
Spanish Immersion Exchange 20___ Travel Contract

I, _____, (“Participant”) and _____ (“parent / guardian”) have enrolled in the **COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC** (“CGI”) Spanish Immersion / Exchange program in Costa Rica taking place in July / August 20 _____. By signing below, participant and parent / guardian understand and agree to the following terms.

1. All payments that CGI receives for the Spanish Immersion Trip are non-refundable. If, for unforeseen circumstances I cannot participate in this trip, I understand that CGI cannot refund my money.

2. Airline tickets are non-refundable. If for unforeseen circumstances I cannot participate in this trip, I understand that CGI cannot refund the amount of my airline tickets.

3. I agree to participate in three pre-departure meetings on dates to be determined. The purpose of these meetings will be to go over important trip details, itineraries, expectations, host families and more.

- **March 5**
- **April 15**
- **May TBD**

4. I agree to complete my mandatory online pre-departure course that will get me prepared for my experience and help me maximize my language learning, cultural understanding and independent personal growth.

5. I am fully aware of my program costs and inclusions. Program costs:

- 2-week language and cultural exchange \$2,875.00

Your Program Costs include:

- Round trip flights in and out of Denver
- Travel Insurance Policy
- Host family lodging during your program
- Private in-county transportation
- Private guide, driver & tips
- All language school tuition, course materials and extracurricular activities
- Most meals. On our excursions some meals will be included other will not.
- Included tours, national park entrances, hikes and excursions outside of school activities
- 24/7 leadership and coordination

What you are financially responsible for...

- Some meals (lunches while with homestay families, lunches and dinners while on excursions)
- Additional baggage fees as determined by airlines
- Souvenirs

Participant

Date

Participant Name (Please Print)

Address and Tel. No.

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if participant is under 18 years of age)

Participant Liability Waiver Form

Common Ground International Spanish Immersion Exchange 20____

I, _____, (“Participant”) have enrolled in the **COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC** (“CGI”) Spanish Immersion trip during the dates of July / August 20____.

1. Travel may be arranged by **CGI**, a travel agent, or myself; and that all transportation and services are subject to the laws of the countries visited. All prices are based on current tariffs and current exchange rates and are subject to confirmation and adjustment.
2. I acknowledge that international travel involves risks, which include the potential for death, serious bodily injury, or property loss.
3. I agree to hold harmless **CGI**, including its officers, agents, employees, representatives, and successors, from any liability arising from my participation in the Spanish Immersion Trip including without limitation any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay, irregularity, or expense arising from use of a vehicle or other services arising from:
 - a. strikes, war, weather, quarantine, sickness, terrorists actions, government restrictions, or regulations; or
 - b. any act or omission of any ship, airline, railroad, sight-seeing, hotel, transportation company; or
 - c. any wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers; or
 - d. any wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any employee of any of these suppliers; or
 - e. any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers; or
 - f. any wrongful or negligent acts or omissions on the part of any other party not under the supervision and control, direct or otherwise, of **CGI**, its officers or agents; or
 - g. any self directed/planned activities/travel that I choose to undertake before, during, or after the trip.
4. I realize that liability may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, maintained or controlled by them or because of their possible liability without fault.
5. In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in this trip, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows:

(A) Waive, Release and Discharge from any and all liability for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from Costa Rica THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES OR PERSONS: **COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC; RORY FOSTER, LESLIE FOSTER, TRIP LEADERS and, ANY OTHER COMMON GROUND EMPLOYEE;** and

(B) Indemnify and Hold Harmless the entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made as a result of participation in this event, whether caused by the negligence of releases or otherwise.

