

Living Like a Local!



**We have just launched
our 26-27 campaign!**

(Pages 10-12)



**Tips, vocab, and even
apps to live like a local!**

(Pages 6-7)



**First month stress? Here
are 4 tips to fight it!**

(Pages 14-15)



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Y

ou made it.

You're living in Spain.

Living here, though, isn't just about your school or apartment, it's about the little things that make a place feel like home. The café you visit every morning, the side streets you discover, the friendly nods from neighbors... these are the moments that turn a city into your city.

This month, we invite you to step off the well-trodden path: try that local bakery, join in a festival, pick up a few words in the regional dialect. It's via these small adventures that Spain truly becomes part of your life, and you become part of it.

Every street, every corner, and every local interaction adds a new layer to your story. These will stay with you long after your time here ends.

Here's to noticing the details, embracing them, and living like a local!

¡A por ello!

Tomás

CEO, Multilingual Education Development & Support



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Events *by Remy*

01



Festivities. All Saints' Day, National Holiday

07-09



Festivities. La Fiesta del Orujo, Potes

07-09



Sport. Spanish Padel Cup, Barcelona

07-15



Culture. European Film Festival, Sevilla

08



Music. Radiohead, Madrid

09



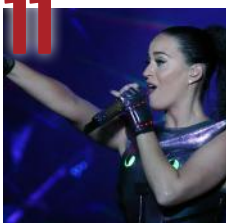
Sport. Behobia BSS Race, San Sebastián

11



Festivities. Fiesta de San Martín, Moreda

11



Music. Katy Perry, Madrid

14



Music. OneRepublic, Madrid

16



Sport. Maresme 1/2 Marathon, P. de Mar

22



Sport. Osasuna vs. Real Sociedad, Pamplona

27



Music. Marilyn Manson, Barcelona

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 ●
2	3	4	5	6	7 ●	8 ●
9 ●	10	11 ●	12	13	14 ●	15
16 ●	17	18	19	20	21	22 ●
23/30	24	25	26	27 ●	28	29

Fiesta del Orujo

If you're looking for something truly local, head north.

In a little mountain town called Potes, they celebrate something that feels 100% Spanish: *La Fiesta del Orujo*.

It's not fancy, but it's real! For one weekend in November, the cobbled streets of Potes are full of life. You'll hear traditional folk music, see people in colorful costumes, and smell the food stands at every corner.



And the setting makes it even better. Potes is in the heart of the Picos de Europa, surrounded by mountains. It gets cold in November, so bring a jacket, but honestly, with the atmosphere, the music, and maybe a sip (or two) of *orujo*, you'll warm up in no time.

This is what I mean when I say, "live like a local."

Forget the big cities for a moment and head for Potes. That's the magic of small Spanish towns: once you arrive, you belong.

The star of the show is, of course, *orujo*, a strong spirit made from grapes that locals have been distilling for generations. During the festival, you can actually watch the distillation process in the street. It's not only about drinking; you'll also find local cheeses (*quesucos* from Liébana), mountain honey, stews, and plenty of traditional food.

What I love about it is that it's not a show for tourists. It's for families, groups of friends, and old neighbors who see each other once a year... and if you join in, you'll feel like a part of it right away. People will offer you a glass, tell you which stand has the best *chorizo*, or invite you to listen to a local band.



Live Like a Local

At first, I was amazed how many sayings Spanish and English have in common. Think: *Más vale tarde que nunca*, which translates directly as: Better late than never.



There are also some wild and wonderful sayings that made (and still make) my mind boggle! Here are a few with their literal meaning and English equivalent. Cover the right-hand column to see if you can guess the meaning!

Spanish saying	Literal translation	Actual meaning
<i>Me importa un pepino</i>	It matters to me a cucumber	I don't care at all
<i>Ser pan comido</i>	To be bread eaten	A piece of cake
<i>Estar como una cabra</i>	To be like a goat	To be a little crazy
<i>No tener pelos en la lengua</i>	To not have hairs on your tongue	To be very direct / blunt when speaking
<i>Se me fue el santo al cielo</i>	The saint went to heaven on me	I forgot what I was going to say
<i>Estar en la luna</i>	To be on the moon	To be distracted or daydreaming
<i>Dar calabazas a alguien</i>	To give pumpkins to someone	To stand someone up
<i>Tirar la casa por la ventana</i>	To throw the house out of the window	To spare no expense / go all out

Essential apps that all locals use in Spain:



Idealista
House-hunting



Bizum
Payment Service



Wallapop
Buy and Sell



WhatsApp
Messaging



BlaBlaCar
Car-sharing

Step-by-Step: Finding Your Way

To really live like a local, you need to know your way around the *barrio*! What better way to learn about the place you're calling home for the next few months than by asking the people who live there: your students!

