



Edu-Culture International

# France - 2010

France – a treasure chest of culture, history, diversity, and beauty! Improve your French while taking intensive language classes in one of the most beautiful and varied countries in Europe. Live in the university town of Aix-en-Provence and combine a dorm experience with a one-week host family immersion. Live with families in the dynamic city of Toulouse, located in southwestern France, followed by a week of host family immersion. Alternatively, opt for daily group activities and excursions in the exciting Rhône Valley city of Lyon where you improve your French conversation skills by living with your carefully selected host family!

<b>Aix-en-Provence</b>	<b>Toulouse</b>	<b>Lyon</b>	<b>Customized Total Immersion</b>
2 weeks of classes in Aix with accommodation in a dorm, one week of immersion, 3 days of travel in Paris	2 weeks of classes in Toulouse living in a homestay, one week of immersion, 3 days of travel in Paris	Homestay only, no classes. Travel 3 days in Nice and 3 days in Paris	<b>Aix-en-Provence region</b> Individualized dates, 2-3 weeks in immersion, no classes or group activities
<b>Session A:</b> \$6695 without airfare \$7425 from JFK \$7790 from San Francisco <b>Session B:</b> \$6695 without airfare \$7425 from JFK \$7790 from San Francisco	\$6675 without airfare \$7370 from JFK \$7770 from San Francisco	\$4720 without airfare \$5450 from JFK \$5815 from San Francisco	\$725 (per week) Independent airfare
University Credit Option Available	University Credit Option Available	No Classes	No Classes
Aix - A: June 17 - July 15 Aix - B: July 8 – Aug 5	July 2 – July 29	June 21 – July 12	July 1 – August 15
Ages 15 – 18	Ages 15 - 18	Ages 15 – 18	Ages 16 – 21
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Two years of high school French by June 2010	<b>Prerequisite:</b> Two years of high school French by June 2010	<b>Prerequisite:</b> Two years of high school French by June 2010	<b>Prerequisite:</b> Three years of French by June 2010

### ***During our France programs you will:***

- **Live** in an enriching homestay or student dorm in an exciting, youthful city in France as you absorb the culture and practice the language.
- **Study** (Toulouse & Aix-en-Provence) at prestigious schools dedicated to teaching French – with the opportunity to earn three units of college credit.
- **Interact** with local university students during Language Partner sessions.
- **Take part** in a variety of afternoon and evening activities such as swimming, cooking, kayaking, painting, bike riding, and wine and cheese tasting!
- **Enjoy** the food, ambience, and cultural authenticity of the French café scene.
- **Discover** hilltop towns, the beautiful countryside, and / or the dazzling French Riviera on day excursions.
- **Meet** other students from around the country.
- **Be Encouraged** by your chaperones to exceed your language goals.
- **Immerse** yourself in the language, culture, and daily life of French culture.
- **Travel** to Paris for a three-night adventure.

### ***ECI Chaperones:***

**ECI carefully selects chaperones** on the basis of language ability, maturity, patience, judgment, professionalism, and their ability to earn the respect and trust of our teenage participants. Most chaperones are high-school language teachers with extensive travel abroad experience; some are full-time ECI staff with educational backgrounds, and all are enthusiastic leaders, fully trained by ECI, and highly dedicated to promoting intercultural understanding.

### ***Price includes all group activities and excursions plus:***

- Airfare from ECI designated departure city (unless the “Without Airfare”\* option is chosen)
- All transportation abroad / all accommodations / all group activities, classes, excursions, admissions / all meals during homestays, dorm stays & Host Family Immersion Week; two meals per day during full day weekend excursions and during days of travel
- Medical Expense / Emergency Assistance Insurance
- Three full-time ECI chaperones per group of 30 students

**\*ECI Programs are priced “Without Airfare” or “With Airfare” from SFO & JFK.**

### ***Price does not include:***

- Application fee of \$125
- Airline taxes and fees (such as any applicable fuel surcharges and/or luggage fees). These taxes and fees are currently estimated to be \$400, and *will be confirmed one month prior to departure.*
- Spending money
- Optional activities
- University Credit Fees (should you choose this option)
- Some meals
- Optional Cancellation / Interruption or Cancel For Any Reason Travel Insurance Plan

