

# ARRIVAL & FIRST DAY

## Factsheet 2024 - Starting from June 17th

### DESCRIPTION

Arriving in a foreign country for the first time can be a difficult experience. Therefore, Expanish provides several services that will make the first few days in Barcelona as smooth as possible. If there are any problems upon arrival either at the airport, in the city, or at the selected housing, Expanish staff are always available at the 24/7 emergency number.

### AIRPORTS IN/NEAR BARCELONA

There is one airport in Barcelona:

- **Barcelona International Airport (BCN):** Informally called “El Prat”, this is the nearest airport to Barcelona city center, about 20 minutes by taxi (about €35) or take the metro (cost of a single journey is €5.15). You can also catch the RENFE train (€4.60) which takes about 25 minutes, the Aerobus express bus service (€5.90) which takes about 25 minutes.

Alternatively, there are two airports in the Barcelona Area - **Girona Airport** to the north and **Reus Airport** to the south. Both are about 100 km away, or about 1 hour in a taxi. There is no direct benefit from arriving at these airports.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER SERVICE

A secure and reliable airport transfer by private car is available through Expanish. After picking up their baggage and passing through the customs checkpoint, students will enter the terminal where they will find a driver with an Expanish sign with their name on it. The driver will take them directly to their housing. Instructions for the airport transfer service will be sent out 2 weeks before arrival. The school also offers a return transfer service.

## GETTING TO THE CITY

Expansh recommends the following forms of transportation:

- **Taxi** - Taxis are easily available at the airport. They cannot be hailed, but rather passengers must wait in line at marked taxi areas at both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2. There is a supplement fair of €3.10 for catching a taxi from the airport as well as an additional charge for luggage. The taxi rate is different during the day (8 am to 10 pm) and late at night (10 pm to 8 am). There is also a minimum charge of €20 for taxis leaving the airport, regardless of the length of the journey. A typical taxi is between €30 and €35 to the city center.
- **Metro** - The L9 line (orange line) connects both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 of the airport to the city center, however, students will need to change to the L1, L5, or L3 lines. A one-way ticket is €4.50. Students also have the option of buying a monthly unlimited pass for €52. The metro runs Sunday to Thursday from 5 am to 12 am (midnight), until 2 am on Friday night, and 24hs from Saturday to Sunday.
- **Bus** - An economical way to get to the city center is to take the Aerobús. It leaves the airport every 5 minutes and takes about 35 minutes to get to Plaza Catalunya (with multiple stops along the way). Rates start at 5.90€. There is also a public bus that reaches the airport (bus 46) that leaves passengers in Plaza España and costs standard bus rates (single bus is 2.15€ or use unlimited pass).

## WELCOME ACTIVITY

During the first days of class, the school will organize a welcome activity for new students. They are designed to help students meet each other and explore a bit of the city before formally starting class. Activities include visits to explore different neighborhoods and parks, going to street fairs, and arranging coffees and meals. Current students are also invited. Find out all the upcoming activities at the school [HERE](#).



## PLACEMENT TESTS

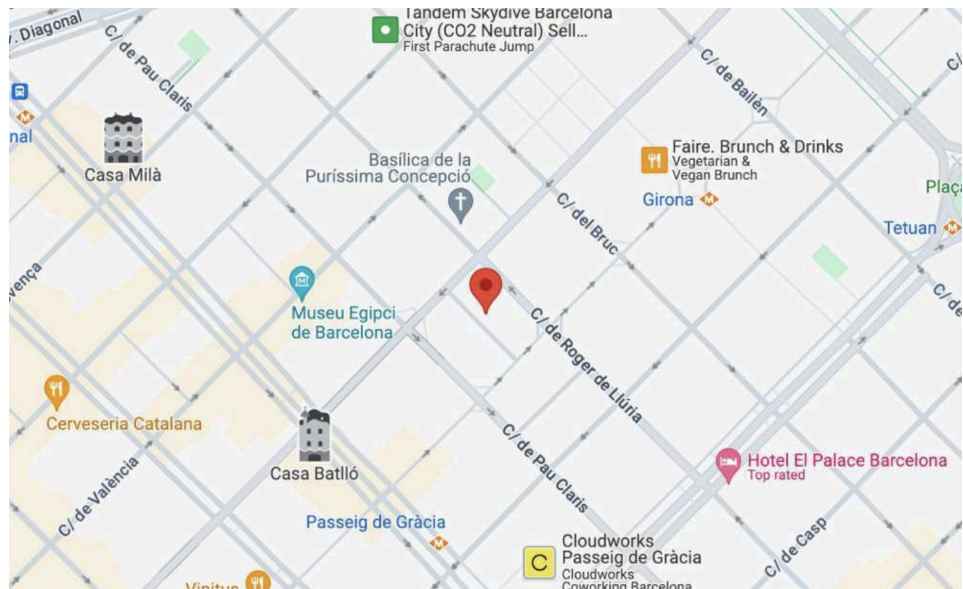
Each student should take an oral online Spanish test. The link is provided in the confirmation email prior to arrival. Students who do not complete the online test will need to complete it in person on the first day of class.

## FIRST DAY AT THE SCHOOL

If a student has completed the oral level test online, they should arrive at the school at **8:45 am** on their first day. If a student has not completed the test, they should arrive at **8 am**. Punctuality is important, students who arrive late for the test will miss part of their Spanish class on the first day.

## LOCATION

Our school is located in the neighborhood of Eixample, just one block from the famous Passeig de Gràcia. Our location is ideal as it is quite easy to commute from anywhere in the city via subway or bus.



## HOW TO GET TO THE SCHOOL

We always recommend that students can use public transportation to get to school on their first day.

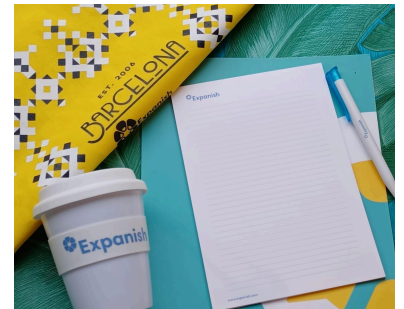
**Metro** - Expanish is two blocks from the Passeig de Gracia station (L3 and L4) and three blocks away from both the Girona and the Diagonal stations.

**Public Bus** - There are a number of bus routes to Expanish. The main bus lines that have stops near the school are 7, 22, 24, 67, V15.

**Train**- Passeig de Gracia train stop is only one block away connecting the school to different locations.

## WELCOME PACK

All students receive a welcome pack on the first day at the school, which includes a folder, a notepad, a pen, an eco-coffee mug, and an Expanish eco-bag to store class materials.



## NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

On the first day of classes, the Expanish staff will provide all new students with a short orientation that covers information about Spanish classes, activities, excursions, and Barcelona in general. This orientation is also a great way to meet fellow students and our friendly staff. We also have a separate orientation about staying safe in Barcelona.



## SCHOOL DETAILS

### School Address:

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Barcelona 08009  
Spain

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