Activities for finding your way:
asking for/understanding directions,
describing your town.

Grammar focus: forming questions,
giving instructions, making comparisons,
prepositions of place.

Vocabulary: official buildings,
places in the city, roadways,
directions, daily routines.

Types of activities: gap-fill, role-
play, blindfold obstacle course,
treasure hunt, problem-solving.

Project: Welcome to the neighborhood!

Create a 3D map using recycled materials, modeling clay, or small toys to represent the area where your students live. You can also encourage them to use their imagination and invent their own town.

- Each group makes its own model and presents its neighborhood to the whole class.
- Students compare the different *barrios* in pairs and ask each other for directions around town.
- Follow-up: Create a tourist guide for your neighborhood by making a video or designing a leaflet.
- Challenges: Find the fastest route between two points or plan a walking tour for visitors.





Recipes by Nûpelda

Crema de Calabaza: Comfort in a Bowl

You've made it through your first month as an *auxi* in Spain! You've corrected "eeeees-tudent" and "eeeees-chool" while trying not to smile. You've navigated lesson plans, decoded your school schedule, and are slowly mastering the mysterious ways of your *piso* kitchen. That's no small feat; you're doing amazing.

With spooky season behind us, pumpkins are on special offer. That's your cue to channel your inner *abuela* and whip up a cozy bowl of *crema de calabaza*: creamy, dreamy, and ridiculously comforting.

Grab that bargain pumpkin, throw on your coziest socks, and let's soup.

Ingredients (serves 2-3)

- $\frac{1}{2}$ medium pumpkin or 500g, peeled and chopped
- 1 medium potato
- 1 medium carrot
- 1 small onion
- 1 garlic clove
- 2-3 tbsp olive oil
- 500 ml vegetable or chicken broth (or water + stock cube)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Optional toppings: croutons, pumpkin seeds, crispy jamón, drizzle of cream

How To Work Your Magic:

- 01** Chop pumpkin, potato, carrot, and onion into even chunks.
- 02** Heat olive oil; sauté onion and garlic until soft and fragrant.
- 03** Add pumpkin, potato, carrot; stir for 2–3 minutes.
- 04** Pour broth over the veggies; bring to a boil, then simmer for 20 minutes.
- 05** Blend soup until smooth.
- 06** Season with salt and pepper; drizzle olive oil, add your toppings, and enjoy.

Simple Tricks for Big Flavors:

No blender?

Mash the soup with a fork or potato masher. Rustic and still delicious!

On a tight budget?

Skip the broth and use water instead—it still tastes great!

Want a Spanish twist?

Add a pinch of *pimentón* (smoked paprika), nutmeg, or cumin for extra flavor.

Shopping smart?

Ask your local *frutería* to cut you the right-sized pumpkin chunk: great for practicing Spanish and avoiding pumpkin overload.

Crema de calabaza isn't just a seasonal staple; it's a small way to feel at home in a new place. It warms you up on a chilly day, fills your *piso* with cozy smells, and reminds you that comfort can come from the simplest ingredients. And when you make it yourself in your tiny kitchen, with your slightly dull knives, immersed in your new Spanish life, it becomes something more. It may not be fancy, but it's yours, and that makes it worth remembering. Here's to finding your rhythm, one bowl at a time.



Interview *by Ainhoa*



Expecting an interview? Not today! We have some big news we wanted to share with you... we have just launched our 26-27 campaign!

So, if you want to be featured in an interview next year, make sure to read the information below and apply! And, if you are an *auxi* this year (and are already loving it), how about you share this information with your friends? Sharing is caring!

