

au pair / ˈɔː
a young person from
stays with a family
language. An au
after th

Au pair in Spain – programme info

Au pair agency accredited by



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Intro

Hi, this is Ana, I run **Destino Idiomas**, your au pair agency in Spain.

My own personal experience as au pair (BI- before Internet :D) and professional one as au pair agent helps me to be aware of the aims, doubts and expectations at both sides: family and au pair.

My main goal is that your experience as au pair in Spain is a success.



The role of the au pair agent

The **advantages** of relying on **Destino Idiomas**:

- ↑ Free matching service for the au pair.
- ↑ Personal counselling.
- ↑ Welcome pack.
- ↑ Regular follow up.
- ↑ Mediation between au pairs and families.
- ↑ **Ranked in 2018 at GoOverseas as Top Gap Year Provider-Category Value. Please check reviews clicking on badge.**



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Your safety first. Protect yourself!

Looking for a family at **online platforms or social networks** is fine but, **you take some risks.**

- ↓ Getting **false information** from a family and so risk of being a **victim of a con family.**
- ↓ **Lack of personal counselling.**
- ↓ **Lack of support if problems appear.** No chance to change family, no mediation at all.
- ↓ **Lack of families and au pair screening** following suitability criteria.

Destino Idiomas is a legally registered au pair agency in Spain, also accredited by **AEPA** - the Spanish Au pair Association. I follow the European Agreement on Au Pair Placements signed by the European Council in 1969. Spain signed this agreement in 1986 (BOE nº 214).

You can find me on Internet but I am not a online platform where families and au pairs arrange themselves their matches, without screening, counselling nor support.

Time is money! so rather than you spend hours searching on Internet, I have my own portfolio of families. I offer you advice, support and follow up all through the matching process and along your stay in Spain.



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What is an au pair?

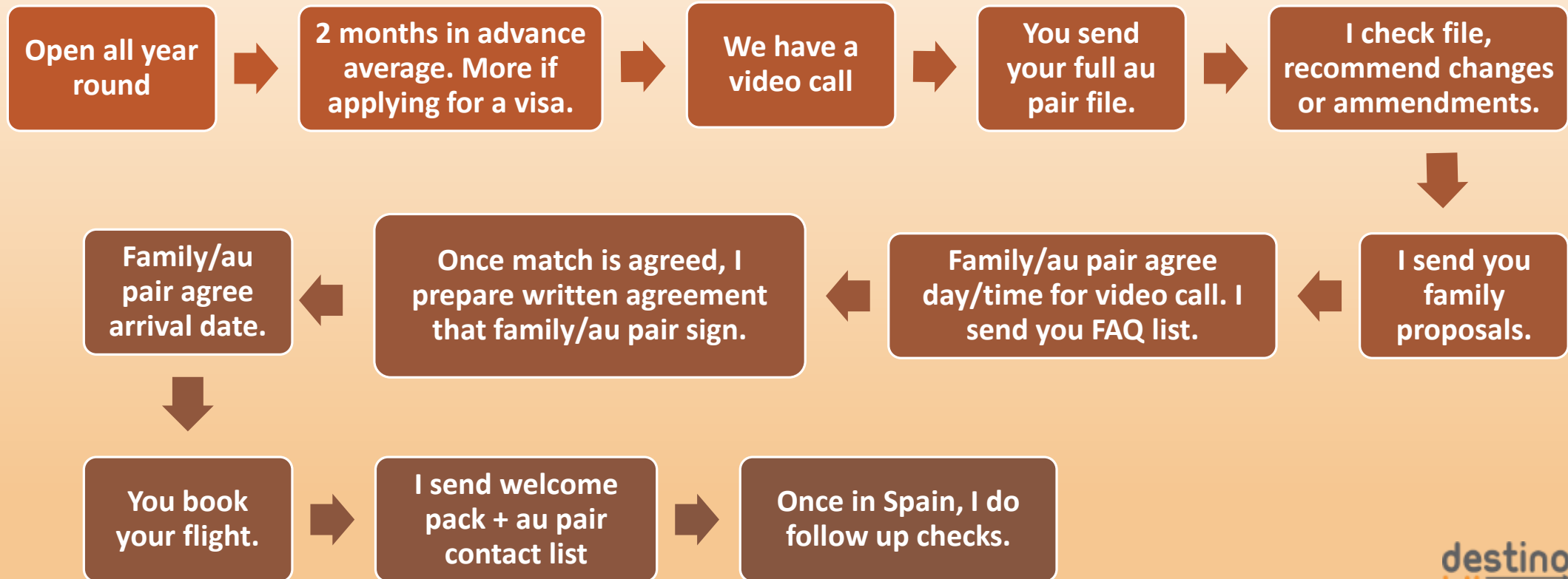
- Young person willing to live a cultural exchange experience by travelling to another country and living with a host local family.
- The au pair must have previous childcare experience and be good at kids.
- In exchange for a certain amount of weekly hours looking after host family's kids and doing some light housework, the au pair receives full board and lodging, weekly pocket money, and free time to attend language lessons or other.

