

Chicago

School Guide

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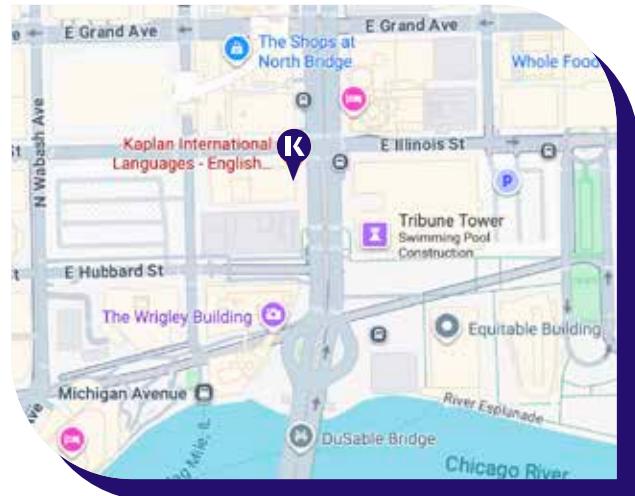


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Why choose to study in our Chicago school?

- Located on the Magnificent Mile, a famous shopping district in downtown Chicago.
- Situated just a short walk from the parks that line Lake Michigan.
- Surrounded by a variety of entertainment, from dining options and museums to sporting events.
- Easy access to Millennium Park and the Art Institute of Chicago.



Location and contact information

Address

444 N Michigan Ave Mezzanine Level, Chicago,
IL 60611

Phone

+1 (312)-962-2460

Fax

N/A

Emergency contact

+1 (253)-988-9200

At this address since

2014

Providing English course since

2006

School information

School Director

Cody DeLaney

Total number of teachers

11-15

Languages spoken by staff

Spanish, French, Italian

Teacher qualifications

Bachelor's (or equivalent) in combination with TESOL, CELTA, TEFL certificate (including practicum) or six months of ESL/EFL teaching experience

Accreditations and memberships



Disclaimer: All the information on this school guide is for reference. Please contact your advisor for the latest information

About the school

- Number of buildings: 1
- Number of floors: 1
- Total number of classroom: 15
(Classrooms without windows: 0)
- **School facilities:** Elevator, air conditioning, heating, Wi-Fi, computer lab/ multimedia center, library, vending machine, prayer room, student lounge/ common room, wheelchair accessible
- **Wheelchair / disabled access:** Yes
- **Extra cost of facilities:** No
- **Other services provided:**
Accommodation, Airport transfer, University Placement Service, Medical Insurance, Virtual Internships

Samples

Class timetable

	Morning	Afternoon
Class	08:30 - 10:00	14:15 - 15:45
Break	10:00 - 10:15	15:45 - 16:00
Class	10:15 - 11:45	16:00 - 17:30

Specialist skills class timetable

Morning class (Monday to Friday)	Afternoon class (Monday to Thursday)
N/A	12:30 - 14:00



- **Extra cost of other services:** See our price list
- **Number of computers available:** 15
- **Levels of English offered:** All levels
- **First day of school:** Students should plan to attend class on their first day

Be sure to check your email the week before your start date for your class and orientation schedule! Also, don't forget to complete the placement test and send in any required documents before you arrive

School materials

- **Materials provided for students:**
K+ Course Books, K+ Learning Clubs, K+ Learning Space, K+ Extra
- **Is there a book deposit?** No
- **Is there a material fee?** No



Courses & students

- Courses provided at this school: General English, Semi-Intensive English, Intensive English, Academic Year Abroad, Business Supplementary, TOEFL Exam Preparation, 50+ Languages Abroad, Juniors
- Special / extra courses provided: Tailored Group Programs and Teacher Training
- Average number of students per class: 11-16 (Maximum class size: 16)
- Minimum age of students: 16
- Average age of students: 28
- Students per age group: 18-21: 30% / 22-25: 16% / 26-30: 27% / Over 30: 27%
- Top 10 student nationalities: Turkey, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Colombia, France, Chile, Italy, Mexico, Japan, South Korea