### ***Student Eligibility for France Trips:***

#### **Participants must:**

- Complete coursework equivalent to two years of high school French by June 2010
  - Possible exceptions are considered only with a teacher recommendation detailing the student's exceptional language skills.
- Be between the ages of 15 and 18
- Complete all sections of ECI's Individualized Application Form
  - Application includes: basic contact information for students & families, student interests, student introduction letter for Host Family with pictures (as applicable), any pertinent medical information, and special requests.
- Have a valid passport, and provide ECI with a copy 1 month prior to departure
- Receive a positive teacher recommendation (ECI provides the form)
- Be committed to speaking and improving their French
- Be open to new experiences and unfamiliar cultures
- Sign and abide by ECI's Personal Responsibility Contract
- Be able to make responsible choices and act in a mature manner
  - Although ECI staff chaperone conscientiously, participants cannot be supervised 24 hours a day, and we therefore request that any student needing constant supervision refrain from applying for our life-changing programs.

### ***ECI Scholarships:***

ECI offers three \$3000 scholarships per season to applicants. For scholarship application details, please see the Scholarship Application page on our website.

For additional information, please contact our main office:

510.845.2230 or 866.343.8990 (toll free)

**info@educulture.org**

or visit our website at:

***www.educulture.org***

## *Dear Parents and Students,*

Edu-Culture International's primary goal is a true language and cultural immersion experience for each participant. Immersion provides the student with a unique intercultural perspective, as well as the absolute best possible way to strengthen their language skills.

We take great professional and personal pride in making ECI programs the best of their kind. From our global coordinators to our local leaders, you will find ECI staff to be experienced, dedicated, qualified educational professionals who provide guidance and support throughout the program.

Our France programs are based in **Aix-en-Provence**, **Toulouse**, and **Lyon**. We also offer a **Customized Total Immersion (CTI)** program. Each of our trips includes a different combination of the following components:

- ❖ **French Classes**
- ❖ **Activities / Excursions**
- ❖ **Language School Homestay**
- ❖ **Dorm Housing**
- ❖ **Host Family Immersion**
- ❖ **University Credit Option**
- ❖ **Three days in Paris**

Students choose different programs and locations, each designed to meet various interests and educational needs. All groups are limited to thirty students with three full-time adults: one trip leader and two additional chaperones. Our adult / student ratio is ideal in terms of student bonding, personal attention, cultural education, organization and safety.

All students are able to take advantage of varied housing opportunities that include: **Dorm Housing**, **Language School Homestay** (two students per family), and **Host Family Immersion** (one student per family). For additional information on housing options for each trip, please see *Accommodations Section*.

We also incorporate **Language Partners** into our programs, whenever possible. Usually, European college students, Language Partners work to enrich the Immersion Experience by providing ECI students with community integration opportunities and additional practice in conversational French. Small groups of our students explore the town with their Language Partners, participating in various activities while discussing (in French) an assortment of topics such as: entertainment, school, politics, travel, vacations, and sports.

Designed to be fun as well as challenging, ECI's programs provide students with an unforgettable and exhilarating once-in-a-lifetime experience. Participants gain a global perspective, strengthen their college applications, and create lasting global friendships through this individualized and unique international adventure.

We encourage you to explore our programs and discover the best match for you. In the following pages, you will find descriptions of various components of our programs. For more information, frequently asked questions, photos, and video, please visit us at [www.educulture.org](http://www.educulture.org). Also feel free to contact us at any time; we welcome talking with you, and *we thank you for choosing ECI!*

# Descriptions & Components of 2010 France Programs

- ❖ Overview of ECI France programs
  - Aix-en-Provence
  - Toulouse
  - Lyon
- ❖ Host Family Immersion Week  
(Toulouse & Aix-en-Provence)
- ❖ French classes at our partner Language Schools
- ❖ More Activities
- ❖ Travel to Paris
- ❖ Accommodation Options
  - Language School Homestay
  - Dorm Housing
  - Host Family Immersion
- ❖ University Credit Option
- ❖ Meet & Greet Service



## ***ECI France 2010 Programs – Overview***

### **Aix-en-Provence**

***Session A: June 17– July 15***

***Session B: July 8 – Aug 5***

ECI students in Aix-en-Provence participate in an enriching two weeks of classes at the highly acclaimed Institute of American Universities (IAU) while living in one of the few centrally located dorms in town. Aix, the old capital of Provence, is a lively university town a buzz with locals, students and visitors strolling the open-air markets, relaxing at one of the many terrace cafés, and shopping the boutiques. The town transforms in summer into one of the main musical centers of Europe, playing host to the annual International Festival of Music. Home to painter Paul Cézanne and an inspiration for much of his work, Aix continues to be regarded as a great artistic center – a fantastic place in which to absorb the French culture and language.