What is this about, though? It's about going from planning lessons to planning trips. You know the place. You've seen the pics. Now, it's time to picture what it'll look like and say yes to the ad-dress!

requirements

- Native-level English
- A university degree (or two years into one)
- A clean background check
- Ages up to 59 (by Jan 1st, 2027)
- Valid passport (at least) until Oct/Nov 2027

our services

- Bilingual Personal Advisor
- Step-by-step guidance with documentation
- Webinars & Live Sessions
- Social Media Groups, Mentors, and discounted Spanish lessons
- In-person Induction Meeting

Sounds like you? With ConversaSpain, you can choose between two of the most beautiful regions in Spain, teach 15-16 hours a week (4-day week!), and earn enough to make a living.

Want to know a bit more about our regions, Madrid and Murcia, and the conditions for each one? Keep reading!



Madrid isn't just a city... it's a whole world packed into one region. You've got works of art in the Prado (including yourself), football that feels like religion, and *tapas* that somehow taste better at midnight. Step outside the city and you'll find mountains, rivers, and towns that look like they forgot what century it is, in the best possible way. Trains and buses make it easy to get around, whether you're chasing sunsets or *churros*. And when you're ready to go further, Barajas airport is your gateway to the rest of Spain... and beyond!

conditions

- 16 teaching hours a week
- 4 consecutive days a week (3-day weekends!)
- €1,000 tax-free monthly stipend
- Guaranteed placement in the Community of Madrid
- Health coverage included!

This could be the year you'll always remember.

More info

Apply now



Murcia is giving... sunshine, sea, and easy living. Days begin with coffee and end with views of the Mediterranean. The coast goes on and on, with quiet beaches, small towns, and beach bars serving cold drinks and fresh fish. In the city, life moves at a friendly pace. The food is full of flavor, and the people are quick to smile. You don't need much to settle in: just a pair of flip-flops and a dash of curiosity.

conditions

- 15 teaching hours a week
- 4-day weeks (3 days off!)
- €857 tax-free monthly stipend
- Guaranteed placement in the Region of Murcia
- Health coverage included!

This could be the year you'll always remember

More info

Apply now



Did you know...?
There are 3 official languages in Spain, besides Spanish

Being a local means very different things in different parts of Spain. **Català** (Catalan), **Galego** (Galician), and **Euskara** (Basque) are all recognized in their respective regions.

If you visit those places and want to **start living like a local**, try greeting people in the regional language. Here is how you say “hello”, “goodbye”, and “thank you” in each:

- **Catalan:** Hola, Adéu, Gràcies
- **Galician:** Ola, Adeus, Grazas
- **Basque:** Kaixo, Agur, Eskerrik asko

Paying attention to these small details shows you’re curious, respectful, and ready to **immerse yourself!**

Activities for Your First Days at School (Part 2):

Last month, we shared [four activities](#) to help your students calm down before the beginning of the lesson. It seems like four were not enough, and we are back for round two. These are for everyone: no matter if you are getting settled or you just arrived.

These activities are designed to help students feel more centered and relaxed, while also fostering a sense of belonging, for both you and your students! Give them a try, and you'll see they will also help you ease into the rhythm and energy of your new environment.

Mindful Listening Bell

Transition quietly and regain attention | 1-2 min. | All ages

Use a soft bell, chime app, or clap your hands.

Ask students to close their eyes or sit quietly.

Ring the bell and say: "Listen closely. When you no longer hear the sound, gently raise your hand."

What Do You Notice?

Build observation skills and presence | 3-5 min. | Primary to early secondary

Ask students to sit or stand quietly and look around the room.

Say: "Look for something you've never noticed before. What colors, shapes, or details do you see?"

After 1 minute, students can **share** one thing they noticed (in English).





Tree Pose Challenge

Boost balance, focus, and self-regulation | 2-3 min. | All ages

Show students how to stand tall like a tree: one foot on the ground, the other on their ankle or shin.

Hands can go to the heart or above the head like branches.

Ask, “Can you stay still like a tree for 10 seconds? Can we do it with eyes closed?”

Mindful Object Pass

Build focus, teamwork, and calm energy | 3-5 min. | Primary to secondary

Have students **sit** in a circle. Use a small, soft object (stuffed animal, ball, etc.).

Have them **pass** this object around the circle, very slowly and silently, using both hands and with their eyes closed.

Ask students to focus on their hands, their breath, and being gentle.

