

# The Porvenir Times

International College of Seville Newsletter

OCTOBER 2023 EDITION

## IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

### WELCOME WEEK

Read all about the numerous activities that our Fall students have enjoyed during their first week in town.

### CULTURAL VISITS

See the details of the guided tour that our students took this first month in town.

### STUDENT CORNER

"From Midwestern Comforts to Seville Splendor: My Transformation." , by McHenry County College student, Kaitlyn Guanci, and "Two Weeks Into My Seville Adventure: A Personal Journey of Discovery." , by Broward college student, Joshua Johnson.

### UPCOMING NEWS

Find out what's new and coming this month of October.

To view all of our student blogs, visit: [ics-seville.org/blogs](https://ics-seville.org/blogs).



# FALL WELCOME WEEK



*WE BEGAN THE MONTH WITH A BANG!*

For our first morning walk through Seville we met with our group at the College. We walked through the María Luisa park, the University of Seville and then along the river over to the historic neighborhood of Triana. There we enjoyed a delicious typical Andalusian breakfast in the always pleasant Café Mundial! The ICS Fall semester has begun and we look forward to a great term!



Click on pictures to see full FB album.



# DISCOVERING DOWNTOWN



Traditionally, Saturday is shopping day in Spain. Where better to visit than the city's bustling commercial district, stop at the largest wooden structure in the world: *Las Setas*, and have some of the best *churros con chocolate* of all of Seville?! In the evening, we saw a fabulous Flamenco performance at *El Museo del Baile Flamenco!*



Click on pictures to see full FB album.



# RIVER CRUISE

*Along the Guadalquivir*



What a pleasant evening we had cruising along the river onboard a private luxury boat with music, refreshments and lots of laughs.



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



# LAST ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK



## Shopping excursion

On our shopping excursion to the town of Mairena del Aljarafe our students not only took advantage of the last summer sales, but learned how to use the metro system in town.



Click on pictures to see full FB album.



## Study Abroad Student Support at the ICS

This semester the ICS hosted its first ever Study Abroad Student Support discussion. ICS newest staff member, Evan Kindle, was the creator and presenter, and returning student, Samantha Carroll, was co-presenter. There was discussion and debate and everyone agreed that this will be the first of many such events!



