

The 24-25 academic year is coming to an end and our auxis are getting ready to say their goodbyes



Evan Hernández lived in Murcia like a local until she became one.
(Page 10-12)



Games for your last days at school!
(Page 7)



Don't leave Spain without visiting these northern **hotspots**.
(Page 5)



Last month we said *hola*, today we are saying *adiós*

As June draws closer, so does one of the hardest parts of this experience: saying goodbye.

To the towns and cities you've called home.
To what once felt foreign and now feels yours.
To the people who started out as strangers and became your family.

Thank you for showing up, for embracing the highs, the lows, and crazy Spanish paperwork. For making your mark in the classroom and for being part of this community.

Some of you are off to new places. Some might even be back for round two. And others are just getting ready to begin. That's the magic of this program... there's always someone arriving just as someone else is saying goodbye.

Here's to everything you've learned, lived, and loved in Spain. And here's to wherever you're headed next. Spain will forever be a part of your story now.

¡Nos vemos en el camino!

Tomás
CEO, Multilingual Education Development & Support



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Events *by Remy*

01



Sport.
Spanish GP in Montmeló

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Festivities.
Feria del libro in Madrid

04-08



Music.
Primavera Sound

07



Sport. Copa de la Reina
final in Huesca

09



Music.
Guns and Roses

12-15



Festivities.
Arde Lucus in Lugo

14-15



Music.
Billie Eilish

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Music.
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23



Festivities.
Hogueras de San Juan

25



Music.
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28



Music.
Imagine Dragons

29

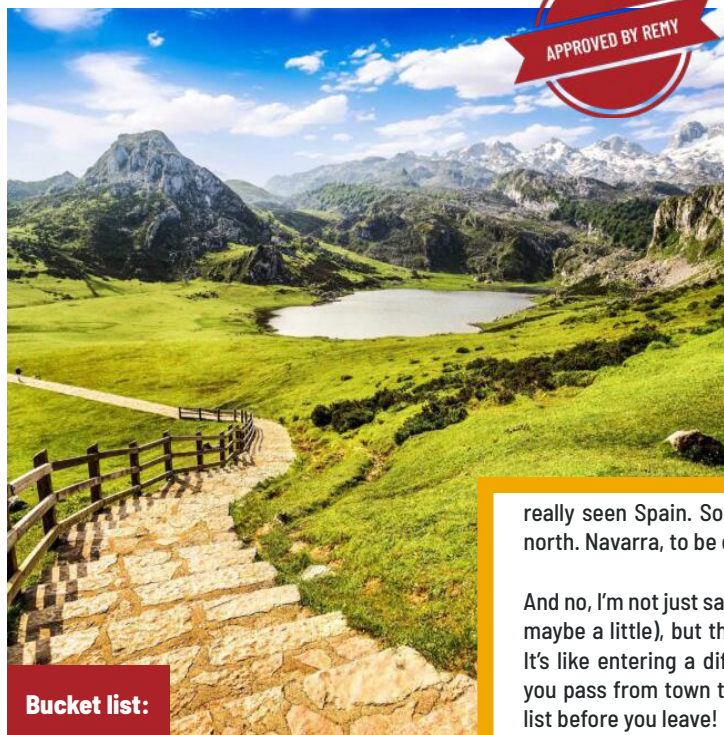


Festivities.
Batalla del Vino in Haro

June

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	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

North of Spain



Don't leave Spain without ticking this off your list (trust me, I'm a northern girl).

You've been to Madrid. You've gazed at the Sagrada Familia. You've done the whole tapas-and-sun thing in the south. Love that for you.

But let me be very clear: if you haven't been to the north, you haven't

really seen Spain. Sorry not sorry, I'm from the north. Navarra, to be exact.

And no, I'm not just saying this to hype it up (well, maybe a little), but the north is something else. It's like entering a different country every time you pass from town to town. Here's your bucket list before you leave!

Bucket list:

➤ **Lagos de Covadonga.** No words. Perfect walk. Amazing views. Pure nature!

Cangas de Onís. Cross the old bridge and... you're in a postcard!

Santillana del Mar. Not holy (santa), not flat (llana), no sea (mar), but magical.

San Sebastián. Gorgeous city, with the best pintxos you've ever tasted.

Hondarribia. Small, colorful seaside town. Maritime vibe guaranteed.

Cuevas de Altamira. Prehistoric art. A real must-see, if you're in the area.

San Juan de Gaztelugatxe. Yeah, it's Dragonstone from Game of Thrones.

Santiago de Compostela. Even if you don't walk the Camino, just go.

Playa de las Catedrales. Go when the tide is low and walk under the arches.

