

Community Development

Spain

High School Special Schedule

▶ Community Impact & Service

Directly improve the lives of residents in Nou Barris, one of Barcelona's most historically underserved neighborhoods with over one hundred thousand residents facing social exclusion. Engage in diverse activities including food bank support, elderly care, children's programs, and community development initiatives that provide essential services and empower vulnerable groups..

▶ Skill Development & Personal Growth

Gain valuable experience in community service, support work, and cross-cultural communication through hands-on involvement with local NGO projects. Develop practical skills in social support, project management, and community engagement while participating in workshops focused on personal development, emotional intelligence, and collective problem-solving.

▶ Cultural Immersion

Experience authentic Barcelona life by immersing yourself in local community activities, connecting with volunteers who share your values, and exploring the city beyond typical tourist routes. Discover the rich cultural landscape of Barcelona through guided sightseeing, language workshops, and engagement with local community initiatives that reveal the city's social dynamics and community spirit.

ProjectsAbroad





Highlights

50 Service Hours

Assist with children’s summer camp, food bank and elderly care.

Learn about and engage in community development initiatives

Immerse yourself in Spanish culture

Visit historical sites in Barcelona

Offset your carbon footprint

Accommodation
Social Enterprise Hostel

Transport
Private metro and by foot

Meals
Breakfast and dinner will be served at your hostel each day. Lunch will be at the Community Centre.

Timings
This schedule is subject to change, however you will be advised in advance should this happen. You will depart home before 9am and arrive back at around 7pm. However, this may differ from day to day depending on the activity and progress of the volunteer work.

Responsible Travel
We offset 100% of carbon emissions associated with your in-destination transport.

By volunteering with us you’re helping reforestation efforts, protecting existing forests and providing employment to local communities around the world.

Day 1	Sunday
All Day	You'll arrive at the airport where program staff will meet you and transfer you to your accommodation in Barcelona. The journey offers your first glimpse of the beautiful Catalanian landscape as you make your way to what will be your home during this adventure. After settling into your room and unpacking, you'll join a casual welcome gathering to meet fellow volunteers and program coordinators. This initial meet-and-greet includes light refreshments and gives you a chance to get acquainted with the people you'll be working alongside during your community development journey.



Day 2	Monday
Morning	The program officially begins with a comprehensive orientation session covering program goals, safety protocols, and community development objectives. You'll receive detailed information about the program and the NGO's mission.
Afternoon	Participate in an engaging team-building workshop designed to foster cooperation and communication among all volunteers. The afternoon continues with your first Spanish language class, focusing on basic vocabulary that will be useful throughout your stay.
Evening	Challenge yourself with an outdoor climbing workshop, designed to build trust among your fellow volunteers while enjoying a summer evening in Barcelona.
Day 3	Tuesday
Morning	After breakfast at the hostel, you'll travel to the NGO headquarters for orientation and food bank preparation activities in Nou Barris, one of Barcelona's most historically underserved neighborhoods. You'll learn about food insecurity challenges facing local residents and help organize supplies before sharing lunch with other volunteers and NGO staff members.
Afternoon	Following a food bank briefing, you'll help with the children’s summer camp and help distribute food baskets directly to families in need. Once the children have left for the day, participate in a calming meditation workshop.
Evening	Dinner and relax at the hostel.
Day 4	Wednesday
Morning	After breakfast and travel to NGO headquarters, you'll participate in the morning mindfulness routine before visiting a residency for elderly community members in Nou Barris. During this visit, you'll engage with seniors through conversation, activities, and companionship, addressing the often-overlooked challenge of isolation among older adults in urban settings.
Afternoon	Following lunch, you'll receive NGO work training that equips you with skills needed for effective community service in diverse contexts. The afternoon continues with a Spanish conversation workshop that provides practical language skills useful for your community interactions..
Evening	Dinner and relax at the hostel.
Day 5	Thursday
Morning	Begin your day with breakfast followed by meal preparation for local children participating in the summer program. You'll welcome children to the centre and organize engaging activities that provide both recreation and informal educational opportunities during school holidays when many families lack childcare options.
Afternoon	Share lunch with the children before assisting with various summer camp tasks designed to keep children active, engaged, and supported in a safe environment before helping with cleanup and preparing to return to the hostel.
Evening	Return to the hostel for dinner and reflection on the day's experiences.



Day 6	Friday
Morning	Following breakfast and travel to NGO headquarters, you'll participate in the morning mindfulness routine before making another visit to the elderly residency to build on relationships established earlier in the week.
Afternoon	After lunch, engage in a collective intelligence workshop that harnesses the diverse perspectives and skills of all volunteers to address community challenges. The afternoon continues with collaborative planning for the following week's activities and hands-on work on local community projects that create lasting improvements in Nou Barris.
Evening	Head back to the hostel for some games before dinner.
Day 7	Saturday
Morning	Enjoy a relaxed morning and breakfast at the hostel before heading to one of Barcelona's beautiful Mediterranean beaches for a well-deserved day of rest and recreation.
Afternoon	Continue your beach day with swimming, sunbathing, and perhaps participating in beach games with fellow volunteers.
Evening	Enjoy free time at the hostel.
Day 8	Sunday
Morning	Tour the city by foot, walking past the breathtaking Sagrada Familia and Hospital de Sant Pau, as well as experience Antoni Gaudí's architectural masterpieces that define Barcelona's unique skyline. The guided tour provides historical and cultural context while allowing ample time for photography.
Afternoon	Explore Casa Batlló, La Pedrera, Plaza Catalunya, and Las Ramblas, witnessing the diverse architectural styles that make Barcelona a global design destination. Continue through Plaza Real and the Gothic Quarter (Barrio Gótico), where medieval structures create an atmospheric contrast to the modernist buildings seen earlier.
Evening	Visit the Palau de la Música and Barcelona Cathedral before concluding your sightseeing tour at Barceloneta Beach for a stunning Mediterranean sunset. After a long day of walking and exploring, take time to relax back at the hostel.