School location and transport

Time to...	By foot	By bike	By bus	By subway/train
The nearest café / restaurant	On-Site	On-Site	On-Site	On-Site
The nearest supermarket	5 minutes	2 minutes	N/A	N/A
The nearest post office	5 minutes	2 minutes	N/A	N/A
The nearest ATM / bank	1 minute	N/A	N/A	N/A
The nearest sports center	45 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes	15 minutes
The nearest hospital	15 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	N/A
The city center	1 minute	N/A	N/A	N/A

About Chicago



Name of location: Chicago

Famous landmarks: Magnificent Mile, Millennium Park and The Bean, Lake Michigan, Art Institute of Chicago, the Field Museum, Lincoln Park Zoo, and the Shedd Aquarium

Cuisines within a 20-minute walk:

Chicago style deep dish pizza, Chinese, French, Indian, Italian, Japanese, Mexican, Middle Eastern, Spanish, Thai, Vegetarian,

Transport within a 10-minute walk:

Trains and buses

Top 5 reasons to choose this city: Full of historic and contemporary architecture, home to an exciting sports culture, one of the best cities for cutting-edge cuisine and a thriving jazz scene, enjoys the diversity of all four seasons

What makes this city unique? Chicago has all the action and excitement of a big city, but it also offers a uniquely friendly and relaxed atmosphere

Alternative things to do: Bike along the lakefront trails on Lake Michigan, kayak down the Chicago River, indulge in a variety of food tours

City personality: Active, architecture, artistic, big city, charming, coffee haven, cosmopolitan, entertainment capital, foodie scene, friendly, iconic landmarks, museums, picturesque, vibrant

Examples of nearby cities to visit:

Milwaukee (Travel time: 2.25 hours, price of return ticket: \$50); Minneapolis (Travel time: 1 hour flight)





Regular social activities

International Day: Free

Sports Game: \$10-40

Holiday Party: \$20

Architectural Boat Tour: \$20

Ice Skating: \$20

Beach Volleyball On Lake

Michigan: Free

Living cost

(sample prices for items in this city)

Bottle of water: \$1-2

Coffee: \$2-3

Can of coke: \$1

Meal out for two: \$40

Takeaway pizza: \$12

Sandwich: \$8

Local bus ticket: \$2.25

Local train ticket: \$2.50

Bike Rental: \$20

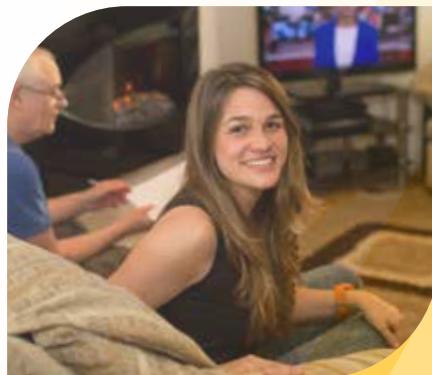
Cinema ticket: \$11

Typical 2-week social schedule

Days	First week	Second week
Monday	Welcome new students	Museum visit
Tuesday	Architecture tour	Game night
Wednesday	Bike ride	Beach volleyball
Thursday	Visit Millenium Park	Deep dish pizza tasting
Friday	Graduation party	Graduation party
Saturday	Boat cruise	Tour of Wrigley Field