**3 parts of truly affection for children,
3 parts of real previous child care experience,
3 parts of energy, initiative and creativity,
2 parts of responsibility and matureness,
2 parts of patience,
2 parts of skills for daily family life,
1 part of honesty,
1 part of empathy,
1 part of punctuality,
1 part of flexibility to unforeseen happenings,
0 parts of mobile addicted to person.**

Who can be an au pair?

- ✓ Female and male applicants.
- ✓ Lower demand for male applicants.
- ✓ 18—30 years old.
- ✓ Non smokers preferred.
- ✓ Single / No children.
- ✓ Experienced with children.
- ✓ Have no criminal records.
- ✓ Have at least high school diploma.
- ✓ In good state of health (physical & psychological).
- ✓ **English is by far most demanded language by Spanish families.** Good knowledge will be fine regardless of your nationality. Do not hesitate to contact us if your language is other; some families are interested in other languages.
- ✓ Basic knowledge of Spanish a bonus, though many families host au pairs with no Spanish.

Enrollment



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Costs

Free enrollment



Eva –The Netherlands – long stay – Canary Islands

- travel expenses (you pay for your round/return flight or whichever transport means you choose to travel to Spain).
- travel and medical insurance if needed. Host family will reimburse 50% of its cost to non EU citizens.
- personal expenses other than board and lodgings (savings for unexpected issues, special treats...)
- visa costs and related (language course) if applying for a visa.

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Au pair file

Application form including link to presentation video

Au pair agreement with **Destino Idiomas** signed

Dear family letter (500 words aprx about you, your goals, your experience, your family...)

2 childcare references (babysitting, teaching, camp monitor, sport coach, volunteering...)

Medical certificate (not older than 3 months)

Police clear records certificate

Pictures (with kids you look after, your family, friends, travelling... + 1 close up)

Copy of passport + driving licence (if you are going to drive) + relevant certificates

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Follow check ups

First working day after arrival – welcoming and first impressions.

After 1st week – settling and convivence.

After 2nd week – convivence, agreement is respected.

2 weeks later, that is after 1st month is gone – all goes on well.

End of stay
Your review.

Of course, you can contact me at any point during your stay should you need it.

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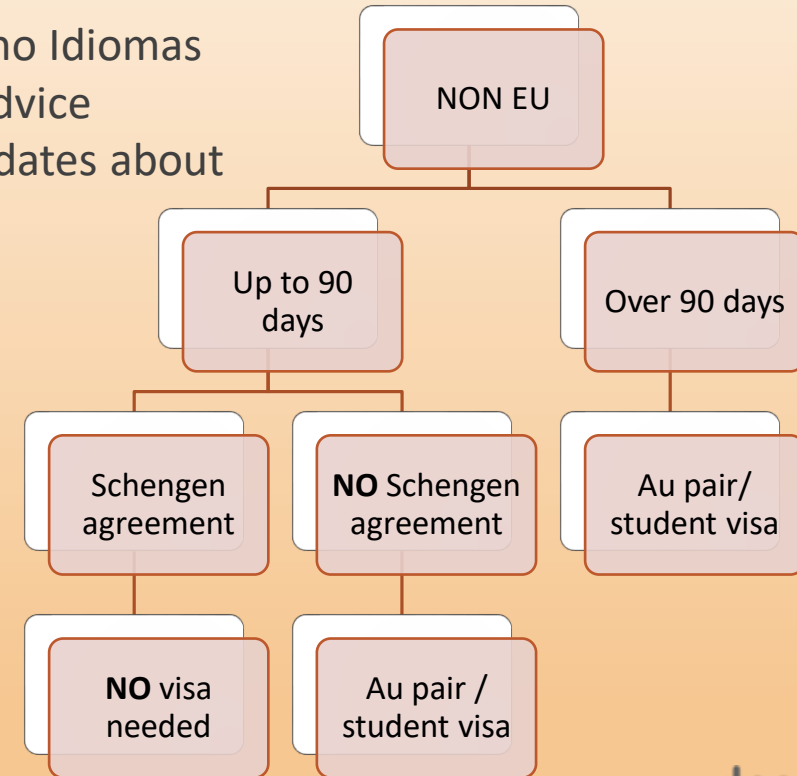
Legal entry – Au pair visa