Day 9	Monday
Morning	After breakfast and travel to NGO headquarters, participate in the morning mindfulness routine before engaging in a community "trencadis" project, creating beautiful mosaic art using Gaudí's famous technique. This creative activity not only beautifies community spaces but also preserves cultural heritage while providing an accessible artistic outlet for people of all abilities.
Afternoon	Following lunch, continue activities with the children and then participate in another workshop that builds on previous collaborative problem-solving experiences. The afternoon continues with a Spanish workshop and climbing activity.
Evening	Enjoy free time to reflect on your experiences, catch up on personal interests, or socialize with fellow volunteers at the hostel.
Day 10	Tuesday
Morning	Begin with breakfast and travel to NGO headquarters for morning mindfulness routine activities before focusing on food bank logistics, including inventory management, donation tracking, and distribution planning.
Afternoon	After lunch, continue activities with the children and participate directly in food basket distribution to families. The day concludes with a meditation workshop.
Evening	Enjoy free time at the hostel before dinner.
Day 11	Wednesday
Morning	Following breakfast, complete the morning routine before focusing on preparing food bank resources for babies and young children. This specialized service addresses the critical nutritional needs of the community's youngest members, providing formula, baby food, diapers, and other essential items for families with infants.
Afternoon	Share in a community lunch before participating in NGO management training that offers insights into the organizational aspects of humanitarian work. The afternoon continues with another Spanish workshop to refine your language skills, followed by a yoga session.
Evening	Enjoy free time at the hostel before dinner.

Day 12	Thursday
Morning	After breakfast and travel to NGO headquarters, participate in the morning mindfulness routine before making a final visit to elderly residents, cementing the relationships built throughout your program.
Afternoon	Following lunch, continue educational activities for the children attending the summer camp.
Evening	Return to the hostel for dinner and time to unwind.
Day 13	Friday
Morning	After breakfast and travel to NGO headquarters, participate in the morning mindfulness routine before continuing the fun and educational activities with the children.
Afternoon	Celebrate your achievements during a graduation ceremony where you'll receive participation certificate. The ceremony transitions into a celebratory lunch with staff and fellow volunteers.
Evening	Join fellow volunteers and staff for a special farewell dinner at a local restaurant featuring traditional Catalan dishes and music. The evening provides a meaningful conclusion to your trip and a chance to say farewell to your fellow volunteers.
Day 14	Saturday & Sunday
Morning	Complete check-out procedures and say goodbye to the hostel that has been your home during this transformative experience. Transfer to the airport with plenty of time for check-in, accompanied by program staff who ensure a smooth departure process. The journey back to the airport offers a final glimpse of Barcelona and time to reflect on the skills, knowledge, and memories you've gained during your time in Spain.

Student Learning Outcomes

Intercultural Competence

Students will be immersed in different cultures, gaining an understanding of their role within our global community and developing a deeper cultural awareness.

Leadership Development

Students will be pushed out of their comfort zones, experiencing new challenges each day. They will build their confidence and resilience through team activities and new life experiences.

Healthy Active Living

Students will be encouraged to prioritise their self-care, enhancing their physical and mental well-being.

Empowerment

Students will be empowered to think for themselves, challenging the “status-quo” and cultivating transformative decision-making mindsets.

Global Citizenship

Students will be exposed to new perspectives, engage with real-world challenges and contribute to sustainable development initiatives.



When you think of Spain, you likely picture the sun-drenched landscapes of Andalusia, the architectural marvels of Barcelona's Sagrada Familia, the passionate rhythms of flamenco, or the historic streets of Toledo. From the rugged peaks of the Pyrenees to the pristine beaches of the Costa del Sol, Spain offers a breathtaking tapestry of landscapes, cultures, and traditions that have captivated travelers for centuries.

Fun Facts

- Spain is the second-largest country in the European Union, spanning 505,370 square kilometers.
- Spain boasts the second-highest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the world
- Spain is the world's largest producer of olive oil, generating approximately 44% of global production.

Want to learn more?

We'd be happy to talk to you and and and answer any questions you may have. You can call or email our team, or use the 'live chat' feature on the Projects Abroad website.

General inquiries: info@projects-abroad.org

Destination Information	
National Language:	Spanish
Population:	48 million
Currency:	Euro
Time Zone:	GMT +1
Capital:	Madrid
Calling Code:	+34
Dominant Religions:	Catholic
National Dish:	Paella
National Animal:	Bull
National Bird:	Imperial Eagle

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