Number of social activities per week: 1

Accommodation in Chicago



Homestay information

- **Things students need to bring:** Personal items to make their room feel like home, prescription medication
- **Services included:** Bed linen, towels, telephone use for emergencies, students need to make sure to discuss laundry with their host family after arrival as laundry facilities will depend on your individual homestay
- **Extra cost of services:** No
- **Meals provided:** Depends on booking type
Breakfast: Breakfast is usually a light meal consisting of cereal, fruit, toast, juice, or coffee
Hosts will usually ask you to prepare your own breakfast
Lunch: You will be responsible for buying your own lunch at school, from a local restaurant, or the local shops
Dinner: You will usually eat dinner with your host, or occasionally you may prepare your own meal with food supplied by your host
NOTE: Meals provided will differ depending on whether you have selected 14 meals per week or 7 meals per week. If you have booked 7 meals per week, you are responsible for buying your own dinner and you may not have access to the kitchen at certain times (Depending upon your booking type)
- **Will the homestay arrange to pick up the student from the airport?** No
- **Transport to school:** Your host will help you to find your way to and from school on your first day and will show you how to use public transport
- **Where are the homestays located?** Chicago & suburban areas
- **Additional information:** Homestays are 45-60 minutes of commute time to the school

Private accommodation

Only students aged 18 and over are permitted to go into private accommodation. If you are 16 or 17 years old you will be housed in a homestay and should be home by 11 pm each night.

If you are over 18 here are some tips if you want to find your own apartment or share a house with friends:

- The school's Accommodation Manager can provide a list of local letting agencies
- Check whether the accommodation you are going to see is in a safe area
- Take a friend with you when you go to view any accommodation
- If you are sharing an apartment or house find out who has access to it
- Make sure the accommodation has a recent safety certificate – all cookers are electric fires are safe and smoke alarms are fitted
- Make sure your room is secure and that you have insurance for your laptop, camera, TV, DVD, personal music player and other valuable items
- If you rent your own accommodation you will be expected to pay Council Tax. If you are a student you will receive a 10% discount but be aware that it could be up to £1,200 per year

Accommodation in Chicago

The Flats Student Residence



This is an
Academic
Year Abroad
Residence



- **Address:** 829 S. Wabash Street Chicago, IL 60605
- **Website:** [The Flats Student Residence Link](#). **Disclaimer:** All the information on this residence file is for reference. Please contact your advisor for the latest information
- **Accommodation type:** Studio apartments: private ensuite bathroom and kitchen. Single and twin rooms in mixed gender apartments: kitchen, living/dining area and bathroom shared with other Kaplan students. Communal lounge/common area for the floor, study area for the floor, TV in the common area on floor
- **Service available:** Laundry machines available, Wi-Fi, bed linen provided upon arrival
- **Extra cost of services:** Free
- **Bedroom:** Wardrobe/closet, desk, chair
- **Kitchen:** Pots & pans, utensils, cutlery & crockery, microwave, oven, stovetop, fridge, freezer
- **Facilities:** Gym, library, full indoor basketball court, yoga studio, computer lab

- **Extra cost of facilities:** Cleaning services additional charge
- **Famous landmarks nearby:** Buckingham Fountain, Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, Art Institute of Chicago, Buddy Guy's Legends
- (famous Chicago blues club), Lou Malnati's (famous Chicago deep dish pizza), Lake Michigan and the lakeshore path, Grant Park, Millennium Park
- **Visitors or guests allowed?** Yes; no overnight guests
- **Noise restrictions?** Yes (From 22:00 - 7:00)
- **Smoking allowed in the residence?** No
- **24-hour security?** Yes
- **Room cleaning:** Cleaned on arrival
- **Linen changing:** Linen cleaned on arrival, students are responsible for cleaning their own linen
- **Availability:** Year-round for students 18+
- **Minimum number of week?** No minimum
- **Check-in and check-out times:** Check-in: Saturday & Sunday 15:00 - 21:00 / Check-out: Saturday 10:00
- **Room deposit?** No

Time to...	By foot	By bike	By bus	By metro/train
The school	35 minutes	10 minutes	35 minutes	20 minutes
The nearest café / restaurant	3 minutes	N/A	N/A	N/A
The nearest supermarket	5 minutes	N/A	N/A	N/A
The nearest post office	15 minutes	3 minutes	10 minutes	N/A
The nearest ATM / bank:	5 minutes	N/A	N/A	N/A
The nearest sports center	On-site	N/A	N/A	N/A
The nearest hospital	50 minutes	25 minutes	40 minutes	30 minutes
To the city center	35 minutes	10 minutes	35 minutes	20 minutes
To the main airport	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Health & safety

Medical insurance | All students must have travel and medical insurance for the duration of their stay in the US. Kaplan offers you a low-cost Travel and Medical Insurance Plan that we advise you to take. If you are not taking Kaplan Insurance you are required to show proof of alternative medical insurance. If not taking Kaplan Insurance, please make sure your insurance includes evacuation and repatriation.