#### ***Day Excursions from Aix-en-Provence:***

##### **Arles**

Dating back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, Arles enjoys a rich history from Roman times of which its well-preserved Roman baths, amphitheatre and theater ruins are a constant reminder. The harmonious mix of ancient and contemporary life, quaint shops, sun-drenched terrace cafés and stunning landscapes has made Arles a destination for artists and tourists alike. Vincent Van Gogh spent his last years living in Arles and painting some of his great works, including “Starry Night” and “The Café Terrace on the Place du Forum.” One can enjoy a coffee at the café, which Vincent Van Gogh depicted and imagine a time when Caesar himself visited the Roman Forum just across the street.

##### **Avignon**

This medieval walled town in the heart of Provence is famous for the Gothic Palace of the Popes and for its medieval bridge, memorialized in the French nursery rhyme, ‘*Sur le Pont d’Avignon.*’ During the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the seat of the Roman Catholic Church was moved to the quaint town of Avignon, when the popes had grown tired of Rome. Avignon served as the seat of the papacy for 100 years. Today the *Place du Palais des Papes* spills over with people at terrace cafés on sunny afternoons. In the summer, Avignon is home to an exciting and world famous theater festival in July. Avignon with its pedestrian streets, cafés and boutiques, is a great destination for an afternoon excursion.



***“My trip to Aix was truly enjoyable. I was able to learn the language inside and outside of the school, and I was able to make friends in and out of the program. The trip leaders and teachers kept us focused on learning the language while teaching us to enjoy and embrace French culture.”***

Molly Mandell, Aix-en-Provence 2009 / mmandell@stevensonschool.org

## Toulouse

*July 2 – July 29*

ECI students in Toulouse participate in an educational two weeks of language classes at the Langue Onze School while living with a Language School Homestay family. A dynamic university town in southwest France, Toulouse is known as “*La Ville en Rose*” because most of its buildings have been built in red brick for over 2000 years. Also as France’s aeronautics and space exploration capital and the birthplace of the Concorde high-speed airplane, Toulouse has a modern edge. This forward-thinking quality fused with rich history and culture make it an exciting place in which to study French. *Please note:* students are placed together with another ECI student during the Toulouse homestay.

### ***Day Excursions from Toulouse:***

#### **Carcassonne**

Just north of the Pyrénées, Carcassonne in southwestern France is a fortified city from the Middle Ages. With its double ring of ramparts and fifty-three towers protecting the medieval city from invaders, you will walk right into history! Nearly demolished in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a local campaign to preserve the fortress led to an ingenious restoration project and protection as a national landmark. ECI Students in Toulouse travel to Carcassonne to soak up the atmosphere of one of France’s primary wine regions as they explore the fortress.

#### **Foix**

A small town that serves as a border town to the Pyrénées, Foix features a famous medieval castle built in the 12th century, the Château de Foix. Students spend an afternoon in the picturesque mountain village of Foix, with self-guided tours through the castle and towers. There is lots of time for soaking up the café scene, as well as a regional market to shop for local souvenirs. *Remember to keep your eye out for Tour de France cyclists!!*



***“I really liked our free time in Toulouse and loved the accrobranche [ropes course], wine-tasting, canoeing, Foix, Carcassonne, etc. It was all so much fun and I LOVE TOULOUSE!”***

Jessie Pollack, Toulouse 2008 / coolcat4192@aol.com

# Lyon

*June 21 – July 12*

ECI students in the dynamic Rhône Valley city of Lyon participate in an enriching immersion experience without formal classes. Lyon is home to wonderful cafés, an exciting university, medieval and Renaissance buildings, delicious food, lively pedestrian malls, and a picturesque medieval area with narrow, cobblestone streets. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Lyon displays a unique mix of traditional and modern that blend together to create a modern city proud of its historical beauty and charm.

