

San Rafael

Center Profile



ELS Language Centers
Dominican University of California
190 Palm Avenue (in Pennafort Hall)
San Rafael, California 94901
Telephone: 1(415) 485-3224
Fax: 1(415) 459-7350

Postal Address:
ELS Language Centers
c/o Dominican University of California
50 Acacia Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901-8008

Center Hours
 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (Monday – Friday)
 Closed on weekends and holidays

Key Location Features

- Private University campus location (suburban)
- Complete Prep Program for TOEFL® iBT location
- Only 18Km North of Golden Gate Bridge
- Summer on-campus dormitory housing; year-round off-campus Student Home housing or homestay accommodations
- Free access to many campus recreational facilities
- Credit for ELS completion available at DUC for qualified students
- Concurrent Enrollment available at DUC for qualified students
- TOEFL® iBT testing center

Area Attractions

- San Francisco, Berkeley, Sausalito, Tiburon
- Napa & Sonoma Wine Country
- Parks & Beaches: Yosemite National Park, Muir Woods, Stinson Beach or Pt. Reyes Seashore

Climate

Northern California has a very temperate climate. In the spring, summer and fall, most days are warm, sunny and cloudless. Morning and evenings can be cool. It does not snow in the area.

Average Temperatures (Celsius)

	Minimum	Maximum
Winter	6	14
Spring	8	21
Summer	16	27
Autumn	10	24

Host University Information

Visit www.dominican.edu or ELS University directory at www.usauniversityguide.org to learn more about Dominican University of CA degree programs.

Surrounding Area Information

Average travel time (in minutes) from ELS Center:

Housing Options	Minutes	Method
Summer Campus Dorm:	2	By foot
San Rafael Student Home:	5	By shuttle
Homestays:	20 to 40	By bus, foot or bicycle

Local Places

Airport:	45	By bus
Bank:	20	By foot
Downtown San Rafael:	20	By foot
Post Office:	25	By foot
Restaurant(s):	20	By foot
Shopping Mall:	5	By bus
Sports Center:	5	By foot
Supermarket:	15	By foot
Bus Stop/Subway:	5	By foot

Nearby City

San Francisco	35 to 45	By bus or ferry
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Local Transportation

San Rafael is Marin County's transportation "hub" so students can walk 15 minutes from the campus to a large bus terminal, or take a bus directly from the campus. Local bus service costs \$2 per ride. Bus round trip fare to San Francisco is \$8.70. Buses also connect with new high-speed ferries that cross to downtown San Francisco (approximately \$13.50 round trip). Students can also take buses to go to many of Marin County's famous towns like Sausalito and Tiburon (\$4.00 round trip). They often also take taxis together.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted in the ELS Center or Student Home, but students may easily go outdoors to smoke.

Housing Check-in and Departure

Students with confirmed ELS housing reservations should go directly to their assigned housing upon arrival (not to the ELS Center) on the Sunday before their course begins. Checkout is Saturday after the program ends. Arrivals and departures on dates/times other than those listed require special approval.

Please see “Check-in” instructions in the following sections for exact arrival details and times.

Summer Only On Campus Dorm

Available beginning of June to end of July.

Rooms: Doubles (2 person)

Shared on campus dorm rooms. Shared suite-style bathrooms (with 1 other room). Rooms include beds, dressers and/or closets, desks, chairs, telephones, high-speed internet access and cable TV access. Linens are also included.

Meals Included: 19 per wk (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Age Minimum: 14+ years old

Check-in/Checkout: See “Arrival Instructions” sheet in acceptance package for full check-in details.

San Rafael Student Home

San Rafael Student Home

179 Los Ranchitos Road

San Rafael, CA 94903

See also www.sunrisehomesinternational.com

Rooms (standard option): Doubles (2 person)

Shared rooms in nearby furnished student residence. Shared bathrooms, some in hallway, some private. Separate male and female sections. Rooms contain beds, desks (with highspeed internet access), chairs and closets. Facility offers 2 furnished living rooms (with cable TV/DVD/Video center), large kitchen, recreation room, and local telephone service. Daily shuttle service to ELS. Linens are also included.

