



## 2009 Language Exchange

<b>Location</b>	Throughout Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Spain
<b>Start Dates</b>	Varies—depending on availability 1 month min., 3 months max.
<b>Program Fees</b>	Varies depending on location and length of program ( <i>see details below</i> )
<b>What's Included</b>	Guaranteed teach placement Accommodations & meals Pre-departure and local support ( <i>Much more...see details below</i> )
<b>What's not Included</b>	International transportation Personal Expenses
<b>Benefits</b>	Accommodations & full-board in exchange for English lessons
<b>Accommodations</b>	Shared or private room included with placement, plus 3 meals/ day, 7 days/ week.

### Program Details & Highlights

#### **Teacher Exchange in Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina and Spain:**

Have you always wanted to learn an exotic language such as Portuguese? Or do you crave the sights and sounds of a cosmopolitan Spanish city? Or is it the vast array of wildlife and adventure options in Costa Rica that peaks your interest? Whatever your travel dreams may be, the Language Exchange program with *Cultural Embrace* is an affordable way to travel, and a practical way to immerse yourself within the local community. In exchange for 15-20 hours of language lessons a week, your host family will provide you room and board, allowing you plenty of free time to enjoy while abroad.

During your time abroad, you will have the opportunity to meet new people and acquire new skills, all while exploring a foreign culture and its traditions. Exchange placements available in Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina or Spain.

#### ***Language Exchange Offers:***

- Satisfaction in helping others
- A broader perspective on world views
- An economical way to live and travel abroad
- Opportunity to learn other foreign cultural activities (ie: language, music, cooking, etc)

- Memorable experiences while traveling and seeing exotic sites
- Lifelong friends from all around the globe
- Valuable work experiences that strengthens your resume
- Support and development of self-confidence and personal skills

***Cultural Embrace Offers:***

- **Guaranteed teach position prior to departure**  
Tutor English or your native language (ie: French, German, Russian, Chinese, etc) to your local host family for 15-20 hours/week.
- **Accommodations and full-board**  
Private room and 3 meals/day; 7 days/week with host family
- **Arrival Assistance**  
Airport or bus station pick-up will be available, and you will be taken to your host family.
- **Visa Assistance**  
*Cultural Embrace* will provide you with the proper invitation letter to obtain a visa. We have no control or guarantees of government issuances and visa availability.
- **International Traveler's Insurance Assistance**  
*Cultural Embrace* highly recommends obtaining international traveler's insurance, which may be purchased through CE for an extra cost.
- ***Cultural Embrace* Pre-Departure Kit**  
Useful tips, advice, and information to prepare you for the amazing adventure of living and working abroad..
- **Full-time Support**  
*Cultural Embrace* provides representation in the United States and your host country prior to, during, and after your placement.
- **Optional On-line TEFL Certification**  
Preparation of skills and techniques required for successful language teaching at the leisure of your own schedule and computer. This 20-units course requires approx. 80-100 hours of attention. TEFL course may be added for only US\$295!

## **Program Requirements**

- Be competent and fluent with your native language, English is most requested from local families, but other languages can be arranged too (Spanish/ Portuguese knowledge helpful but NOT required).
- Have earned a high school diploma or certificate
- Enjoy tutoring/teaching children or adults
- Good lesson planning and organization skills
- Be a non-smoker, or willing not to smoke in the host family's home
- Flexibility to embrace foreign cultures and living abroad
- Responsible and dedicated to full-term of commitment
- Criminal background check may be required by some positions

## 2009 Program Fees

### Argentina

1-3 months	US\$ 1480
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### Brazil

4 Weeks	US\$ 1160
8 Weeks	US\$ 1310
12 Weeks	US\$ 1450

### Costa Rica

4 Weeks	US\$ 1175
8 Weeks	US\$ 1280
12 Weeks	US\$ 1375

### Spain

1-3 months	Apply by March 1: \$1760 Apply after March 1: \$2015
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*\*\*Can\$, Aus\$, Br£, Euros€ can be accepted with an additional service charge for currency conversion.*

## How to Apply

1. Obtain the Teach Abroad **Application Forms & Procedures** documents in one of two ways:
  - (a) Download the forms from our website at [www.culturalembrace.com](http://www.culturalembrace.com)
  - (b) Call **Cultural Embrace** at 1-512-469-9089 to have the forms mailed to you in 7-10 days.
2. Read the instructions carefully and complete all forms.
3. Submit your completed application packet to:

**CULTURAL EMBRACE**  
**7201 Bill Hughes Rd.**  
**Austin, TX 78745 USA**

Completed packet should include:

- Program Application
- Signed Teach Program Agreement
- Resume/CV
- Cover Letter explaining why you want to teach abroad
- Proof of high school graduate or equivalent
- Copy of your passport (information page only)
- Three Letters of Recommendations (your referrer can send it directly via post or email)

- Four passport-size photos (with your name printed on each photo)
- One full-length picture
- \$200 non-refundable deposit (credited to your program fee)

We recommend applying with **Cultural Embrace** at least 12-16 weeks before the semester start date. There is no deadline for applications - first come, first serve.