In 2010, ECI students will embark on our 12<sup>th</sup> annual immensely popular Lyon program. The credit for the popularity of our Lyon programs goes both to the great cultural setting and in large part to the true warmth and caring of ECI Immersion Host Families. Our families generously open their homes and share their lives with ECI students.

Rather than a schedule of morning classes and afternoon activities, ECI students in Lyon participate in what we call a Host Family Immersion Experience. Though participants do get together with the group for organized activities during the week, immersion means that students immerse themselves in the French language and culture primarily by spending time with their French host family.

Many of our students find lasting global friendships through during their time in Lyon, and many of our families host for us each summer because they truly welcome the cultural-sharing experience. Many of our families have teenagers of their own; ECI carefully matches students with families based on a variety of factors, including age, gender, and hobbies. Just one of the many ways that ECI encourages two-way cultural exchange, the host family teenagers are always invited to accompany our group during their daily excursions and activities. Students are generally placed one per family during their stay in Lyon.



***“I lived and experienced the life of people in France, and made connections that will last forever. It was great!”***

Harry Ramhofer, Lyon 2008 student / hramhofer@yahoo.com

## ***Day Excursions from Lyon:***

### **Annecy**

Quaint Annecy is a photogenic village on the dazzling Lake Annecy in the Haute-Savoie region. With its numerous canals, Annecy evokes images of Venice. Part of the city's magic can be found in its many architecturally unusual covered passageways and old streets, including the Rue Royale, with its shops, gardens and fountains. ECI students in Lyon visit the Château d'Annecy, home of the Counts of Geneva, overlooking the pedestrian streets of the Old Town, venture to the 12th-century Palais de l'Isle, the symbol of the town and among the most photographed monuments in all of France, and have the opportunity to cool off with a dip in Lake Annecy!

### **Nice**

Participants have the opportunity to relax on the famous sandy beaches of the French Riviera, soaking in Nice's exotic atmosphere. Perched on the Côte d'Azur, Nice is France's largest economic and tourist center outside of Paris. This bustling city is home to a major port, museums, palaces, 17th-century cathedrals, and lively squares full of Italian architecture. You'll enjoy the *Train Touristique* sightseeing tour and walking down the historic *Promenade des Anglais* on the Mediterranean. Other visits include the Matisse or Chagall museums and the Fragonard perfume factory.

***“I really liked Fragonard, Annecy (so pretty, good day trip) and kayaking.***

***It was nice to have days with the group and nights with my host family.”***

Casey Wesselink, Lyon 2009 / c.lizzy.w@gmail.com

## **ECI Host Family Immersion Week for Toulouse & Aix-en-Provence students**

Toulouse and Aix students have a one-week intensive version of the Immersion Experience. After two weeks of practicing their conversation skills during classes and enjoying a fantastic variety of hands-on activities with the ECI group, students are prepared for this unique opportunity to become immersed in France's traditions and language. In their third week in France, Toulouse and Aix students spend the week living with an ECI Immersion Host Family in the South of France.

Students are matched with carefully selected host families who often have a son or daughter of a similar age and who are excited about sharing their homes and lives with an American teenager. Students spend all of their time during that week interacting with the family, the family's children, and their friends. This is an excellent opportunity to become truly immersed in French daily life and language while building lifelong friendships. Students are generally placed one per home during Host Family Immersion Week. The chaperone team is on-call twenty-four hours a day to assist students should they have a problem or concern. Throughout this week, there are few or no organized ECI activities, enabling participants to immerse themselves completely in French language and culture.

## ***Our Language Schools***

ECI continuously works with highly acclaimed schools to develop specialized academic programs and cultural experiences for our participants. At each school, classroom time is interactive and participatory, allowing ECI Students the best opportunity to strengthen their French skills. We are pleased to be able to offer students a compelling fusion of academic excellence and an exciting activities / excursions itinerary throughout their two weeks of classes.