Bardenas Reales. Because Navarra can do desert too. Sometimes I swear I hear Dothrakis there.

If you want a comprehensive guide... Rent a car and take a look at [this itinerary](#). ➡



Teach & Learn by Kit



Even though you might be on the brink of leaving Spain, **don't forget to keep up your Spanish and practice everything you've learned.**

Back in your home country, try to watch Spanish shows and movies in the original version (subtitles ON, if necessary). You could even pick up a short novel, magazines or comic books to take home with you. Every little counts!

Saying

Lo bueno, si breve, dos veces bueno

With your farewells in mind, here's a saying you might try and slip into conversation at a leaving party.

Literal meaning: *If something good is brief, it's twice as good*

Actual meaning: It was short but sweet!

BYE
BYE



Journey/jornada

Warning! Both can be long with various hurdles along the way... your *jornada* refers to your day, particularly your workday (*jornada laboral*) and not your trip home!

False friend

Tongue twister

Hoy ya es ayer y ayer ya es hoy, ya llegó el día y hoy es hoy.

When the big day finally comes around.

Can you work out what it means?



Games Day

Whether you've got students stressed out by exams or burnt out at the end of the school year, it's time to round off your time at school with a few games including the following components:



A physical element:
running, jumping, dancing

Keep it silly, you all need a
good laugh

Using vocabulary or topics
you've worked on this year

Rewards/Awards

Activity



Here are a few ideas:

Idea 1

Egg and spoon race or three-legged races, hopping, skipping and jumping to deliver their answers.

Idea 2

A quiz on your home country. Can they remember any facts you've mentioned during your classes?

Idea 3

Group contests, gameshow style: pressing a buzzer in a group, putting your hand up or dashing to the front of the class to grab the right answer.

Idea 4

Student most likely to.../Student awards (you can even get crafty and make medals!). Include everybody, stay nice and fun and don't be afraid to get silly. e.g. Student most likely to...

- Make the most noise
- Put their hand up
- Forget your name



Recipe by Nûpelda

How to Throw a *Merendola*: Spain's Tastiest Goodbye

In Spain, goodbyes are often accompanied by snacks, because, as you'll surely have realized by now, **food is Spain's love language**.

Whether it's your last day at school, your birthday, or "just because", there's nothing like a good *merendola* (a snack feast) to celebrate the occasion. It may sound unusual if it's the other way around where you come from, however **it's traditional in Spain for the person celebrating to throw the party and bring the goods**.

Since our *auxiliares* are about to bid their schools farewell, here is a **mini guide on how to throw a great *merendola***. No cooking required, just a shopping list, a little love, and maybe a plastic knife or two.



Ingredients

- Chips (ham, ready salted...)
- Pastries (*napolitanas*, *palmeras*...)
- Olives (better without pits)
- Cheese and/or cold cuts (*chorizo*, *salchichón*...)
- *Tortilla de patata*
- Candy (*chuches*)
- A loaf of bread or *regañas* (crunchy crackers)
- Juices, sodas, or even *batidos* (milk shakes)
- Napkins, plastic cups, plates...

Method

01 Make your list:

Make sure you don't forget anything by drawing up a quick checklist the night before:

drinks, sweet and savory snacks, napkins, cups, plates...

03 Set the scene:

Once you're there, lay it all out: chips in bowls, olives with a plate for the pits, drinks ready to pour.

Presentation matters, a *merendola* is 80% snacks, 20% how it looks.

05 Snack, chat, repeat:

Enjoy it! These little moments hit differently, especially when it's a goodbye. So, take it all in, steal the last *patatas*, and soak up all the love (and crumbs).

02 Think of everyone:

Grab a little something for your gluten-free, lactose-intolerant or veggie friends. It doesn't have to be fancy—just a thoughtful detail to include everyone. A pack of rice cakes or some hummus can go a long way!

04 Slice and prep:

If you're bringing *fuet*, cake, or anything that needs slicing, do it before the chaos starts. Bring a knife (be careful with it), a few forks, and don't forget to open that stubborn pack of cookies in advance.

06 Leave it better than you found it:

When it's all done, clean up like the pro you are. Toss the trash, wipe the table, and if there are leftovers, you can save them for someone who couldn't make it or bring them home for round two.

And that's it! You're officially ready to host your own *merendola*. It doesn't have to be perfect, remember it's not just about the food and it's the action that counts. It may be a simple gesture, but it shows appreciation, rounds off the year on a good note, and gives everyone a moment to pause and enjoy before saying goodbye.