If you get sick | If you get sick while in the US you should visit a doctor. You can ask the Kaplan staff or your host family where the nearest doctor is. If you have a minor illness you can ask staff at a local pharmacist for advice. Remember to bring any relevant insurance or medical documentation with you. You may be required to register with a doctor.

Protecting your belongings | We strongly recommend you take out insurance for your personal belongings, especially cameras, music players, mobile phones and laptops. Personal items cannot be covered by Kaplan homestay or residence insurance.

Prescription medication | Remember to bring enough of your prescribed medication with you as US pharmacists will not fill a foreign prescription. International customs agents may ask you questions about your medication upon your departure or arrival, so be sure to pack it carefully. Bring any important medical records (blood type, prescriptions, x-rays) that might be useful for medical care abroad as well as contact information for your health care providers at home.

Medical costs

Medical costs are at the discretion of your local doctor or hospital. Minimum medical costs are as follows:

- Consultation with a doctor: \$60
- Prescriptions at a chemist: \$25 per item
- Dental treatment: \$150
- Eye test or new glasses: \$150

Emergency services

Call **911** in case of fire, medical emergency or if you need the police.

Laws

- No one under the age of 21 in the US may buy or consume tobacco or alcohol, including beer and wine. It is against the law to buy tobacco or alcohol for someone you know is under the age of 21
- Driving under the influence of alcohol is a very serious crime and police make regular random checks

- You will need international ID to enter bars, clubs or pubs (e.g. passport, ID card, driving licence)
- Buying, selling and using drugs is illegal

Local customs

- Women in the US are equal to men and should always be treated fairly
- American people talk to strangers in public areas. This is a great way to practice English, but caution should be taken. You should not give out your address and telephone number, or accept inappropriate invitations
- “Please” and “thank you” are very important words! Always use them if you ask someone to do something for you, or if they help you or give you information
- The US is a culturally diverse nation where people of all ethnic backgrounds are treated equally
- People in North America leave a tip for good service in restaurants, hair salons and other places. The tip rate at most restaurants is about 15–20% of the bill and is not usually included. Fast-food is not tipped unless it is delivered. Porters in stations, airports and hotels should be tipped approximately \$1 per bag. Taxi drivers are generally given a 15% tip.

Kaplan International Languages rules

- If you leave your Kaplan International Languages course, the government may revoke your student visa and advise you to return home
- You must attend all classes. If you do not attend your classes your representative will be informed. If you do not then improve your attendance you will be sent home
- Be on time for all your lessons

- Always tell Kaplan International Languages if you are going to be absent from school for any reason and tell your host family if you are going away overnight
- If you commit a criminal offence or have to be severely disciplined you will be sent home and no refund will be given. We will also inform the immigration authorities

US public holidays	
New Year	1-Jan-26
Martin Luther King Day	20-Jan-25
Memorial Day	26-May-25
Juneteenth	19-Jun-25
Independence Day	4-Jul-25
Labor Day	1-Sep-25
Thanksgiving	27-Nov-25
Day after Thanksgiving	28-Nov-25
Christmas Day	25-Dec-25
Day After Christmas Day	26-Dec-25

The above dates are observed as holidays in the year. If you arrive on a week where the Monday is a holiday, your first day of school will be a Tuesday

Holiday policy

Academic year Abroad and semester students | There are preset session breaks for all Academic Year Abroad and Semester students. These dates depend on your start date and cannot be changed. Please check with the school if you are not sure when these are.

School closures | The school will be closed from 22 December 2025 with an additional closure for New Years on January 1st

Academic Year Abroad



**STUDY ENGLISH LONGER
SUCCEED FOR LIFE**

Chicago Chicago



Why choose an Academic Year Abroad in Chicago with Kaplan?

