



## **Study Abroad Site in Denia, Spain**

**4 Weeks – May 30<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

### **Summary:**

The study abroad site in Denia, Spain will provide a turn-key program for Spanish-language study alongside service in the local community. The one-month summer program will revolve around two primary components: 1) Morning Spanish classes; and 2) Afternoon service opportunities with the local church (e.g., VBS, Soccer Camps, work at the church's soup kitchen, etc.). The program will be housed at the Alfa y Omega School/Church campus, a multi-acre facility providing dormitory-style housing for students, a cafeteria, and classroom space. DBU has had a long-standing relationship with this institution, and it sits in a location that is ideal because of its natural beauty, safety, and accessibility. The overall cost per student will be \$3,300 for the summer, exclusive of their airfare and tuition for their class.



## Detailed Description of the Program and Site

### Location:

Denia is a beautiful coastal city on the southeast coastline of Spain. It has a population of 41,733, which swells during the summer months to 80,000-90,000 with a large influx of German and British tourists. The city is very safe and has a mixture of old-world charm alongside modern amenities. The map below shows the city itself, which is 1.5 hours south of Valencia (which has a major regional airport) and a 4-hour train ride from Madrid (which has a major international airport):



### Partner Institutions:

Our host site will be at the [Alfa y Omega School](#) on the outskirts of Denia, whose parent organization is the Alfa y Omega Baptist Church, one of the largest Baptist churches in Spain (roughly 400 congregants on a Sunday). The campus of the church and school is several acres in size, located on the outskirts of Denia, Spain within walking distance of many amenities (see below map).



(Pictured above: Map showing important amenities around the Alfa y Omega campus)

Alfa y Omega School is a Pre-K through 10<sup>th</sup> grade school that has served the community for 40 years and currently has roughly 400 students. The school's campus, which is gated, includes a large dorm and classroom building, auditorium (which is used by the Alfa y Omega Baptist Church, but also serves as an assembly room for school events), administration building, a smaller building dedicated to classroom and office space, a large prayer garden, and recreation space (including a swimming pool and multi-use basketball/soccer court). The pictures in Appendix A show many of the buildings that make up this campus.

DBU has had a strong relationship with Alfa y Omega over the years. Jorge Pastor, the pastor of the church for 40+ years and founder of the school, was awarded an honorary doctorate by DBU in 2018 for his years of service across the world for Baptist causes. DBU has sent mission trip groups ranging from the basketball team, to the soccer teams, BSM students, and a variety of other non-athletic mission groups.

### **DBU Study Abroad Program:**

The DBU program in Denia will provide students with the opportunity to combine study and service abroad into one program that will last one month (roughly May 30 – July 1). The overall cost for the summer program will be \$3,250 per student, exclusive of flights (the students will be responsible for their own flights) and tuition for the course itself.



Academically, the program will center around students taking either SPAN 2302 (Intermediate Spanish II) or INCS 4331/MAGL 5331 (Cross-Cultural Living and Ministry), allowing students in a variety of different majors to take their final semester of Spanish in an immersive environment or take an upper-level missions class. Classes will be taught by DBU professors who will live on-site and serve as the program directors for the summer program. Classroom space will be provided by Alfa y Omega, and will be in the same building as the students' living quarters. Classes will be held in the mornings, Monday through Thursday, giving students long weekends in which to travel or engage in other cultural experiences.

In terms of service, DBU has created a unique program where our students not only learn to speak Spanish, but also serve by using that Spanish. Alfa y Omega provides a variety of service opportunities for our students: VBS-style camps, a downtown soup kitchen, service in the church, and service with children at the school.

Students will attend classes in the mornings and then serve for a portion of the afternoon (roughly 2 hours each day two to three times each week), leaving time in the late afternoons and evenings for study and relaxation.

### **Facilities for our DBU Program:**

The partnership with Alfa y Omega will allow us to provide the following to our students:

- 1) Dormitory Housing – Our students will live in multi-person rooms with either 2, 3 or up to 4 to a room. These rooms are equipped with bunk beds, a table, and nightstand, and are similar in size to our DBU dorm rooms. Alfa y Omega School will provide daily linen service.
- 2) Meals – The package will include three meals a day in the school cafeteria.
- 3) Classroom Space – DBU will be provided with access to a large meeting area and/or a smaller classroom (depending on the size of our group) for our classes and other meeting needs.
- 4) Recreational Space – DBU students will have access to the prayer garden, basketball/soccer courts, swimming pool, and other recreational amenities on the Alfa y Omega campus.
- 5) Other – Alfa y Omega has coin-operated laundry facilities on-site which our students can use to do their laundry each week.

### **FAQ for Students and Parents**

#### *Info about Our Partner Institution/Site*

Our host site will be at the [Alfa y Omega School](#) on the outskirts of Denia, whose parent organization is the Alfa y Omega Baptist Church, one of the largest Baptist churches in Spain (roughly 400 congregants on a Sunday). The campus of the church and school is several acres in size, located on the outskirts of Denia, Spain within walking distance of many amenities.

DBU has had a strong relationship with Alfa y Omega over the years. Jorge Pastor, the pastor of the church for 40+ years and founder of the school, was awarded an honorary doctorate by DBU in 2018 for his years of service across the world for Baptist causes. DBU has sent mission trip groups to Alfa y Omega many times, sending groups ranging from the basketball team, to the soccer teams, and a variety of other non-athletic mission groups.