Interview by Ainhoa

EVAN HERNÁNDEZ

Age: 23 years old

Role:

From: United States

Auxiliar from
2024-2025 in two
primary schools

Region
of Spain: Auxiliar in the region
of Murcia



“

**We made friends, got involved with music,
and really found our rhythm here”**

It's wild how fast a year can fly. Not long ago, Evan was prepping for her move, wondering what life, and teaching, would be like in Spain. Now, she's wrapping up her experience with a suitcase full of memories and a violin that's been heard all around Murcia.

From first-day nerves to performing at local festivals and even on TV, Evan's journey is proof that this program can take you places you never expected (literally and figuratively).

We sat down with her to look back on what this year meant to her.

So, let's rewind a bit. When you think back to before moving to Spain... what was running through your head?

I was most nervous about getting all my paperwork sorted and having enough money. The process of preparing everything can be stressful, but the ConversaSpain timeline along with the WhatsApp group for *auxiliares* made it all feel more manageable. At the same time, I was excited to start fresh in a new place, meet new people, and begin this adventure with my partner, Alex.

**Now that you've been here nearly a year,
what do you think “Day-One Evan”
would say if they could see you now?**

I think I'd be very, very surprised that I got to be part of so many orchestras! I'd also be proud of how much all of us (me, my roommates, my friends) have grown. And honestly, I'd be thrilled at all the connections I've made here.

**That's amazing. And throughout that
journey, what's something you've
learned about yourself?**

That language learning is possible! It's slow, for sure, but steady. I've tried and given up on Spanish so many times over the past decade but being immersed in it and having people around to practice with really helps. My Spanish still has a long way to go, but being able to get by in situations where it's needed has done a lot to boost my language-learning confidence!



You've definitely been busy this year! Not just with teaching, but also with music! What was it like stepping into classrooms and orchestras at the same time?

On the teaching side, I've had the chance to work with some brilliant teachers and students. I joined field trips, got into Halloween activities (with horror movie sound effects on violin!), and even shared pieces of life back home with my classes. Some days were better than others, of course, but I've made amazing connections with some of the teachers I work with that have helped me tremendously to learn about and participate around Murcia.

And musically... I've been so lucky. A lot of credit goes to Alex. He's an organist, fluent in Spanish, and helped me connect with the classical music scene here. I thought I'd just look for audition announcements online, but music really is about being available when people need you and building relationships.

So that's how things like TV appearances and orchestra concerts happen?

Pretty much! Through Alex's connections, I got involved with Coral Discantus and the Joven Orquesta UCAM. We recently did a double quartet and choir performance for the Murcia 2025 Awards Ceremony... it was broadcast live on La 7! I'm also part of Movimiento Sinfónico, which connected me with the University Orchestra of Almería. I'm really grateful to be this involved musically in southern Spain.



That's so special. Being immersed in the local scene like that... how does it feel?

Incredibly fulfilling. Especially because I'm still learning the language, music has become a way for me to communicate and connect without needing words. I studied violin back in university under an amazing professor, and now I get to keep doing what I love, just in a completely new environment. It's a reminder of what a privilege that is.

At what point did it start feeling like you were actually *living* here, not just passing through?

When my sister Mallory came to visit. That was a turning point. We showed her our favorite spots, introduced her to our friends, explained local holidays and traditions... It made me realize we had a life here. And now she even carries little bits of Murcia back with her at home.

Love that. What made you feel like you *belonged* here?

Getting invited to play in more orchestras, being thought of for events, weekend plans, food recs... all of that. There's this sense of pride—when people here invite you to share something they're proud of, you get to feel proud of it too. And I think anyone would start to feel like they belong in a community that welcomes them like that.



And sharing all this with Alex, how has that shaped your year?

He's been my rock. There were times I felt super frustrated, like when my Spanish wasn't progressing, or I went months without any violin opportunities. Having him there, my best friend, made a huge difference. When we were too sick to make that Miami visa trip, we took turns driving. When I was stuck with classroom ideas, he always had suggestions. It's the little things: support during rough days, encouragement for big events... Plus, living with amazing people like Noemi and Brennan made it even easier to feel at home here.

It sounds like this year had its fair share of fears too.

Oh, for sure. The soundtrack of my year? It started off sounding like scraping metal: chaotic and scary. We were supposed to start grad school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, but chose this instead. Getting our visas in Florida was rough, 6-hour drives, twice! There was always this "what if" voice: What if it didn't work out? What if we couldn't stay? What if we ran out of money? Those fears didn't completely go away, but we found so many beautiful moments along the way. We made friends, got involved with music, and really found our rhythm here.

So, would you do it all over again?

In a heartbeat.