6. I hereby give permission to Common Ground International the authority to seek medical care on my child's behalf to receive medical treatment, which is advisable in the event of injury, accident and/or illness during this trip.
7. I understand that the **CGI** trip reserves the right, in its sole discretion to cancel or discontinue the trip (in which event refund of deposit may be made) or to make such alternations in the itinerary as is necessary or desirable.
8. I agree that I will be fully responsible for my luggage and personal effects; provide the Trip Director with all my personal travel arrangements, medical insurance arrangements while a member of the Trip; and provide the Trip Director with complete information if I make accommodation changes.
9. This Participant Liability Waiver Form shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law. I hereby certify that I have read this document; and, I understand its content.
10. Any and all disputes arising from or relating (in any way) to this trip shall be subject to the laws of the State of Colorado and shall resolved exclusively pursuant to binding arbitration at the Office of Dispute Resolution in Denver, Colorado pursuant to the then current rules of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator's decision and award shall be binding upon both parties. No court shall have any subject matter jurisdiction for any suit at law or in equity based on any dispute, claim or controversy arising from or relating (in any way) to the CGI Spanish Immersion Trip instituted by either party, except to enforce the award of the arbitrator.

THIS IS A LEGAL INSTRUMENT, WHICH AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS. IF NOT UNDERSTOOD, CONSULT LEGAL COUNSEL BEFORE SIGNING.

By signing below, I acknowledge I have had the opportunity to consult legal counsel and agree to the above conditions.

CGI – Participant Liability Waiver Form

Page 2 of 2

_____ Participant's Initials

Participant

Date

Participant Name (Please Print)

Address and Tel. No.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

(if participant is under 18 years of age)

Spanish Immersion Behavior Contract

Parents:

We are looking forward to traveling with your son/daughter on their Spanish Immersion Exchange Program. Our goals for this trip are to learn, have fun, and stay safe. In order to make this possible, we ask for your support regarding our behavior policy:

Students:

As a program participant, you are representing the United States, Common Ground International, Peak to Peak High School and your family name! We expect your behavior to reflect that responsibility. This means exercising good judgment and keeping in mind that you are in another country and must be respectful of the local culture.

We also expect you to have a positive, encouraging attitude. You must be willing to take ahold of this wonderful opportunity and enjoy the experience. Sure, it is expected that you will have a hard day or a difficult time adjusting to certain aspects of immersion and we will be there for you to help you through this natural process, but please don't lead with negativity! This might just be a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Your behavior should in no way endanger yourself or anyone else or have a negative impact on the group. If you experience a conflict or have a problem that you are unable to handle, we expect you to bring it to the attention of the program coordinator and trip leaders.

Students are required to abide by school rules (please see your school handbook) and Common Ground's no-tolerance policy (see below). Minor infractions will be dealt with on an individual basis and in an appropriate manner. However, serious offenses will not be tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal from the trip and subsequent return to the United States at the parents' expense. Such offenses include:

- Falling out of contact with the student group and/or your host family
- Wandering away from the group and "sneaking out" at night
- Neglecting program obligations such as attending class and community service work
- Use of illegal drugs including vaping
- Use of alcohol
- Sexual activity
- A negative, non respectful attitude that is having a detrimental impact on the group as a whole
- Any action that endangers or could potentially endanger others

While we do not anticipate any such problems, we wish to make our policy clear.

I, _____ clearly understand and agree to accept the conditions of the Immersion Program Behavior Contract.

(Signature of participant)

(Date)

(Signature of parent/guardian)

(Date)

Consent to Travel with a Minor

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in relation to my child, _____, a minor born on ____/____/____ whose passport number is _____.

I do hereby grant full authorization and consent for my child to travel outside the United States and to _____ between July _____, 20____ and August _____, 20____ with Common Ground International.

I authorize trip leaders with Common Ground International to make any changes to the travel plans in case of delays, cancelations or situations that are out of their control.

Father / Guardian		Mother / Guardian	
Name		Name	
Address		Address	
Phone		Phone	
Signature		Signature	
Date		Date	

Signature and Seal of Notary below:

Smart Phone Contract

Smart phones are amazing tools that make the world a lot smaller and communication streamlined and easy. However, they are also a double-edged sword.

When used as a tool on immersion they can be:

- Efficient, effective means of communication
- A resource to improve Spanish language learning. For example, as a dictionary, looking up correct conjugations of verbs, etc.