Foreigner Identity Cards

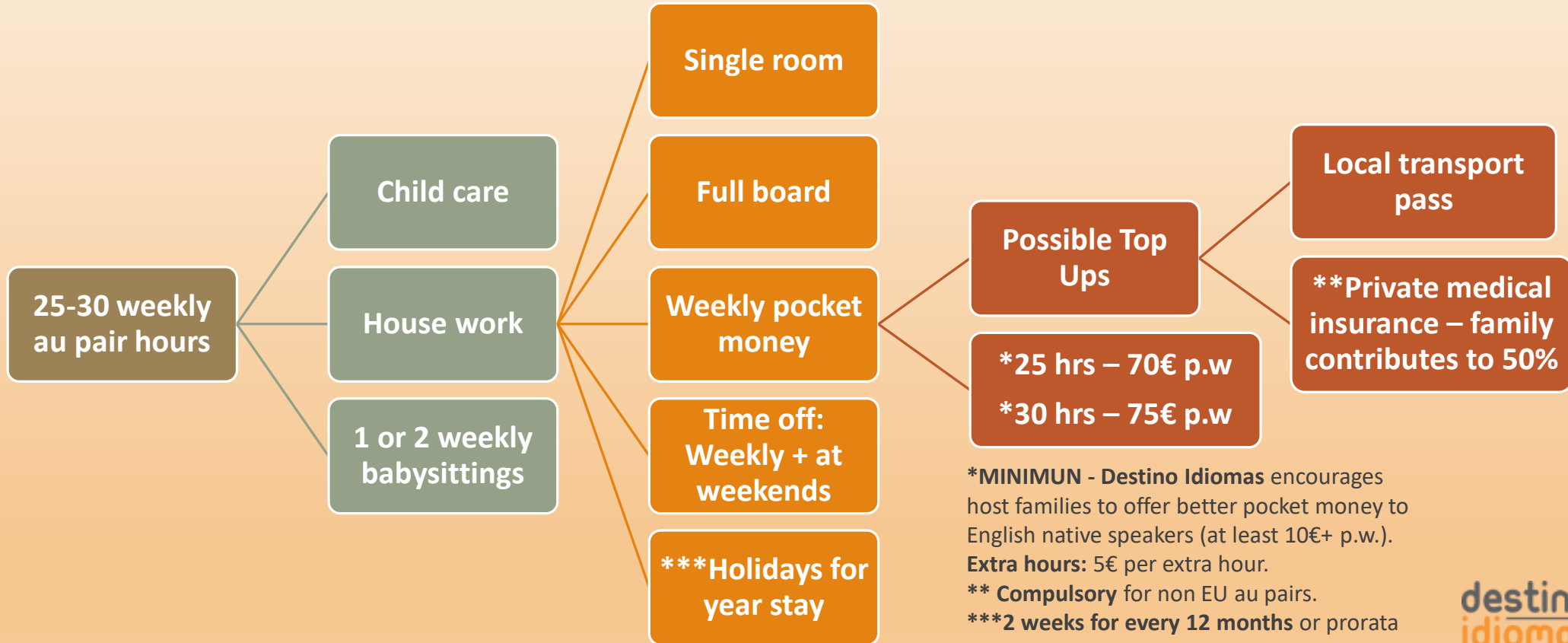
Foreigners who are granted a visa to stay in Spain for a period exceeding six months **must apply for a foreigner identity card** at the corresponding Provincial Brigade of Immigration and Borders dependent on the Ministry of the Interior, **within one month from the date of arrival**.