And if someone's just about to start this journey, what would you tell them?

Save some money, and don't blow it all right away! Payments can be slow at first, so you need a buffer. But

“
*Be open. Be brave.
Do the things that scare you.*”

once everything's sorted, that first big check feels *amazing*.

And above all, be open, be brave. Do the things that scare you. I've had plenty of moments where I wanted to run away from something intimidating. But it gets easier each time. Try to meet someone new or do something that'll make life here a little smoother. Take classes, get a library card, go to local festivals, keep up with your hobbies, even if you don't speak Spanish yet. And travel, even if it's solo. There's so much waiting for you on the other side of those fears.





Did you know...

"goodbye"
used to
mean "God
be with you"



The word "goodbye" first popped up in the 16th century as a shortened version of "God be with ye." Back then, farewells weren't just quick waves, they were blessings, little wishes of safety and care, especially when someone was setting off on a long journey.

Over time, that meaningful phrase got trimmed down into the "bye" we toss out these days, often without thinking. Deep down, every goodbye still holds that same quiet hope: that you'll be okay, that paths will cross again, that something good awaits you. So next time you say it, maybe let it mean a little more and just know there's still a bit of that old blessing in there.

Mindfulness *by Sara*

The mindful memory walk

June might mean you're packing up soon, but before you do, take one last walk. But slower this time. No headphones, no phone calls, no need to rush anywhere.

How to Do It:

Pick a place that mattered

Your walk to the bus, the park bench you always passed, the place with the pastries you love. Walk through it like it's the last scene of a movie, because it kind of is.

Walk in silence

As you go, notice what you usually ignore. That one dog. The same smell from that same bakery. The wind in your hair. Someone walking by you.

Name the memories

Let the memories show up without forcing them. You'll think of something random like, "Oh, this is where I lost my umbrella and just stood in the rain," and somehow that'll stick more than anything else.

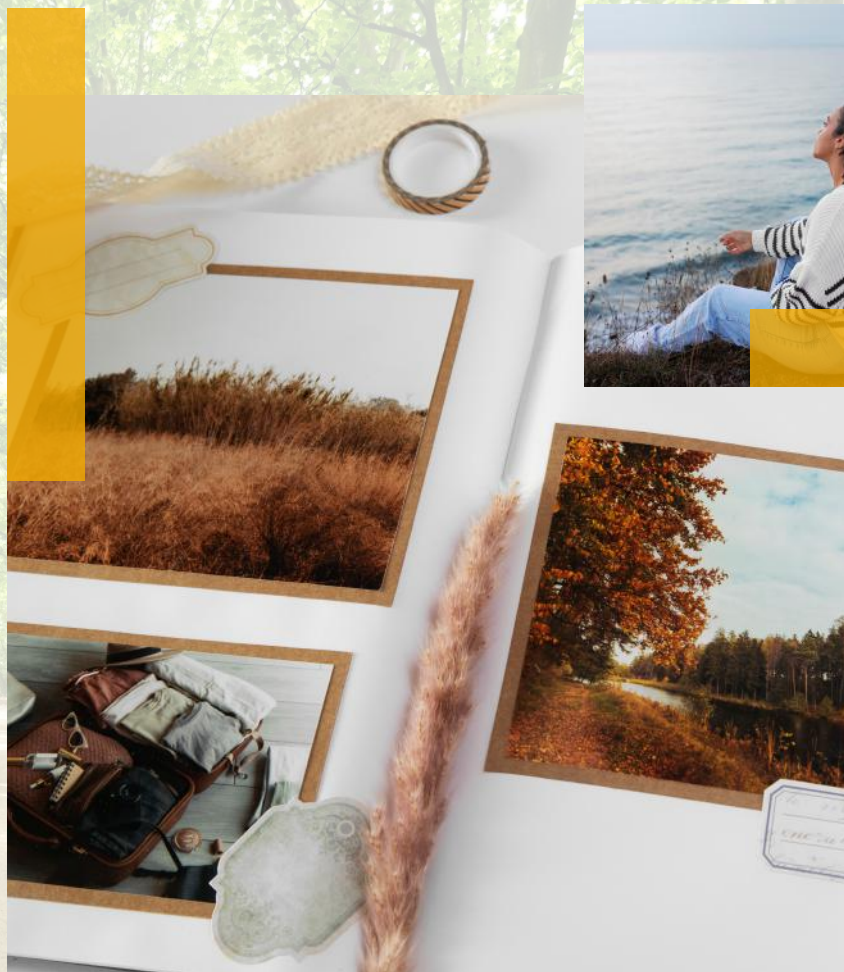
Say thanks

This part is a little weird, a little magical. Say a silent thank you to the place. You shared life together. You can just nod at the park, lake, tree... like, "Yep, we've been through stuff."