Final Tip: Keep It Simple and Consistent

Just a brief pause each day (a moment to breathe, stretch, or refocus) can gently shift the mood in the classroom.

Stick with one activity for a few days in a row. Children thrive on repetition, so doing something familiar builds their sense of comfort and confidence.

This short routine can ease tension, support emotional balance, and help you and your students feel more grounded as you all settle into the flow of this academic year.

02

Where would you do your grocery shopping?

- A) Zara Home
- B) *Una copistería*
- C) Mercadona

03

When are grocery stores closed?

- A) Sundays
- B) Monday evenings
- C) Whenever they want

01

How would you ask for the check at a restaurant?

- A) *¿Me cobras, porfa?*
- B) *¡El cuente, por favor!*
- C) *Dinero*, please.

04

Why do things typically close from 3-5 pm?

- A) *Siesta*, baby!
- B) They close?
- C) Small shopowners need to walk their dogs

06

What's the biggest meal of the day?

- A) Breakfast
- B) Lunch
- C) Dinner

05

What's the most common coffee order?

- A) Iced frappuccino
- B) *Un latte alto*
- C) *Café con leche*

Answers

Are You a Local Yet?
(1) A, (2) C, (3) A, (4) A, (5) C, (6) B

Follow the Path

Favorite Tapa Edition

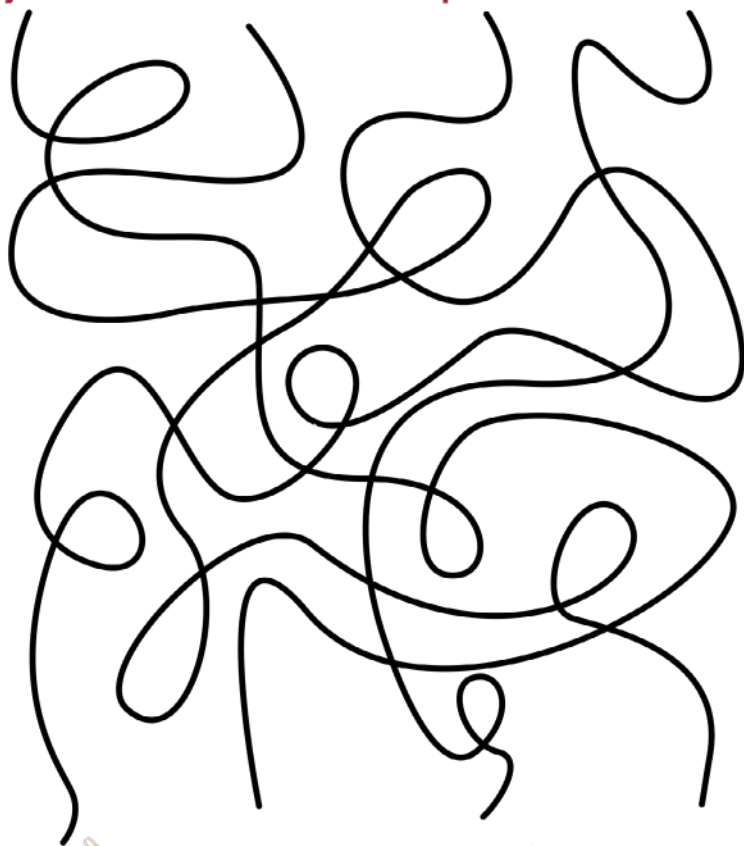
Now that you're living like a local, which is your favorite tapa?

**Croquetas
de jamón**

**Calamares
fritos**

**Tortilla de
patatas**

**Pimientos de
Padrón**





Would You Rather...



Bar OR Rooftop

Pueblo OR City



Local market OR Mercadona

Terraza OR Picnic in the park



Vermú OR Happy hour



Walk OR Public transport

Café con leche OR Matcha latte



Museum tour OR Walking tour

Fútbol at a bar OR Fútbol at the stadium

Concert hall OR Open air festival



80% Local
20% "Even Spaniards
visit tourist sites, right?"

60% Local
40% "I'm here for
the Instagram pics"

Partners

Spanish Regional Education Authorities



Región de Murcia
Consejería de Educación
y Universidades



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CONSEJERÍA DE EDUCACIÓN
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