Rooms (other): Triples (3 person); Single (1 per.)

Triple, or single rooms may be available at a different price upon special request, or space availability.

Meals Included: None – Students have the option (at extra cost) of eating in the campus cafeteria, walking to the Northgate Mall food court, or preparing their own meals in the large and fully equipped kitchen.

Age Minimum: 17+ years old

Laundry Facilities: Self-service machines (small fee).

Security/Resident Assistant: There are separate male and female sections in the student home. All rooms have separate locks. There is an on-site student “Resident Assistant” to help students, and a 24-hour management Help Line.

Check-In: 12 noon to 10:00 pm (Sunday) check-in

See “Arrival Instructions” sheet in acceptance package.

Damage/Key Deposit: \$200 collected upon arrival (\$10 deducted per session for cleaning)

Checkout Time: 10:00 am (Saturday)

Homestays

Rooms: Single (1 person)

Meals Included: 16 per week (daily continental breakfasts/dinners with lunches added on weekends)

Age Minimum: 14+ years old

Flight Information: Homestay students should notify their Host Family or ELS of their arrival times so that families will know to be home when they arrive.

Transportation to ELS: Host family students are responsible for their personal transportation. Most students commute to ELS by bus, or bicycle, although there are a few families within walking distance.

Check-In: 8:00 am to 10:00 pm (Sunday) check-in

Students go directly to homestay address.

Checkout Time: 10:00 am (Saturday)

Airport Arrival Information

ELS Language Centers recommends that students choose the ELS Airport Pickup Service for arrivals (booked through ELS Central Admissions), however other transportation options are also available.

Area Airport: San Francisco International (SFO)

ELS Airport Pickup Service Provider Information:

OEC International Travelers

Tel: 1(888) 863-2482 toll free / 1(415) 459-7632

Fax: 1(415) 453-9603

The driver will hold a sign with the student’s name on it, or “ELS Language Centers”. Airport Pickup Meeting Locations are as follows (by arrival type):

International: Customs Exit

Domestic: Baggage Claim Area

Other Transportation Options From the Airport:

The Marin Airporter offers bus service from San Francisco Int'l airport to San Rafael Transit Center in San Rafael at a cost of \$20 plus tip. Domestic arrivals may catch the Marin Airporter just outside the baggage claim area of the terminal. International arrivals should go outside through Door # 3 (outside customs). Board the Marin Airporter at stops marked with signs “Hotel Shuttle Buses”. The shuttle runs every half hour from 5:30 am to midnight. Once at San Rafael Transit center students may phone for a taxi 485-1234.

Toll-free Emergency Phone Numbers

1(877) 479-5995 for Arrival Weekend emergencies. For other emergencies requiring immediate attention outside of business hours, call the ELS Help Line 1(800) 435-7357 (1-800-HELP-ELS).

Recommended Hotels

If hotel accommodations are needed before the housing check-in date, we recommend the following hotels. Advance reservations are recommended. Prices are subject to change.

The Villa Inn	\$75 per night + 11% tax
1600 Lincoln Avenue	Tel: 1(415) 456-4975

The Colonial Motel	\$62 per night + 11% tax
1735 Lincoln Avenue	Tel: 1(415) 453-9188

Center Arrival Information

New Students should report to ELS San Rafael Center (190 Palm Avenue) at **8:15 am on the first Monday** of their program for registration, the ELS placement test and orientation. New students need to bring the following items:

- Passport (plus I-94 card & I-20 form - if applicable)
- Funds to pay tuition and housing and other relevant fees (or receipt showing pre-payment)
- Proof of medical insurance (or funds to purchase)
- Materials contained in the acceptance package