### **The Institute for American Universities - *Aix-en-Provence***

Since 2003, ECI has partnered with The Institute for American Universities (IAU) to create specially designed academic programs for our students. The Institute is an independent educational school primarily designed for North American college students who wish to study abroad in southern France. Founded in 1957 under the auspices of l'Université d'Aix-Marseille, IAU is one of the oldest and largest education abroad institutes in France. ECI and IAU have developed a special program to enable our high school students the opportunity to benefit from a unique combination of academics, culture and the experience of living in one of the most engaging cities for young people in France.

A vital and talented group, most of the IAU faculty have studied and/or taught in more than one country. Many are professors either at l'Université d'Aix-Marseille or l'Université d'Avignon, and all are native French speakers. South of France locals, they are able to communicate their enthusiasm for the region and illuminate the local culture for our students.

#### **IAU Features**

- ❖ Student groups (limited to a maximum size of ten) divided into levels
  - Students take a placement test before they leave the U.S.
- ❖ Approximately three hours of classes Monday through Friday for two weeks.
- ❖ Small class size – interactive seminar-style with dialogue and debate.

### **The Langue Onze Language School - *Toulouse***

The Langue Onze Language School in Toulouse is an ideal place for high school students to study French. The highly professional staff is composed of native French speakers with extensive teaching experience. All instructors have degrees in teaching French as a foreign language and many have additional experience in theatre, literature, and music. Classes are held in a beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> century air-conditioned building.

#### **Langue Onze Language School Features**

- ❖ Student groups (limited to a maximum size of eleven) divided into levels.
  - Students take a placement test before they leave the U.S.
- ❖ Two ninety-minute lessons per day Monday through Friday for two weeks.
- ❖ Students write compositions and complete both written and oral comprehension exercises.
- ❖ Students also discuss current events using newspaper articles, films, and documentaries.

## ***More Activities for ECI France Programs:***

**ECI chaperones supervise a variety of afternoon and evening activities...**



**Some of our student's favorite activities include:**

- ❖ *Accrobranche* (outdoor obstacles / ropes course) & Kayaking
- ❖ Exploring the town with Language Partners
- ❖ People-watching at outdoor French cafés
- ❖ Celebrating Bastille Day on July 14<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Music Festivals
- ❖ Cooking Classes
- ❖ French Movie Nights
- ❖ Cheese & Wine Tastings
- ❖ Excursions to nearby Villages & Towns
- ❖ Optional Sports activities such as: swimming, soccer, volleyball, bike riding

Please note: Activities are almost always included at no extra charge. Occasionally, we offer optional activities / excursions, most of which are included or are nominally priced.

**Each day also includes free time for students to get together with friends and explore their own interests and hobbies.**

All students take part in chaperoned nighttime activities.

***"I loved this summer and I learned so much. I had so many experiences I didn't expect to have and loved everything. The people were great, and I didn't realize what an amazing adventure I was signing up for."***

Natali Swann Terreri, Aix-en-Provence 2009 / nat.swann@gmail.com

## ***All France Trips Travel to Paris!***



Explore famous Paris with new friends from around the country! If you've yet to visit this deservedly world-famous city, your travels with your ECI group are your opportunity to visit the unforgettable "City of Lights". Here's a sampling activities you may embark on... Cruise the Seine River in a Bateau Mouche, ascend to the top of the Eiffel Tower, check out Mona Lisa's smile at the Louvre, explore Vincent van Gogh and Claude Monet masterpieces and other amazing works of art at the Musée d'Orsay. Visit the Champs Élysées, and gaze up at the Arc de Triomphe. Experience the true fusion culture of Paris as old and new come together in the youthful, creative Latin Quarter with its cafés, bookstores and bohemian atmosphere. Walk up to the city's highest point, Montmartre, and stop in at the pristine, white-domed Basilique du Sacré-Cœur while you marvel at the city below. Or simply explore the city with newfound friends and find the many hidden treasures of Paris.

**All ECI Students in France spend three days in Paris.**

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for more details, information, FAQs, pictures, testimonials and to apply, visit us at:

***www.educulture.org***

## ***Accommodation Options:***

<b>Housing Options</b> Availability for each trip	<b>Aix A</b>	<b>Aix B</b>	<b>Toulouse</b>	<b>Lyon</b>
<b>Language School Homestay</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Dorm Housing</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Host Family Immersion</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Please Note: Customized Total Immersion (CTI) offers students the unique experience of living with a host family for the duration of their travel. There are no classes, activities, or excursions planned by ECI. See applicable CTI section for details.**

### ***Language School Homestay***

The Language School Homestay portion of the programs refers to accommodation in a French household in Toulouse during the weeks when classes take place. Most of these homestay households are within a twenty-minute walk or short Metro / bus ride of the town center and the language school.