# CULTURAL VISITS

# TOURING A CITY RICH IN HISTORY

GUIDED TOUR BY  
PROFESSOR  
DUDA POPOVIC

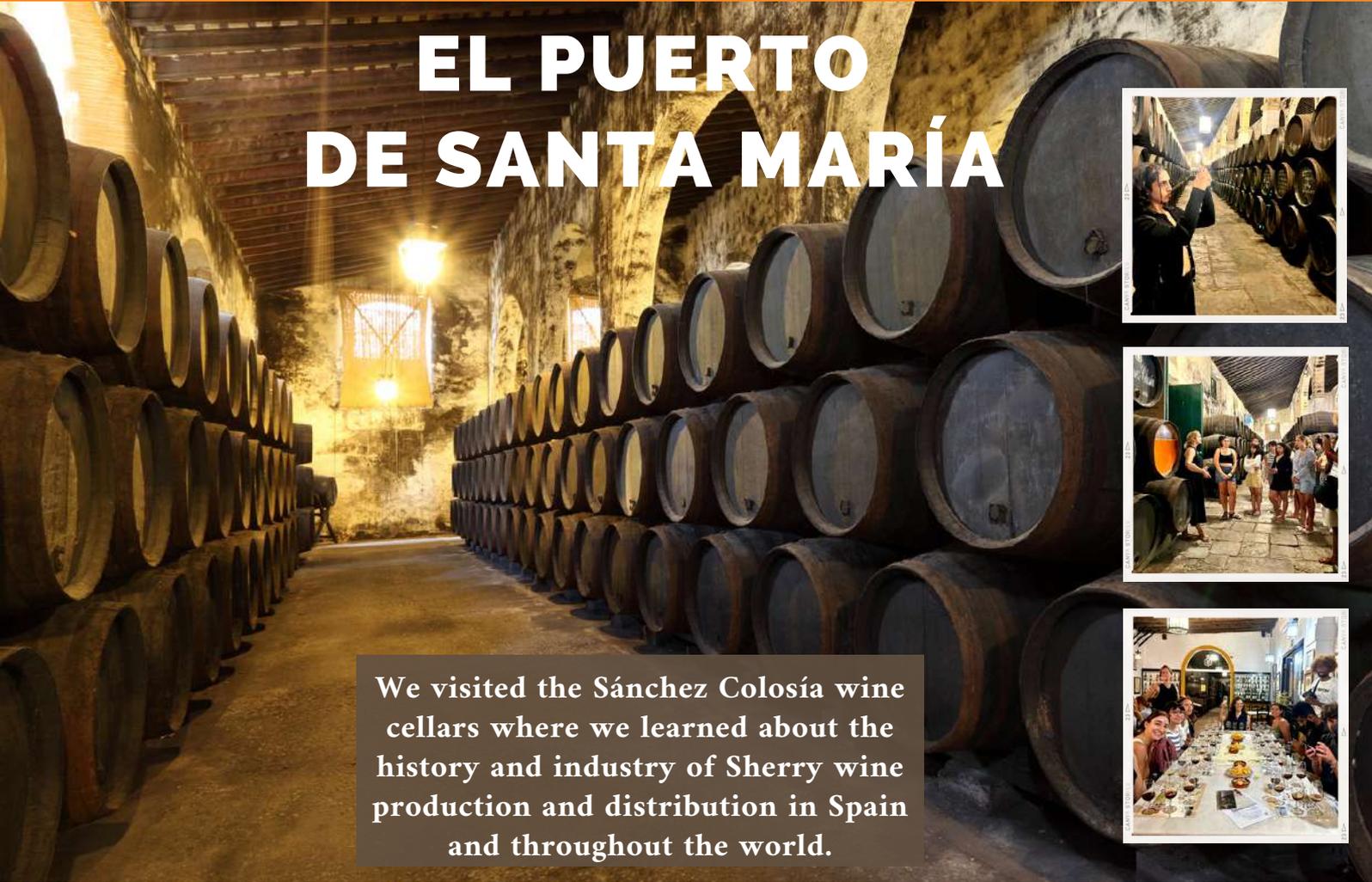


**ITÁLICA**

The city of Itálica 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.

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

# EL PUERTO DE SANTA MARÍA



We visited the Sánchez Colosía wine cellars where we learned about the history and industry of Sherry wine production and distribution in Spain and throughout the world.

# BAELO CLAUDIA & BOLONIA BEACH



After visiting the Archeological Museum and ancient Roman town, we spent the rest of the day at one of the most beautiful beaches in Europe.

Click on pictures to see full FB album.



# From Midwestern Comforts to Seville Splendor: My Transformation.



As I rolled my suitcase up the airplane ramp, one last text appeared on my phone. It was from my mother, and the picture was one of my back as I walked through the security line into the grandiose world of the O'Hare Airport around 1pm on September 12th, the day before I arrived in Spain. The caption was simple: "Haha. I got you." But this was a statement that was soon to become false. Soon, my mother, and my family, and my friends and neighbors and my tentative tiny Midwestern life would not have me at all. Because for three months, I was going on an adventure.

In the three weeks I have been here, I have learned an incomprehensible amount. Nothing in my life has ever been this new before. I'd scarcely been in an airport before, and never by myself. I've never lived in a city, or an apartment, or a shared room, and most notably of all, in a community that is quite literally 233 times the size of my hometown where everyone speaks a language I do not understand. No amount of studying Spanish or researching Seville over the past summer could have prepared me for the sheer splendor of this place, with its history oozing from every street sign, every building and palace and cathedral and market. In this new landscape, I have been able to discover the singular beauty of this city and what that entails.



With my new friends

The highlight for my welcome week was definitely the Flamenco performance, which is a style of expression I have become completely enamored by. There was the Portugal beach, where a Hawaii student taught me how to dive under the largest waves. There is so much to gush about. I could talk about the swans and parakeets in Maria Luisa park, or sitting in the Plaza de España, watching people go by. But something I would be remiss to not acknowledge about my experience has been the people here. My host mother, Ester, has welcomed me and

my broken Spanish with a grace and gentleness that could never be imitated, and without her incomparable kindness, I doubt I would be anything more than a puddle of tears on the floor at this point. Every staff member at ICS places a poignant emphasis on the importance of striking a balance between trusting in your emotions and conquering your trepidation. My Spanish professor is incredibly patient and continues to encourage me no matter how many times I ask her to repeat a word. And my classes in Spanish culture have been a joy to witness, led by some of the most passionate professors I've ever had.