\***Cultural Embrace** requires an expedited application fee for those applying 12 weeks or less before the desired date of departure. Applications received 8-12 weeks prior to desired departure date will be charged \$150. Applications received less than 8 weeks before the desired departure date will be charged \$250.\*

Upon receipt of your application, a **Cultural Embrace** coordinator will contact you for a 20-30 minutes phone interview. Once we accept you in to our program, you will receive an invoice for the remainder of your program fee. In order for us to contact our local partners to start your placement process, we require at least 50% of your program.

## Frequently Asked Questions

1) *Where are the teach placements and can I choose where I will be placed?*

We ask participants to state their preferred country: Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina or Spain. In Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina and Spain, we have families across the country, that are looking for English teachers. Participants are encouraged to express their preferred destination to **Cultural Embrace**, but placements are made based on availability of families, the qualifications of the teacher, and the time of year.

2) *Where will I live?*

In Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina and Spain, you will live with a local family. Room and all meals will be provided to you in exchange for your teaching services.

3) *Do I get paid for my time abroad?*

The Language Exchange program is unpaid, however a very cost efficient and affordable way to go abroad, provide a service, integrate with the locals, gain a new perspective, and have fun! If you are interested in the paid opportunities, **Cultural Embrace** offers teach programs for usually semester to academic year commitments. Please just let us know and we will be happy to provide information on these programs.

4) *How long can participate in the Language Exchange program?*

The Language Exchange program is available from 1-3 months. If you are interested in a placement longer than three months, please contact **Cultural Embrace** and we will be happy to let you know about availability for these programs.

5) *What type of visa assistance does **Cultural Embrace** provide?*

Since these placements are for a maximum of 3 months, and unpaid, you may go abroad on this program on a tourist visa. Please note that while we will assist you during the visa process, it is ultimately your responsibility to ensure that you have obtained the appropriate visa for your work

experience. For Americans, Brazil is the only country in which you will need to obtain a special visa for this program, for other nationalities, please check with your local embassy or consulate about visa regulations. **Cultural Embrace** has no control over the visa process and cannot guarantee that your visa application will be accepted.

6) *What are the language requirements?*

Spanish/ Portuguese language skills are helpful but not required. If you wish to take language lessons before or during your teach placement, please just contact a **Cultural Embrace** representative.

7) *Can I teach and/or live with a friend or partner?*

Yes, you can enroll in this program with other people, and we encourage it since it will enhance your experience and memories. Additionally, you will receive a discount for referring friends and family to join you on the same or other CE programs. Although you may state your preferences for shared housing, you will need to be flexible and respectful of local customs.

8) *How long will it take to make my placement?*

We ask applicants to apply at least 12-16 weeks in advanced of your desired start date. The placement may take less time than this, but we want to ensure that we have enough time to find a great placement for you! There are additional administrative fees if you apply less than 12 weeks in advanced, and we do not contact our local partners until we receive at least 50% of the program fee payment.

9) *When should I buy my plane ticket and does **Cultural Embrace** provide any resources to help with plane tickets?*

Plane tickets should not be purchased until after your placement has been confirmed. **Cultural Embrace** works with consolidators and discount travel agencies that can help find cheaper tickets than those that are available to the general public.

10) *What do I do if I have a problem or complaint with my teach placement?*

You must speak to your employer or school director to give them an opportunity to explain or investigate the situation. If the complaint still exists, then please contact your local representative, as well as let **Cultural Embrace** (Austin office) know so we can mediate on your behalf. Please note that you will be assigned a local representative that will provide you with placement report(s) and end of the program evaluation.

11) *Why should I pay to go abroad, and where does my money go to **Cultural Embrace**?*

**Cultural Embrace** and our local partners in your host country specialize in arranging a guaranteed language exchange placement, selecting and screening the host families to provide housing and meals prior to your departure. This will alleviate the troubles and stress of getting everything organized in a new country, so you will have more time and energy to enjoy your time abroad.

Your program fee includes a pre-arranged placement with a local host family, accommodations, all meals, and all of the administrative and logistical costs to set up your placement in the States and your host country. **Cultural Embrace** also pro-rates the expenses for marketing, advertising, and site visits/communication among all of our programs within our fees.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [teach@culturalembrace.com](mailto:teach@culturalembrace.com)  
or you can call us at 1-512-469-9089 or 1-888-214-8570 (US/Canada toll-free).

*Discover the Similarities. . .*  
*Share the Differences. . .*

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