

Key Considerations for Study Abroad

Things to know before you apply & go abroad!

As you consider or prepare for a study abroad experience, International Programs (IP) encourages you to **reflect on how you might navigate potential adjustments in your host country.**

These adjustments may include things like:

- Dietary changes
- Language barriers
- Sensory overload
- Environmental conditions (e.g. high elevation, limited air cooling and heating within buildings)
- Physical demands of excursions

Before applying, think about how your own dietary restrictions or allergies, health conditions, and the overall accessibility and physical expectations of the program may affect your ability to fully participate.

In addition, **program activities should be an important part of your decision-making process.** On each IP program page, the “Excursions & Group Activities” section offers a brief list of planned experiences. While not exhaustive, this list is a helpful starting point for understanding the types of activities you may participate in.

Communal living is a core aspect of most study abroad programs. In most IP programs, this means you’ll share a room and common spaces—such as kitchens or bathrooms—with other students. While a few programs may offer single-room options, shared living arrangements are the standard and are designed to help build community. **It’s important to consider how you adapt to shared spaces and routines in preparation for your experience abroad.**

Taking time to consider these aspects early in the process will help set the stage for a successful and enriching study abroad experience.

If you have accommodation considerations, reach out* to International Programs well in advance by emailing IP-Info@fsu.edu with the subject line “Student Affairs Accommodations and Considerations.”

*Please note that health conditions and disability-related considerations are not factored into application decisions. IP’s priority is to support a safe and positive experience abroad for all students. IP encourages early disclosure so IP staff can work with you to address any needs before your program begins.