Destino Idiomas will advice candidates about visas.



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General conditions



***MINIMUN** - Destino Idiomas encourages host families to offer better pocket money to English native speakers (at least 10€+ p.w.).
Extra hours: 5€ per extra hour.
** **Compulsory** for non EU au pairs.
*****2 weeks for every 12 months** or prorata in shorter stays.



Full board

3 main meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner. Lunch is usually hot, dinner can be cold.

If the au pair eats out, family is not obliged to pay for those meals, unless the family is inviting the au pair out.

Host families have no obligation to provide non-essential foods such as snacks, juices, sweets, fast food or alike.

Celiac / Vegetarians / Vegans: This info must appear on your application form.

Celiac: families will purchase au pair's basic food stuff. They may ask you to cook your own food.

Vegetarian or vegan: families establish whether au pair will cook her own meals, or do their own shopping with an allowance.

Room

Single, not shared. It is within the family home.

Furnished with bed, wardrobe, side bed table. Optional: tv, study table and chair.

Window with natural daylight + lamp.

Heating: have proper heating for cold weather.

Air conditioning /fan: to relieve from hot temperatures.

Lock: not compulsory.

Shared bathroom or en suite bathroom depending on host families' homes.

Duties with kids

Your responsibilities and duties will vary depending on families' needs but above all on kid's ages and whether they are attending school or on school holidays.

- Supervise their wellbeing, safety and hygiene.
- Pursuing their amusement and entertainment: arts and crafts, face painting, sports, dancing...
- Get them up in the morning, help with personal hygiene and dressing.
- Prepare simple meals (breakfast/lunch/dinner).
- Take /collect from school /after school clubs.

- Help with homework.
- Helping them to go to bed: prepare school bags, uniforms ...
- Babysitting.
- School holidays: taking to the beach/swimming pool, park...

This is **not** an inclusive list and it varies according to family needs.

These should be about 75% of your responsibilities as au pair.

Duties at home

Many Spanish families do not require much house work from their au pair as many have external domestic staff to help with housework.

However, the au pair is expected to behave as another adult in the family and will help and assist in the normal running of a home as requested.

Au pairs will always look after their own room and keep it neat, clean and tidy. This is **not** an au pair's duty but a common sense thing.

Following list is **not** an inclusive one and it varies according to family needs.

These should be about 25% of your responsibilities as au pair.

- Keep the children's rooms and bathroom clean, neat and tidy.
- Take care of children's laundry: washing up, drying, ironing/folding.
- Occasional cooking for you and the children.
- Clean after yourself when cooking for you and/or the children.
- Load / empty dishwasher.
- General light cleaning of the house: dusting, Hoovering...
- Help with pets and plants at home.
- Help with small errands.

Families

AVERAGE PROFILE

- Couples and mono parental families alike.
- With 1 to 3 children average.
- All sort of locations: mid to big size cities but also smaller towns usually close to bigger cities.
- In summer time, host families may well move to second homes in villages or alike closer to nature (beach, mountain...)

WHAT THEY LOOK FOR IN AN AUPAIR

Someone responsible, mature, fond of children, able and willing to take the initiative, pro active and creative and ready to interact with the children in the foreign language parents request to the au pair.

This last item is quite important. Spanish host parents are mostly interested in their kids improving their foreign language skills—mainly English— and so the au pair must have a good command of English regardless she/he can speak any Spanish.

Families registered with **Destino Idiomas** compromise (parents) to address the au pair in Spanish so the au pair can progress in acquiring a new language.

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Basic principles for families and au pairs

Families	Au pairs
Understand the cultural exchange programme and what it takes.	
Willing to share daily life with the au pair and treat au pair as another member of the family.	Willing to share daily life with the family and immerse in daily family life and activities.
Committed to respect agreement.	
Committed to address the au pair in Spanish (parents).	Committed to address the kids in the language parents request.
Encourage au pair to have social and cultural life. Show an interest for the au pair's own culture.	Committed to respect host family, their home and their rules.
Accept terms and conditions of Destino Idiomas Au pair in Spain programme.	

Handling problems

Possible scenarios

Family/au pair agreement is not being respected.