Some homes are made up of a father, a mother and children, but many are single-parent households. These French-speaking homes provide room and board and are carefully selected for ECI by the language school to provide a safe environment for our students. Students from other countries often share a family with our ECI participants, adding to the international flavor of the homestay experience. Generally, we place two ECI students per home.

### ***Dorm Housing***

Centrally located, the dorm in Aix-en-Provence is very close to the language school. Because ECI chaperones live in the dorm and eat with the students, they are able to form close bonds and relationships of trust and mutual respect with the students. For many students, spending two weeks here with the rest of the group is a perfect introduction to French language and culture prior to the one-week Host Family Immersion, which occurs the third week of the trip.

### ***Host Family Immersion Week / Host Family Immersion***

After two weeks of practicing their conversation skills during classes and enjoying a fantastic variety of hands-on activities with the ECI group, Aix-en-Provence and Toulouse students are prepared for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become immersed in language and culture during the **Host Family Immersion Week**.

**ECI coordinators personally select immersion host families.** Students live with these families during the third week of the Toulouse & Aix programs, and for the duration of their stay on the Lyon program.

Immersion host families often have a son or daughter of a similar age and are excited about sharing their homes and lives with an American teenager. ECI participants spend their time during that week interacting with the family, the family's children, and friends of the family. This is an excellent opportunity to become truly immersed in French daily life and language and form lifelong friendships, and it hallmarks ECI's Immersion Experience. Students are generally placed one per home during **Host Family Immersion Week**. The ECI chaperone team is on-call twenty-four hours a day to assist students should they have a problem or concern.

These warm and friendly families open their homes to American teens because of their genuine desire to share their language and culture. They make every effort to incorporate our students into their lives, many times arranging day trips and excursions that only locals are able to experience.

ECI students write a personal letter during their application process with information about themselves and their families as well as their ambitions, hobbies, and interests. From these details, our Host Family Coordinators carefully match each student with an appropriate host family. They take into account any specific requests and try to match each student's interests with those of the family.

Throughout this week, there are few or no organized ECI activities and no classes. This enables participants to immerse themselves completely in the French way of life. **For many students, the host family immersion is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding parts of the trip!**



***“Living with a host family was the most culture-enriching part of the trip because I was directly immersed in the daily life of a French person.”***

Zoe Martiniak, Aix-en-Provence 2009 student / zoe\_martiniak@yahoo.com

## ***University Credit Option:***

ECI's University Credit Option, available on the Toulouse & Aix programs, is an invaluable asset in today's competitive realm of higher education.

- ❖ ECI's University Credit Option provides students the option to earn 3 semester units in French through either the University of Southern Mississippi (Toulouse) or Truman State University (Aix).
- ❖ These credits are transferable to other universities and accepted by most accredited universities in the U.S.

The university credit option is a great asset on a college application because it demonstrates the student's ability to complete university level course work as a high school student.

**Please note:** the University Credit Option requires additional fees and some additional work on the part of the student.

## ***Meet & Greet Service:***

ECI program participants have the choice of traveling roundtrip on one of our chaperoned flights or making their own separate flight plans.

Participants who make their own separate flight plans are also responsible for making their own arrangements to meet up with the chaperones and group, unless they choose our **Meet and Greet Service**, which carries an **additional fee of \$150 minimum per direction**.

With the Meet and Greet service, an ECI representative will meet your son or daughter at the airport or any other designated arrival place. Prior to your child's departure, ECI will provide you with all necessary contact information, phone numbers, and a detailed meeting place and time. Once we have met your child, we will take him/her to meet the main group. The Meet and Greet is also available for the return trip, and we highly recommend it in either direction if your child is not traveling with the group. Remember that airline schedules are always subject to change. Please contact ECI to discuss this option.