Academic Year Abroad students have access to exclusive benefits.

1. Achieve the **fastest English progression** with Kaplan's exclusive Guaranteed Progression, while mastering fluency across reading, writing, listening, and especially speaking, **with personalized academic guidance every step of the way**.
2. Internationally recognized curriculum aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference.
3. Get ahead with Pre-College Certificates from US prestigious universities and colleges, including Harvard Medical School, Georgetown, Dartmouth, and Northwestern.
4. Study for **6, 9, or 11 months** and experience life in one of the world's most **vibrant English-speaking cities**.
5. Build your language toward a capstone project and earn an Advance Certificate on the area of expertise you would like to focus on.
6. **Engage with guest experts** at exclusive online seminars hosted for Academic Year Abroad students.
7. **Start strong and finish proud** with a **bespoke orientation** and **graduation ceremony**.
8. Enjoy **direct and free access** to morning classes.
9. Keep learning beyond the classroom with **12 months of access to K+ Learning Space** after your course ends.
10. Feel at home abroad with **total support from our team: personalized academic guidance from day one, accommodation services tailored to your preferences**, and a lively social calendar.
11. **Get to know the city from day one** with a warm welcome and guided tour.
12. Join a **global community of over 1.2 million learners** who choose Kaplan each year.
13. **Upgrade your academic and professional CV** by investing in a trusted institution since 1938. Kaplan is widely known worldwide for **educational excellence and student success**.

What programs are available in Kaplan Chicago?

Language & Culture

- Intensive
- Semi-Intensive
- Multi-Destination Year

Let's go!
★ ★

Your course timeline

Start dates	End dates		
	6 months	9 months	11 months
5 January 2026	June 2026	September 2026	November 2026
30 March 2026	September 2026	November 2026	December 2026
22 June 2026	April 2027	June 2027	May 2027
21 September 2026	March 2027	May 2027	June 2027
9 November 2026	April 2027	July 2027	September 2027

1st Session Break - All courses	2st Session Break (9 & 11 month courses)
30 March 2026	14th September 2026
8th June 2026	21st December 2026
14th September 2026	21st December 2026
21st December 2026	24th May 2027

How do we help you learn English quickly?

We are proud to offer English programs built on a solid, research-based methodology designed to help you improve your English confidently and quickly. With our carefully structured syllabus, you can join at any point and continue progressing smoothly, with teaching materials tailored to your level and learning style.

Each Academic Year Abroad program is structured with carefully designed lessons aimed at achieving your specific objectives:

Language Foundation (20 lessons, 15 hours)

Build your core English skills with 15 hours of General English per week, using our spiral, blended curriculum aligned to the Common European Framework of Reference. Lessons are topic-based and communicative, designed to boost fluency, confidence, and real-world language use.

Language in Action Workshops (4 lessons, 3 hours)

Take your English beyond the classroom with interactive workshops each week focused on communication, collaboration, and real-life tasks. These sessions help you practise spoken English in creative, practical contexts.

Specialist Skills (8 lessons, 6 hours)

Enhance your learning with focused classes, tailored to your needs and objectives. Ideal for students looking to improve in targeted areas, these sessions focus on specific skills like pronunciation, writing, exam preparation or Business English.

K+ Extra (3 lessons, 2.25 hours)

Students enhance their fluency with K+ Extra online resources supporting personalized language learning.



*Learn about
every program*



Language & Culture

Discover the joy of learning English abroad like never before.

Transform your language skills as you embark on a program designed to immerse you in one (or more) exciting destinations around the world. This is more than a course. During this enriching year, we blend expert language training with cultural immersion, global friendships, and unforgettable experiences.

Intensive

Total of 35 lessons per week = 26.25 hours

Want to master every aspect of English? This course sharpens your skills in speaking, reading, writing, listening, grammar, and pronunciation, while also expanding your vocabulary for effective communication in real-world settings.