They can also be a detriment to immersion and a distraction to taking full advantage of this unique opportunity:

- They can transport you back in one instant into your social scene in the US and rob you of the opportunity to be in the “here and now” on immersion.
- They can be a major road block to your contentment on immersion and your language learning goals as they steal time, brain power, and energy from you that you could be using to invest in new friendships, new experiences, and life long lessons.

Let’s face it! Your smart phone and all of its amazing (and not so amazing) apps will be there when you complete this program, and yes, you may miss out on a few great social media followings, likes, comments, pics. But consider all the things you are gaining from this immersion experience. There will be a time to update status, post, add filters, etc., but on immersion is NOT the time!

As an immersion participant you have 3 options with your smart phone:

1. Go old school, leave it at home and opt to bring a camera and a dictionary
2. Bring it and adhere to CGI’s appropriate uses of smart phones by signing the contract below
3. Bring it, don’t adhere, and we will CONFISCATE it!

I _____ (student name) acknowledge that I will follow these appropriate uses of my smart phone on immersion:

- As a camera
- To stay connected with my immersion leader and group on our immersion chat
- In an emergency
- As a phone to communicate with my friends and family back home during my allotted Wi-Fi time, 30 min. a day built into program itinerary

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- To access Spanish learning apps
 - To listen to music on a limited basis during appropriate times as determined by trip leaders.

I _____, (student name) also acknowledge that these are inappropriate uses of my smart phone while on immersion. Using my phone...

- During group / family meals
- During Spanish classes (except when accessing a dictionary)
- During volunteer work
- Hours upon hours in the evening scrolling, playing games etc. instead of interacting with my host family
- On social media during classes, during volunteer work, cultural activities and any other group time

If my phone becomes a distraction to my program goals, isolating me from group activities, limiting my participation, my trip leader will confiscate my phone.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parents/Guardians, By signing below, you give Common Ground International trip leaders permission to confiscate your son/daughter's phone if your s/he is not following the above guidelines for appropriate uses of smart phones.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Media Consent and Release Form

DATE: _____

COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC

PO Box 174

Lafayette, CO 80026

COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC has requested permission to use my name, biographical or occupational description, phrases regarding me (or incidents or anecdotes concerning me substantially as set forth in an attachment which is made a part of this release), portrait, picture, likeness, or voice or any or all of them, in a recording, videotape, television production or reproduction, sound track recording, film strip, still photograph, CD-ROM, DVD, podcast, on an Internet site, blog, vlog, or other social media site or site with user-generated content including but not limited to YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, in a printed publication or otherwise.

I hereby grant to COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC, its successors, assigns and anyone acting under its authority or permission the right to make originals where appropriate and to use for any lawful purpose (including publicity and other trade purposes) throughout the world and reproduce at any time in any form or manner and to copyright any of the items referred to in the preceding paragraph.

I hereby release COMMON GROUND INTERNATIONAL, LLC, its successors and assigns of and from any claim which I might otherwise have as a result of any such use, copyright or publication.

NAME _____

(please print)

Signed _____

Minor ____ Adult ____

IF A MINOR:

Signed: _____

Parent ____ Guardian ____

Residence: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Telephone: _____

Consent and release 5-5.doc

Exchange Program: Payment Schedule

Total trip amount for your immersion program	\$ 2875.00
Trip deposit due upon registering	\$ 500.00
Payment # 2 due March 1 st	\$ 791.66
Payment # 3 due April 1 st	\$ 791.66
Payment # 4 due June 1 st	\$ 791.66

******This payment schedule is for your planning and budgeting benefit. All payments are non-refundable and are accredited toward the balance of your trip. If you wish to make other arrangements please contact us.

All payments and paperwork are due 45 days before departure.

How should I pay for my program?

1. You can make payments online by using this link and logging into your Common Ground Account:
<https://commongroundinternational.com/store/immersion-trips/high-school-immersion-trip/>
2. You can mail in a check made out to “Common Ground International” to this address:
 - a. Common Ground International, PO Box 174, Lafayette, CO. 80026