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for more details, information, FAQs, pictures, testimonials and to apply, please visit us at:

***[www.educulture.org](http://www.educulture.org)***

## ***ECI Customized Total Immersion***

**July 1 – August 15 / Independent airfare / \$725 per week**

Two to three weeks living with an Immersion Host Family in Aix-en-Provence, France.  
(No group activities, no classes)

### ***During ECI's Customized Total Immersion Program (CTI), students will:***

- ❖ ***Participate*** in the daily life of a French family.
- ❖ ***Speak*** French with their immersion family.
- ❖ ***Take part*** in home-life including meals and family events.
- ❖ ***Enjoy*** excursions with their immersion family, visit places only locals know about.
- ❖ ***See*** sights, meet friends, and enjoy French culture all from the local perspective.
- ❖ ***Immerse*** themselves on an everyday basis in the French language and culture.

### ***ECI custom-designed the CTI Program for high school students who:***

- Are at least 16 years old.
- Have completed a minimum of three years of high school French by June 2010.  
(Two years of middle school French is generally equivalent to one year of high school French.)
- Are motivated, adventurous, and have an independent nature.
- Are serious about speaking only French while in France.
- Are excited about the opportunity to be completely immersed as the only student in their host family for two to three weeks – without a formal study program and without formal contact with other American students.
- Are committed to the belief that total immersion is the most effective way to develop foreign language proficiency.

***"I was immediately accepted into the family. I constantly participated in daily activities such as cooking, swimming, riding horses, etc. We had a BBQ with the ENTIRE family every Sunday."***

Jessica Ott 2009 Total Immersion student / jott@mail.org

### **Who are the Immersion Host Families?**

ECI has developed an extensive network of coordinators in France who are committed to finding families who look forward to sharing their lives with our students during the summer. ECI Host Family Coordinators work directly for us rather than for a language school. Host Families are usually comprised of a mother, a father, and children who are often of the same age as the visiting ECI teenager. Immersion Host Families host ECI students with the intention of sharing their daily lives, culture, homes and food. Families often take their ECI student on excursions, involve them in family events, and introduce them to friends and relatives. Many times, ECI students and Immersion Families create lifetime friendships.

### ***Customized Total Immersion (CTI) Program Price Includes:***

1. ECI arranged transportation to/from host family from airport in Marseille, France.
2. In-country orientation
3. Accommodation and meals with Immersion Host Family
4. Medical Expense / Emergency Assistance Insurance
5. A full-time on-call ECI representative.

### ***Price does not include:***

1. Application fee of \$125
2. Airfare
3. Spending money
4. Optional activities
5. Optional Cancellation / Interruption or Cancel For Any Reason Travel Insurance Plan

**Customized Total Immersion (CTI) participants arrange their own flights, and a copy of the flight plans must be emailed to ECI no later than 6 weeks prior to departure.**

An ECI representative or the host family will meet your son or daughter at the designated arrival point. Prior to your child's departure, ECI will provide you with all necessary contact information, phone numbers, and a detailed meeting place and time.

At every step of the way, **Customized Total Immersion (CTI)** program participants will find guidance and support available from ECI's global and local professional staff. Please contact us to see if the **Customized Total Immersion (CTI)** program might be right for you!



***crossing continents - connecting cultures***

for more details, information, FAQs, pictures, testimonials and to apply, please visit us at:

*[www.educulture.org](http://www.educulture.org)*

# Application Procedure – 2010 Summer Programs

1. The fastest way to reserve your/ your child's space on the chosen program is to use our online option for application and payment. Go to [www.educulture.org](http://www.educulture.org) and click **How to Apply** link. Complete the **Preliminary Application Form** and pay the \$125 non-refundable application fee.  

Alternatively, you may complete the application page found at the end of this packet and mail it with a \$125 check made payable to ECI.
2. Upon receipt of the initial application form and fee, your child will automatically be enrolled in our Medical Expense / Emergency Assistance Insurance at no extra cost to you.
3. **Instructions on how to log in and complete your child's application will be emailed to you once the initial online application is submitted.** Please ensure that you and your child complete all portions of Application, including Host Family Introduction Letter and photos.
4. Please ensure that your child's Teacher Recommendation Form is mailed back to ECI (either directly from teacher or from you). If a student is not accepted into our program based upon an unfavorable teacher recommendation form, payments made for Cancellation / Interruption Insurance will be refunded.
5. Ensure that you and your child carefully read and the **Personal Responsibility Contract**. Please mail a signed copy back to ECI.
6. Payment of \$1500 (deposit + Program Fee #2) will be due within two weeks of initial application.
7. We will confirm receipt of your deposit via email – plus a time-sensitive option to purchase **Trip Cancellation / Interruption Insurance** (Insurance Decision Form), a highly recommended way to protect your trip investment.
8. **Within 15 days**, we must receive written notification as to whether you accept or decline the Optional Trip Cancellation / Interruption or Cancel At Any Time Insurance Plans and payment if you accept.
9. Program Fee #3 of \$1500 is due by Friday, March 5, 2010.
10. The balance is due by Friday, April 23, 2010.

