out with had for our Soccer Training program in which our students will train two days weekly on federated teams with state-of-the-art facilities, and with coaches and trainers who are recognized professionals in their field.

FLAMENCO DANCE LESSONS

Our students have learned how to dance "Sevillanas", a style of Flamenco that is the best known folk dance of Spain and the most typical dance of the April Fair of Seville!

SERVICE LEARNING & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Recognizing the interest many students have in reaching out to the wider community by participating in social service the ICS works in collaboration with the Prodean Foundation. This semester our students have signed up to work with children who are hospitalized as well as those who are underprivileged. A number have begun teaching English at a local school, collaborating with a student travel agency, and even working as Social Media Managers at the ICS!



ICS *New* EUSA Program!

ICS students may now enroll in courses taught in English at EUSA University in Seville. At this branch campus of the University of Seville, EUSA offers a wide range of courses in the fields of Communications, Journalism, Advertising, Marketing, Management, Tourism & Public Relations. Located only five minutes from the ICS our students will take class alongside both Spanish and international students.

Students enrolled in the EUSA program follow the same timeline and participate in the same activities as those enrolled in classes at the ICS and/or University of Seville.

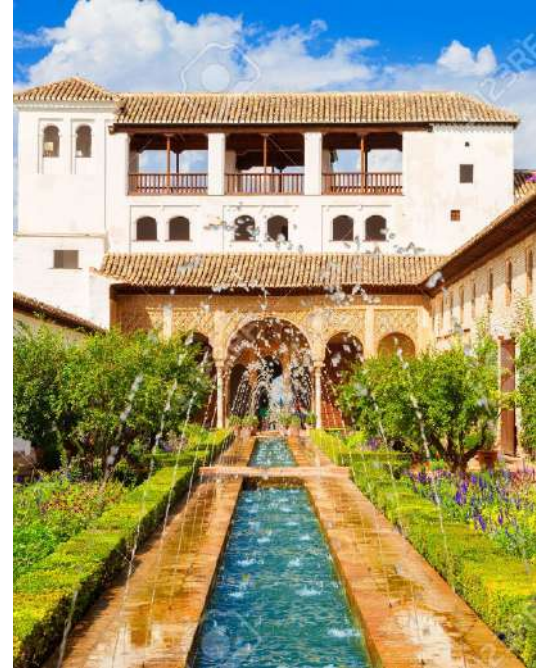
COURSES:

**Communications, Sociology
Media Studies, Public Relations
Journalism, Creative Writing, Advertising
Tourism Management, Marketing & Business
Audiovisual Technology, Photography,
Film-Making**

UPCOMING AT THE ICS

Cultural Visits & Trips.

During this month we will have a guided visit to Seville's Gothic Cathedral and an overnight visit to the beautiful city of Granada.



Goodbye to our dear colleague, Christine.

We couldn't complete our monthly Newsletter with mentioning the sudden passing of our dear colleague, Christine Ervin. May she rest in peace.



Follow us to stay updated and visit our website to learn more about our programs!



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