

QUERETARO, MEXICO

Dates & Prices:

Summer 1: June 12 - June 26, 2010 - \$2,200

Summer 2: June 26-July 10, 2010 - \$2,200

Summer Month: June 12-July 10, 2010 - \$4,000

About the City

This prosperous state capital projects a sense of civic pride in its impeccable, renovated mansions, flower-draped cobbled stone pedestrian walkways, and hospitable plazas. The people are among the most congenial in central Mexico and are quick to share their favorite sites and stories with visitors. An elegant stone aqueduct, just a short walk from the town's historical center, still stands as a reminder of a time when it provided the city with an element essential to its survival. An important player in México's struggle for independence, Querétaro's history comes to life in monuments and legends. Querétaro, a prosperous, safe city that offers a multitude of after-class and weekend activities, is the perfect spot to immerse yourself in the language and culture of México.

What Students Say,

"I was really impressed by my teachers in Queretaro. They really made the language come alive and we actually went out of the classroom and learned at the markets with the local people. My Spanish improved a lot." -Tojil, Fort Meade, MD

"My favorite part of this incredible experience was the excursions. They really allowed for us to see interior Mexico's beauty and be immersed in the Mexican culture. El Bernal and the Pyramids were amazing!" -Jim, Fairbanks, AK

"Thanks for making my experience in Queretaro one that I will never forget. I am already planning to go again next summer and stay with my wonderful home stay family. I enjoyed the two weeks that I spent there very much, but I wish I would have stayed longer!" -Jordan, New Orleans, LA

Program Description

Prerequisites:

Must be completing grades 9-12 and have at least one year of high school Spanish or equivalent.

Academic Information:

School: Centro Intercultural de Queretaro

Curriculum: Spanish Grammar, Conversation, and Culture. Classes are taught Monday-Friday, 4 hours a day, by teachers who hold advanced degrees in teaching Spanish to foreigners. Classes are with other program participants and are broken up by skill level.

Academic Credit: Students receive 40 hours of classroom credit on their transcript which they can use to petition for up to 4 hours of college credit.

Centro Intercultural de Queretaro:

The center is located in the heart of Querétaro's Historical Center, surrounded by a number of cafes, art galleries, museums, shops and internet cafes. Classes are held in a typical colonial building with a beautiful patio. The Centro incorporates a communicative approach to language learning in an ambiance of continuous contact with the language and culture of México. They maintain a very low student to teacher ratio with no more than 10 students per class to ensure that students receive personal attention. As part of the daily classes, students will go on various excursions throughout the city to practice their Spanish under the guidance of Mexican teachers. Students will have access to the library/study room facilities as well as computers at school. The school also helps provide optional cultural activities in the afternoons that students may participate in such as theater outings, local festivals, cooking classes, etc.

Home stay Family:

The home stay families are carefully selected by the housing coordinator. The families are well experienced in hosting foreign students and are committed to help in learning the language, serving you excellent Mexican food, and adopting you into their way of life. Remember that families come in all shapes and sizes and an open mind to try new things is important! In Queretaro, your home stay family will provide you with 3 meals a day and all homes have and use purified drinking water at all times.

Program Itinerary

Summer 1&2

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| Day 1 | Depart USA for Queretaro. Arrive Queretaro and meet your home stay family. Enjoy your first evening at home getting to know your new |
| Day 2 | After breakfast with your home stay family, meet the group for your orientation tour around Queretaro. We will visit many of the sites, |
| Day 3 | Classes Begin. Each morning you will have 2 hours of classroom instruction and 2 hours in the field using your Spanish on various local |

Afternoon activities will include art classes, salsa lessons, outings to local theater events, markets, movies, sports, etc.

Days 4-7 Regular Classes & Afternoon Activities. The people of Querétaro love music, food and sports - all of which you will find in the city's many park areas. Bring your soccer or volleyball with you and you will soon make new friends.

Day 8 Full Day Excursion to Guanajuato and San Miguel de Allende. Explore the history and enchantment of colonial Mexico's finest cities along the *Ruta de Independencia* (Independence Route).

Day 9 Enjoy a relaxing Sunday with your home stay family. This afternoon we will soak up some sun and rest our feet at Queretaro's exclusive country club swimming pool.

Days 10-14 Regular Classes & Afternoon Activities.

As your Spanish improves this week we will travel to El Bernal, only an hour away from Queretaro, to visit one of the tallest peaks in all of Mexico. Continue your Spanish education by enjoying afternoon activities such as shopping for handicrafts and art at the local markets, meeting with local students for a social mixer at an outdoor cafe, and sharpening your salsa skills!

Day 14 Enjoy your final evening in Queretaro. At night have a final fiesta with your group and home stay family. Remember to pack your bags for your early flight back home.

Day 15 Buen viaje! Depart Queretaro with wonderful memories of Mexico and your new friends.