Please note that this is our general payment plan. To arrange a customized option or for any additional information you may need, contact Tracy Cone at 510.845.2230; [Tracy@educulture.org](mailto:Tracy@educulture.org)

- ❖ **A comprehensive Orientation Meeting will take place for local families in the San Francisco Bay Area in May or early June. This will be an opportunity to meet other participants, ask questions, and receive additional materials & cultural information. Since almost 50% of our participants live in other areas of the country, all pre-departure information will also be available online in the secure student login area.**

## ***Additional Payment Information – 2010 Summer Programs***

- ❖ The application fee of \$125 covers Medical Expense / Emergency Assistance Insurance. It also covers pre-departure orientation & educational materials. It is separate from the Total Program Fee and is non-refundable.
- ❖ All Program Fee payments will be deducted from the Total Program Fee. Please refer to **Application Procedure – 2010 Summer Programs** for an outline of due dates.
- ❖ It is the parent's responsibility to make sure all payments arrive at ECI's office by their due dates. Parents must assume responsibility for late payments due to mail delays or other unlikely circumstances. Students whose payments are not received on time may lose their place in the program or be subject to a late payment charge.
- ❖ Applications made 60 or fewer days prior to departure will be treated on an individual space-available basis. Full payment will be due at the time of application, and completed application materials will be due within one week.

### **Edu-Culture International (ECI) Refund Policy**

After airline tickets are purchased and paid in full to the airline by ECI on behalf of a student, they become the property of the student and their cost is non-refundable. That portion of the Program Fee, once this occurs, is not included in the following refund policy:

- Prior to December 5, 2009: All Program Fee payments less \$150
- Between December 5, 2009, and March 5, 2010: All Program Fee payments less \$500
- Between March 5, 2010, and June 4, 2010: All Program Fee payments less \$1200
- After June 4, 2010: No refund

**Cancellations must be received by ECI in writing by the above dates for refunds.**

***Any student who is unwilling to abide by ECI guidelines or who is believed to jeopardize the welfare of others will be dismissed without refund of program fees and sent home at the expense of his/her parents. ECI reserves the right to cancel any program due to insufficient enrollment. In this case, all program fees would be refunded.***

**We strongly advise the purchase of Cancellation/Interruption Insurance. As indicated on the previous page, an Insurance Decision Form will be sent to you after we receive your initial deposit. To obtain the Pre-Existing Exclusion Waiver, Supplier Financial Insolvency, and coverage for certain Terrorist Act(s), this form plus payment must be sent to our office within 15 days of the date on the form.**

# Preliminary Mail-In Application Form

Please mail this page with a \$125.00 check to ECI:

Edu-Culture International  
P.O. Box 2692  
Berkeley, CA 94702

Clearly check the program to which you are applying:

- Spain:**
- Salamanca 1 - Session A
  - Salamanca 1 - Session B
  - Salamanca 2
  - Salamanca 3
  - Granada/Nerja Combo
  - Customized Total Immersion - Spain
- Costa Rica:**
- Natural Wonders
  - Expedition Costa Rica
- France:**
- Lyon Homestay
  - Toulouse
  - Customized Total Immersion - France
  - Nerja Summer Study
  - San Sebastián Summer Study - Session A
  - San Sebastián Summer Study - Session B

Please print the **student and parent email addresses** clearly on the form below, as future correspondence will be sent to you via those email addresses.

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Best Day Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Best Evening Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student's School \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Language Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Years of foreign language completed as of June 2010 \_\_\_\_\_  
(2 yrs. of middle school count as one year of high school)