Quite easy to solve if there is good willing between the parts, either family sticks to initial agreement or new agreement is proposed/reached.

There are not “good vibes” between family and au pair.

More difficult to solve, personality clashes are difficult to reconduct, as nobody is going to change personality, isn't it?.

To avoid this, it is important to choose your host family wisely. This is why video interviews are so important.

I will help you, guiding you in interview process, making sure you have no doubts, sending FAQ list for interview...

Protocol

You let me know what worries you, we usually have a video call.



I value the situation and give advice to reconduct situation. I would also talk to the family if necessary.



I do follow up.

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If situation does not improve ...

Request a change of family

Any part – family or au pair – can request a replacement.

2 weeks notice is required. During that time, both family and au pair should follow initial agreement as originally stated.

Each case is different and as such is valued. I will offer a replacement family proven that the au pair is not the cause of the conflict.

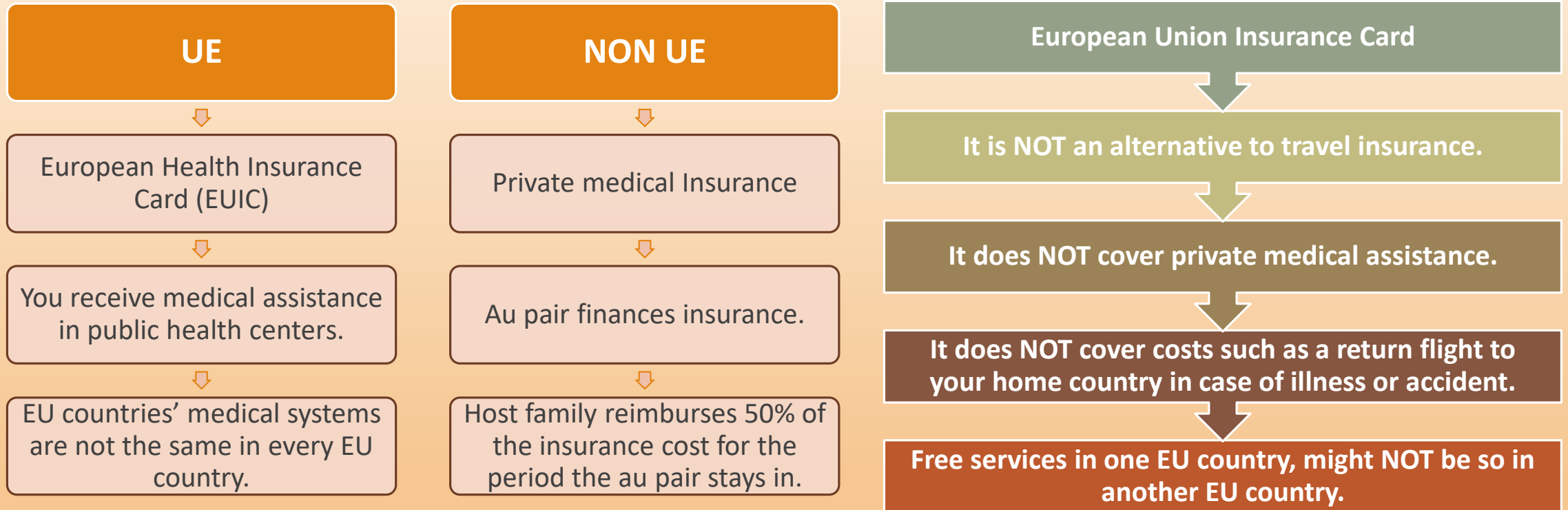
Some factors must be considered: the length of stay remaining and acceptance that a change of destination may take place. **No changes for short stays up to 90 days.**

Most common complaints

... **au pairs complaint about:** au pair hours increase, new tasks being added, not respecting au pair free time, parents not talking in Spanish to au pair...

... **and families complaint about:** au pair not talking in foreign language to kids, not interacting with them, hanging too much with mobiles, not showing any initiative, having to be told too many times what to do, being moody or disrespectful ...

Medical assistance and insurance



There can be unexpected situations where being insured will be extremely helpful: Accidents, loss of luggage, personal liability issues and so on. We strongly recommend our au pairs to get their insurance with a reputable insurance company specialized in student and au pair travelling. You can find more info on our website: [AU PAIR INSURANCE](#).