Take one last photo

If it feels right, take a photo. Just for you.





Bonus:

Start a little photo album of the places you've said goodbye to over time, **proof of all the lives you've lived**. From sunlit balconies, quiet cafés, or narrow streets to train stations and doorways you hesitated to walk through one last time.

Let each image hold the weight of a goodbye: not just to a place, but to a version of yourself who once called it home. As you leave Spain behind, gather these fragments gently. With a few handwritten notes or faded thoughts, this album becomes more than a keepsake: it becomes echoes of the many chapters you've written and closed.

Have you become a real Spaniard?

01

1. What time do people in Spain usually have dinner?

- A) Around 6:00 PM
- B) Around 9:00 PM
- C) Around 7:30 PM

02

Which languages, besides Spanish, are co-official in Spain?

- A) Galician, Basque, Catalan
- B) French, Catalan, Basque
- C) Asturian, Castilian, Catalan

03

When do Spaniards typically celebrate “El Día de los Reyes Magos”?

- A) December 25th
- B) January 6th
- C) February 1st

04

What is a “menú del día”?

- A) A weekly grocery list
- B) A fixed-price lunch menu
- C) A tasting menu at a fancy restaurant

06

What do people traditionally do on New Year's Eve in Spain at midnight?

- A) Kiss under the mistletoe
- B) Eat 12 grapes
- C) Toast with cider

05

What is the name of Spain's high-speed train system?

- A) AVE
- B) TGV
- C) APA

Answers

1. (B) 2. (A) 3. (B) 4. (B) 5. (A) 6. (B)

Word search

C	L	R	I	O	G	Y	O	E	J	Q	R	J	A
C	Q	Y	C	H	U	C	P	R	Y	P	U	P	O
O	G	R	A	C	I	A	S	W	N	T	J	Z	U
G	A	Q	Y	B	C	M	A	L	E	T	A	Q	D
D	F	F	P	D	J	A	M	R	I	T	Y	K	F
Y	G	Z	L	C	Q	A	U	T	H	R	V	R	E
M	E	R	E	N	D	O	L	A	S	A	V	Y	L
C	P	G	Z	E	N	T	Q	B	L	D	A	K	F
H	A	K	V	N	O	R	T	E	Q	I	W	L	V
U	S	V	A	C	T	D	S	V	B	C	J	Z	Z
C	E	M	A	S	B	P	L	M	J	I	R	Z	H
H	O	U	A	D	I	O	S	S	Q	O	J	M	M
E	F	S	Y	M	L	S	C	E	I	N	O	H	Y
S	F	P	I	R	L	S	B	J	W	W	T	T	R

ADIÓS

PASEO

NORTE

MALETA

MERENDOLA

CHUCHES

TRADICIÓN

GRACIAS

What will you miss the most about Spain?

Count how many As, Bs, or Cs you pick and find out what you'll miss most!

01 It's your last weekend in Spain. What are you doing?

- A) One last beach day
- B) A big goodbye dinner
- C) Wander around your neighborhood

02 What's the first thing you pack?

- A) All your summer clothes and sandals
- B) Souvenirs from your students and friends
- C) That one mug from your favorite bar

03 Why did you fall in love with Spain?

- A) The weather, the scenery, the food
- B) The people. You came for the program but stayed for the connections
- C) The everyday rituals. Grocery runs, café stops, walking everywhere...

04 You walk past your school. You...

- A) Snap a cute pic, post it, and keep walking
- B) Get teary remembering how far you've come
- C) Whisper "gracias" like it's a movie moment

05 You hear someone speaking Spanish back home. You...

- A) Turn around and immediately miss overhearing everything
- B) Feel a pang of longing... your people!
- C) Automatically switch into Spanish mode

06 Which of these hits hardest at the airport?

- A) "I'm not going to wake up to sunshine tomorrow."
- B) "I'm not going to see these people for a long time."
- C) "I'm not going to order a 'pincho de tortilla' whenever I want."

07 The last song on your playlist is...

- A) Some flamenco or reggaeton track that makes you feel alive
- B) A song that reminds you of a big trip
- C) A chill indie tune you always listened to on solo walks

08 You write a postcard to your past self before coming to Spain. You say...

- A) "Get ready to fall in love with life again."
- B) "You're about to change forever."
- C) "The little things will matter most."

The answer is...



Most A's
Spain
(weather,
food...).



Most B's
The people.



Most C's
The routine
and lifestyle.

Partners

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