Lessons	Number of Lessons	Total of Hours
Language Foundation	20 lessons	15 hours
Language in Action Workshops	4 lessons	3 hours
Specialist Skills	8 lessons	6 hours
K+ Extra Online	3 sessions	2,25 hours

Semi-Intensive

27 lessons per week = 20.25 hours

Strengthen your foundational English skills while enjoying plenty of free time to explore your new city and have fun with friends! Join our social activities, dive into local culture, and make the most of every moment on this unforgettable adventure.

Lessons	Number of Lessons	Total of Hours
Language Foundation	20 lessons	15 hours
Language in Action Workshops	4 lessons	3 hours
K+ Extra Online	3 sessions	2,25 hours

**F1 visa students in the US are required to take 3 hours of K+ Clubs per week.*

Kaplan Multi-Destination Year

12 weeks New York City, 12 weeks Boston, 12 weeks Vancouver.

Study English in a 6, 9, 11-month program spanning your choice of school locations.

Students travel the globe to create their own dream Academic Year Abroad by combining two, three or four locations, each destination with a minimum of twelve weeks.

In each location, students are immersed in comprehensive language development focusing on improving all language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking, while living the language through a variety of cultural immersion activities.

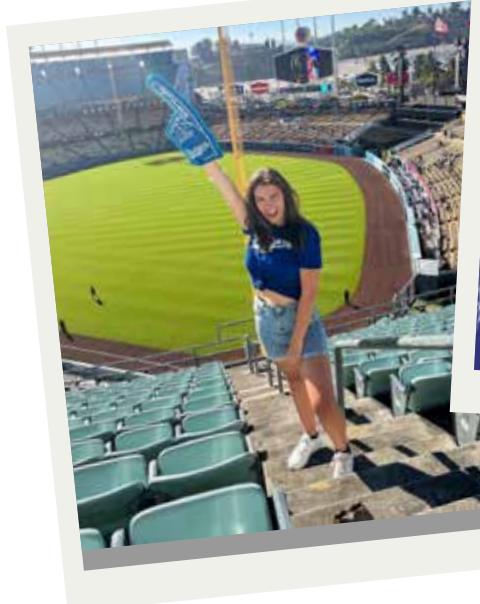
Visa regulations permitting, students can opt to build their own vacation breaks between 12-week quarters to experience even more of what the destination has to offer.

Example Multi-Destination Year itinerary: Nine months North America Coast to Coast

Experience big city life in the Big Apple, the cobble-stoned charm of historic Boston, and the natural wonders of British Columbia.

Key facts

- Minimum Age: 16
- Class Size: 16
- Entry Level: Elementary



Exclusive Academic Year Abroad Upgrade US College Preparation Certificate

Get ahead with online Pre-College Certificates from prestigious universities and colleges in the US including **Harvard Medical School, Georgetown, Dartmouth, Berkeley, and Northwestern**.

- Choose from courses in *Business, Economics, Finance, Leadership, Medicine, Engineering, Marketing*, and more
- 4-week **hybrid courses** (online + independent study) starting nearly every month
- Earn a **Certificate of Completion from the university**—a valuable credential for your college applications or CV



Accommodation

Accommodation options

This program offers special accommodation packages.

Get in touch with our team to get a personalized quote depending on your preferences, whether you choose a residence apartment to live with other Kaplan international students, or host families, making the most of integrating into the lives of our local families in the city.



