

My welcome week in Seville.

Studying abroad has presented me with the opportunity to experience a different culture, be exposed to a different language and overall enjoy the way of life in a new place. While studying abroad was initially daunting for me, I have genuinely felt welcomed and valued.



Hi! I'm Hannah!

To truly feel welcomed in a new place, one must connect with other people. The International College of Seville (ICS) has done a wonderful job of connecting its students to the language, history and beauty of the people here in Sevilla. ICS has also done a wonderful job of giving us opportunities to connect with each other. There were a few Welcome Week activities that stood out to me the most and became the foundation for connection with other people. These activities were the Flamenco Performance, the Guadalquivir River Cruise and the tour of the City Center.



flamenco

The Flamenco Performance was an experience of a lifetime! The passion and raw emotion combined with inspiring and intricate musical rhythms created an atmosphere of mutual awe. My friends and I frequently reference the captivating flamenco performance we watched, because it gave us a shared background upon which we could authentically connect. We enjoyed it so much that we went to another flamenco show led by one of the ICS staff members Evan Kindle! Participating in this art form connected us more deeply to the culture and life that is present in Sevilla.



cruise

The Guadalquivir River Cruise gave me the chance to further connect with many people who I met through the program. I initially thought it would be awkward and hard to connect with the people on my boat, but we warmed up to one another rather quickly and soon danced our way around Sevilla's gorgeous river! The conversations, food of vulnerability, openness and joy that I truly believe the people I've met thus far. A special thanks to Mario for his great music taste!

My welcome week in Seville. Part II

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One of my favorite experiences was touring parts of the city like the Alcázar, the Puerta de Jerez, the María Luisa park and the city center. We learned so much about Sevilla through our tour guides and the influences that make this city what it is today. It feels surreal to walk around and see such beautiful architecture; to know the history behind how it came to be is even more beautiful. The unique charm of Sevilla comes alive when you take the chance to walk around the city!

el centro

I am grateful for the activities we've done this week which have facilitated the process of connecting with others and have made my time here extremely enjoyable. My hope for the remainder of this program is to continue participating in all of the experiences and opportunities that arise, making solid friendships and having rich cultural and language exposure along the way!



"We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open."

Jawaharial Nehru