Destino Idiomas – Galicia - Spain

Destino Idiomas is located in **Galicia**, north west of Spain.

My families' portfolio covers all over Spain including the Canary and Balearic islands. But, as I love Galicia and I am well aware it is not so well known abroad, here it is some info: Galicia is rich in culture, gastronomy, tradition, wild landscapes, awesome beaches and welcoming people.

An awesome discovery that may well be your lifetime memory if you give it a chance.

Find out more about Galicia [here](#) and [here](#)

Find out more about Santiago de Compostela [here](#)

Find out more about A Coruña [here](#)

Some reviews on A Coruña at [The Guardian](#), [Business&Finance](#), [The Telegraph](#), [Express.com](#)

Some reviews on Santiago de Compostela at [The NY Times](#), [The Telegraph](#), [LonelyPlanet](#)

Some reviews on Vigo at [Independent](#)

Some reviews on Pontevedra at [The Guardian](#)



Little green peppers from Padron, Queimada, Octopus, Seafood



Cies Islands, Compostela, “Rapa das bestas”, A Coruña



Ancoradoiro beach



Las Catedrales beach

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Au pair in Spain



Angela – USA –
Summer – Ourense



Sabana – USA –
Summer - Vigo



Femke – Dutch –
Summer - Madrid

Spain

Spain is made up of 19 autonomous communities:

Galicia , Asturias, Cantabria, País Vasco, Navarra, Cataluña, Castilla y León, La Rioja, Aragón, Madrid, Extremadura, Castilla La Mancha, Valencia, Andalucía, Murcia. Baleares (Islands), Canarias (Islands). Ceuta and Melilla (in the African continent).

And all together there are 52 provinces.

As a result, an awesome variety of landscapes, climate, gastronomy, history, traditions, festivals and many more awaits to welcome you.



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Au pair in Spain

Sara –Serbian –
Summer –
Sanxenxo



Radmila –Serbian –
Summer –
Pontevedra

Natalija – Serbian –
Summer - Ourense



Learn Spanish



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Au pair in Spain



Vanja – Serbian –
summer –
Zaragoza



Sharleen – UK –
summer - Córdoba



Terezie – Ukranian –
summer - Sanxenxo

Looking for “la fiesta”

You may not know much Spanish yet, but surely you know the word "fiesta" ...

Once in Spain, you will have the opportunity of immersing in our culture and traditions, enjoying some of our popular festivities, which are different and particular in each community. **But do not mistake an au pair stay with a cheap stay holiday, that is a mistake, it will not work.**

However if you spend some of your free time with your host family they may well take you places you would not know and enjoy without their help.

All year round there will be some kind of celebration, though most of them happen around summer time and are related to ancient and pagan traditions like celebrating harvesting, carnivals, summer solstices and so. Some related to catholic religion too.

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Au pair in Spain



Claire – USA – summer
A Coruña



Myrtille – UK – Long
stay - Valladolid



4. Bojan (male au
pair) – Serbian –
summer -
Cambados

Just a few summer fests...

August - so many festivities all over Spain to name them all... I will show you just a few of what's going on in Galicia every summer, many of them centered around food and wine exaltation, others are traditional ones and some other just ...wild ;-)

A Coruña - Maria Pita's festivity: **whole month**: concerts, fireworks battles, comic annual exhibition...

1 Padrón - Green peppers' gastro fest - **1st Saturday of August.**

2 Catoira - Viking battle recreation - **1st Sunday of August.**

Cambados - Albariño's wine festival - **1st Sunday of August.**

O Carballiño - Octopus' gastro fest - **2nd Sunday of August.**

Bandeira - Empanada gastro fest - **3er Saturday of August.**

3 Vilagarcia de Arousa - Water fest - **16th of August.**

4 Galicia sea side villages - Virgen del Carmen, sailors' patron - **16th of August.**

Rivadavia - Festa da Historia - Medieval fest - **last Saturday of August.**

And many more....

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Ready? Enroll now!

Contact us to request an interview

- destinoidiomas@gmail.com
- Skype destino.idiomas

We agree suitable day and time to chat.

Time zone differences will apply.

Experience ...

Awesome nature

Rich heritage

Summer time

Wellcomeness

Family life

Culture

Gastronomy

Places

Friendship

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