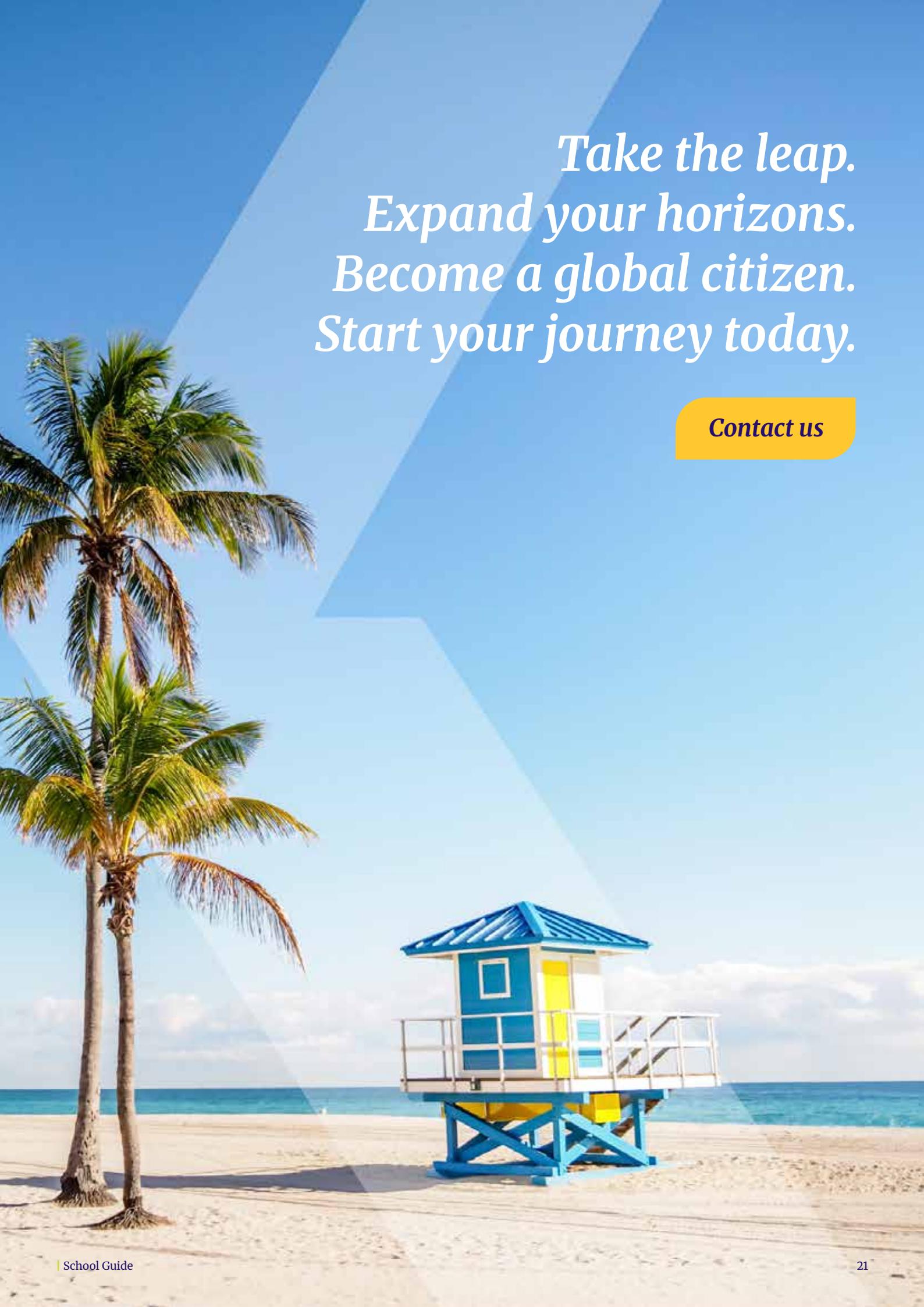
Follow the hearts and explore our previous accommodation section for more details.



“I gained a lot of friends from different parts of the world, and I enjoyed every activity from Kaplan, especially the outdoor activities such as picnics by the beach.”

- Gerald R, Kaplan Chicago student from the Philippines.



A tropical beach scene featuring several tall palm trees on the left, a clear blue sky, and a white sandy beach. In the center-right, a vibrant blue and yellow lifeguard hut stands on a wooden deck. A large, semi-transparent graphic of a stylized white airplane is positioned diagonally across the background, from the top left towards the bottom right.

*Take the leap.
Expand your horizons.
Become a global citizen.
Start your journey today.*

Contact us

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INTERNATIONAL
LANGUAGES

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@kaplaninternational