On southern Portugal.

It's like being a child again, where the world feels big but I don't feel small, because the bigness is what makes it so beautiful.

For the unabridged version, please click here: <https://ics-seville.org/from-midwestern-comforts-to-seville-splendor-my-transformational-experience-abroad/>

# Two Weeks Into My Seville Adventure: A Personal Journey of Discovery.



I can't believe it's only been two weeks since I left the busy streets of Miami behind and embarked on this incredible journey to Seville, Spain, a city that's now my home away from home. My excitement was obvious, and I knew I was in for something truly special. I'll never forget that moment when I saw Seville. The city greeted me with its enchanting blend of historic charm and vibrant life. The cobblestone streets whispered tales of centuries gone by, with a promise of adventure.



Flying into Seville.

Upon arrival, I was warmly welcomed by Miriam, my housemom. She introduced me to her dog, Bruno, a friendly and loyal companion who quickly became my furry friend. Settling into my room was a mix of excitement and comfort. The compact yet cosy space became a place where I could unwind and reflect on the day's discoveries.

As part of our ICS Welcome Week activities, we explored the streets surrounding the Cathedral, Alcázar and Plaza de España. The blend of Moorish and Renaissance architecture was an awe-inspiring sight and the charm of the city enveloped us as we strolled through these historic areas. Wandering through the maze-like streets of Barrio Santa Cruz felt like a journey through history, every corner revealing new stories and surprises. It was about connecting with the culture on a deeper level. Truly, art and culture are everywhere in Seville.

During this time, I have been given plenty of opportunity to ease into the relaxed culture of Seville, while its vibrant festival culture quickly has become a highlight of my journey. The breathtaking performances of Flamenco were nothing short of spectacular. And one unforgettable Sunday, we even ventured to Portugal's São Rafael beach, where the sun, sea, and sand took my breath away.

As I reflect on these two incredible weeks, I can't help but feel that Seville has become my new life for the upcoming months. The experiences, the people, the traditions – they've all woven themselves into the fabric of my being, creating lasting memories and opening doors to personal and cultural growth. I can't wait to see where the rest of this adventure takes me.



On the southern coast of Portugal.

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FIRST SESSION OF THREE

# SPANISH COOKING CLASS

*Mixed Paella*



## MENU

In a festive atmosphere our group learned how to make one of Spain's best known and most loved dishes: Paella.



On the southern coast of Portugal.

# The Places You Can Go: Ep. 1



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The Places You Can Go: Episode 1

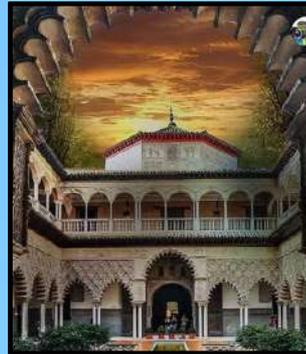
## ADAPTING AND BUILDING LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS ABROAD

In this engaging discussion, we delve into the captivating world of study abroad experiences, guided by Jeff Marshall and Eka Imerlishvili, two experts in study abroad and who have explored the globe through exchange programs. They'll take you on a journey that goes beyond mere program descriptions. Join us as we uncover the profound impact of these immersive experiences on our guests' lives. Our speakers will share insights on the programs they participated in, revealing the where, when, and why behind their international adventures. They'll recount moments when the desire to return home clashed with the overwhelming temptation to stay longer and when foreign places began to feel like home.

Join us for an insightful and thought-provoking discussion that transcends the conventional narratives of study abroad, exploring the personal, professional, and societal dimensions of this transformative experience.

# UPCOMING AT THE ICS

## Cultural Visits



Alcázar Palace

## Trips



Three days in Morocco

## Extracurricular Activities



Spanish cooking class



Sevillanas dance class

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

International College of Seville  
c/ Porvenir, 15 , 41013 Seville , Spain  
Phone: (+34) 95-423-3838  
Email: [info@ics-seville.org](mailto:info@ics-seville.org)

