IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

WELCOME WEEK
See the activities that our students enjoyed their first days in town, during this Summer's Welcome Week.

CULTURAL VISITS
Read about the on-site cultural class tours that our students took this month.

SUMMER TRIPS
Check out the pictures from our day trip to Córdoba, our three-day journey to North Africa and the optional long weekend trip to the south of Portugal.

COOKING CLASSES
Learn all about the cooking classes of this Summer Term and how our students enjoyed learning to make delicious Mixed Paella and Fruity Sangría.

STUDENT CORNER
"The Final Days", by University of Hawaii at Manoa student, Olivia Fitch. And "Spain and Beyond: Thanking and Bidding Farewell to Sevilla", by Elgin Community College student, Shayndel Valles.

To view all of our student blogs, visit: ics-seville.org/blogs.
In our edition of last month we shared highlights from the first two mornings of Welcome Week. Here you can see how we ended our Get-To-Know-Seville week!

Night of Flamenco song & dance.

River cruise.

Shopping excursion.
TOURING A CITY RICH IN HISTORY

Guided tours by Professors Duda Popovic, María José Montero, María Carrillo and Rocío Rojas-Marcos.

CULTURAL VISITS

Click on pictures to see full Facebook albums.

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

ANCIENT JEWISH & ISLAMIC QUARTERS
The Barrio Santa Cruz is in the oldest part of the city of Seville, being within the city walls built by the Romans in the 1st century B.C. In these typically picturesque quarters are unique examples of Jewish, Islamic and Christian art & architecture.

THE CATHEDRAL
After its completion in the early 16th Century, the Seville Cathedral became the largest Gothic church in the world. Built on the site of the former Muslim Great Mosque, it houses most impressive works of sacred art and magnificent architectural elements.

MUSEUM OF POPULAR ARTS & CUSTOMS
Created in 1972, the museum is dedicated to the ethnological heritage of Andalusia. The objects, utensils and artifacts on display document the customs, wisdom and ways of life of the traditional culture in the region.
SPANISH COOKING

Mixed Paella & Fruity Sangría

Our home-cooked meals of exceptional food and even better fun!

We thank our students and our dear housemother, Ester Gil, for making Spanish cooking such fun! We hope you all make many great meals of Mixed Paella and Fruity Sangría for your family and friends back home!

Click on pictures to see full Facebook albums.
Exploring the original vestiges of Al Andalus

A day spent visiting the ancient Muslim Mosque and medieval Jewish quarters in one of the most charming towns of Spain.

History & Beauty
SUMMER TRIP
MOROCCO

Our three-day adventure to North Africa.

Three days and two nights touring the towns of Tangiers, Tetuan and Chefchaouen. We experienced an authentic Moroccan Fantasy dinner and rode along the coast of Cape Spartel on camels.

A trip to remember!

Click on pictures to see full Facebook album.
Long weekend in the south of Portugal.

Most of our students signed up for a three-day trip to southern Portugal, organized by our friends at the WeLoveSpain student travel agency. They enjoyed the sun and fun on some of the most beautiful beaches of Europe.

Fun in the sun!
Over the course of the last two weeks, we have sat on a bus for more hours than I can count, but it was all worth it. First we went to Portugal with We Love Spain, and I truly saw one of the most beautiful beaches in my entire life. Everyone got absolutely burnt, but the laughs, the ocean, and the time with friends made up for it. From dancing the night away, to playing card games with friends, it was a trip that will stay with me for life. My friends and I went to a restaurant on Saturday night for dinner, and as I was looking at all of them I realized that this isn't going to last forever. Now, I do not do well with change, so I'm sure you can understand my feelings of distress. I love these people.

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This last weekend we went on another trip to Morocco. Quite the whirlwind of a trip and I was so drowsy off of dramamine that I believed I was going to fall asleep standing up. The travel was long but I loved taking the ferry and my friend Kaia and I sat outside the whole way looking for dolphins. On Saturday we went to Chefchaouen, and witnessed the most gorgeous blues. After that, we went to the fantasy dinner and it was so fun to see everyone dancing and just hanging out with one another. Truly a precious time.

Recently I have been thinking about my life here in comparison to my life in the United States. When I get back to Hawai‘i, I definitely think my bedtime is going to change from 9pm. Being here for this month has made it so easy to adapt to the culture. Sure, there are some things I miss like grocery stores being open all night long or Chipotle, but that doesn't change the fact that this place has changed me for the better. I am going to miss everyone so much and I hope that I will get to see them again soon.
As my time in Sevilla comes to an end, I realize how grateful I am that my past self made the leap to study abroad. Several months ago, I stopped into my college's international studies office after seeing signs around campus and asked several questions about the programs offered. Once I learned about studying in Spain, I couldn't get the idea out of my head and worked tirelessly on my application. While I had generally envisioned gaining independence and improving my Spanish-speaking abilities, I ended up having one of the greatest months of my life with memories that will last forever.

From crossing the Strait of Gibraltar to swimming in Southern Portugal, I've done unimaginable things that have left me inspired to seek greater. I've formed so many valuable friendships and built a new life in a city so passionate and free. Although I came here alone, I leave connected to peers from all over the world, each with their own fascinating story to tell. Living in a different country showed me that the world truly is so much more extraordinary than I ever could've visualized.

On my second to last night, I was able to celebrate Rosie's 20th birthday with her and several others during our Paella and Sangria cooking class. We had a great time chatting as we prepared the ingredients for a traditional Spanish dinner before eating and singing to the birthday girl. As we ate, we talked about how it felt like we had just arrived to Sevilla yesterday and it was crazy that we were all headed home so soon. At the end of the day, I'm very proud that I took the risk of studying in a different country and immersing myself in a completely novel culture. I look forward to continuing my travels and exploring further possibilities of studying and living abroad as a result of trusting myself and following my dreams.
UPCOMING AT THE ICS

THIS COMING FALL SEMESTER

We will receive our Fall students on September 14 for what will certainly be a fabulous semester.

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