### *Flights*

Because we find that many students want to travel in Europe either prior to or after the official dates of the DBU program, we allow students to make their own flight arrangements to and from Spain. We simply ask that they meet their program director at the meeting location designated by the DBU in Spain Program Director at the Madrid-Barajas Adolfo Suarez International Airport by the appointed date and time of the beginning of the program.

### *Housing*

Students will be living on-site at the Alfa y Omega School in dormitory-style housing in rooms that house 2 - 4 students. Rooms come equipped with bunk beds, desks, and end tables, and are similar in size and layout to dorm facilities at DBU. As is the case for most hotels and living quarters in Europe, students need to be aware that there is no air conditioning in the living quarters. However, unlike Texas, the temperatures in Denia cool down at night, with average June-July highs during the day of 80-86° Fahrenheit and lows overnight of 64-68° Fahrenheit. The dorm has community-style bathroom facilities, with one dedicated facility for men and one for women.

Watch the [Alfa y Omega Welcome Video](#) below to see the types of rooms you will be staying in during your time in Denia.

### *Linens and Towels*

Alfa y Omega provides daily linen service for dorm rooms, so students will not need to worry about bringing sheets. However, students will need to bring their own towels and other toiletry items for use in the bathroom facilities.

### *Meals*

Daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided on-site to DBU students at the Alfa y Omega School cafeteria.

### *Laundry Facilities*

Alfa y Omega provides coin-operated laundry facilities on-site for students living in the dorm on their campus.

### *Internet Access*

Students will be given access to Alfa y Omega's wifi during their stay in Denia. While this wifi service is appropriate for email, internet searching, and similar activities, it is not equipped for video streaming or similar activities.

### *What to bring*

See DBU's General "Study Abroad Packing List."

### *Groceries, Pharmacies, and other Amenities*

The Alfa y Omega School campus is within a 10-15 minute walk of various amenities, including grocery stores, pharmacies, the beach, and other amenities. The main city center is roughly a 30 minute walk from the school campus, and has an even larger variety of shops, restaurants, etc.

### *Nearby Churches*

In all of our study abroad locations, we encourage students to attend local churches. In Denia, we encourage our students to attend Iglesia Bautista La Trinidad, the parent church of our host institution, Alfa y Omega School. DBU has had a longstanding relationship with the pastor of Iglesia Bautista La Trinidad, and awarded the former senior pastor, Jorge Pastor, an honorary doctorate in 2018 because of his work sharing the gospel in Spain. This congregation of roughly 400 has a contemporary-style worship service Sundays at 11:30 am.

### *Safety*

Denia, a popular tourist destination for travelers from around Europe, is generally a very safe city. Tourists and locals alike walk the streets both day and night, and there is a low crime rate overall, especially compared to larger U.S. cities such as Dallas.

Click [here](#) to see crime rate ratings at Numbeo, a leading database of user-contributed data about cities and countries worldwide.

Additionally, the Alfa y Omega School campus is located away from the city center in a gated campus of several acres. This serene, mountain-side site provides a secure location for students to live and study.

### *DBU Personnel & Services On-Site*

During the DBU in Spain summer program, a DBU faculty member will be living on-site to provide students with program support. This program director will be available for questions and concerns, to help with emergency situations or needs, and other situations. Likewise, the Office of the Dean of Global Studies & Pre-Professional Programs will be available for calls or questions during normal business hours from students, parents, or others needing help during the program.

### *Weekend Travel/Post-Program Travel*

We encourage students to take advantage of our flexible class schedule to travel regionally within Spain and Europe during the summer. Our class schedule is designed so that students will have classes Monday through Thursday and then have long weekends in which to travel or engage in cultural activities if they so choose. Likewise, students can choose to remain in Spain and travel on their own after the conclusion of the DBU in Denia summer program, though doing so will be at their own cost.

### *Cost*

The cost for the DBU in Denia summer program is as follows:

- Program Fee: \$3,250 which includes on-site meals, dormitory housing, transportation for DBU sponsored weekend trips, and hotels on these DBU sponsored weekend trips.
- Tuition: [Click Here](#) for the current tuition rate for Dallas Baptist University.
- Additional Notes: Please be aware that this trip fee does not include your flight to and from Spain. Because we find that many students want to travel in Europe either prior to or after the official dates of the DBU program, we allow students to make their own flight arrangements to and from Spain. This also allows students to use miles or other means that they choose to secure their flight.

### **Appendix A: Pictures of the Alfa y Omega Campus**

Video of facilities: <https://vimeo.com/340463868>



(Pictured above: Aerial view of the campus)



(Pictured above: Large multi-use facility that includes dormitory facilities (top floor) and classroom space (bottom floor).





(Pictured above: Secondary building with classroom and office space)



(Pictured above: Auditorium – Used for Church services and School Assemblies)



(Pictured above: Large meeting space that will be one of several spaces our group could use for classes and/or student meetings)



(Pictured above: This is a picture of one of the typical classrooms on site)



(Pictured above: Representative picture of the dormitory rooms)



(Pictured above: Multi-use recreation facility)





(Pictured above: Large prayer garden on the Alfa y Omega Campus)