ACCOMODATION IN BARCELONA

Barcelona is a cultural and touristic city, and it also attracts many foreigner students each year. Due to it, accommodation in Barcelona is expensive and, in some cases, difficult to find. It is important that you make your reservations as soon as possible.

Students are expected to make their own reservations using the housing services of the university (see the information below).

Most of the students use the Barcelona Housing Service for Students in order to book their accommodation. The reservations can be made on-line. Please contact them at

Web: www.bcn-housing-students.com
E-mail: info@bcn-housing-students.com
Address: Torrent de l'Olla, 219; 08012 Barcelona
Tel: +34 93 238 90 72
Fax: +34 93 228 92 59

Rooms are also available now at the following residences. Unfortunately, they are expensive and busy during most of the course:

Residence Torre Girona (located close to the UPC North Campus)
Passeig dels Til·lers, 19, 08034 Barcelona
Phone: 93 390 43 00; Fax: 93 205 69 10
E-mail: torregirona@resa.es
Underground closest station: Palau Reial (Line 3)

Residence “La Ciutadella”
Location: Passeig Pujades, 33-37
Underground closest station: Arc de Triomf (Line 1)

Residence “Campus del Mar”
Location: Pg. Salvat Papasseit, 4
Underground closest station: La Barceloneta (line 4)

Both are at reasonable close distance to the University Campus (30 min by underground railway).

Reservations are made on-line at the web address www.resa.es. Choose “English” at the top bar. Then choose “Barcelona” as city and choose the type of stay (daily accommodation or academic year stays) according to your preference. You will access information regarding university residences in Barcelona and will be able to reach those above mentioned in particular.
Other possible organizations offering accommodation in residence halls for students are:

**RESIDENCIAS SANMARIUS**  
http://www.sanmarius.com (choose English)  
Other student residences you may try are:

**RESIDÈNCIA AGORA**  
Address: Psg. dels castanyers, 21 - 08035 Barcelona  
Phone: 93 166 90 00  
E-mail: agora.info@cett.es  
web: www.agorabcn.com

**ERASMUS GRACIA**  
Address: c/ Torrent de l Olla, 212-214, 08012 - Barcelona  
Phone: 93 415 12 03  
E-mail: info@residenciaerasmusgracia.com  
Web: www.residenciaerasmusgracia.com

All of them are a reasonable distance to the University Campus and well connected by public transportation.

In case you may be interested in sharing apartments with other colleagues (which will normally be cheaper than renting a room in a residence), you may also contact the following agencies:

**HABIT SERVEI S.L.**  
www.habitservei.com  
C/ Muntaner 200, 2n 3a  
08036 Barcelona  
Phone  +34 932405023  
Fax-+34 934145425

**Barcelona Home**  
http://www.barcelona-home.com/  
Phone +34 934233473

**ARRIVAL TO BARCELONA. TRANSPORT BETWEEN AIRPORT AND CITY CENTER**

The airport is connected to Sants Station by train (every 20 minutes) and to Plaça Catalunya (Catalunya square) by train and bus. The train departs from Terminal 2. If you arrive to terminal 1, you will need to first take a bust to terminal 2. Look for and follow the signals indicating the location of bus or train stops. There are also buses from both terminals taking to the city center,

You may also hire a taxi. (However, a Taxi trip to the city center may cost about  30 € or even more depending of the traject and traffic condition).

Both Sants or Catalunya square are well connected to the rest of the city by different metro lines. Please have a look to the map of the metro of Barcelona included in this document.
LOCATION OF CAMPUS NORD OF UPC IN BARCELONA

Click on the following address to access to a detailed map of the city of Barcelona.
http://www.bcn.es/guia/welcomea.htm

(You may also also find  both satellite or street detailed maps of Barcelona using google maps).

The following map shows the location both Plaça Catalunya (the very city center) and the Campus Nord of Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN BARCELONA

You may visit the following page for a detailed information on public transportation and particularly, the metro system in Barcelona. Maps can be browsed on-line. A detailed map can be downloaded in *.pdf format from this site.

http://www.tmb.net/en_US/home.jsp

The metro green line (line III) is the one connecting to the Campus Nord of UPC. The metro station closest to Campus Nord is ZONA UNIVERSITARIA (at the left end of the green line). From there, the campus can be reached in a 10 min. walk.
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO CAMPUS NORD OF UPC

The address of the Campus Nord of Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya Jordi Girona street, n. 1-3, 08034 Barcelona. Please look for the map of Campus Nord (or North Campus) to locate it.

The Campus Nord (North Campus) can be reached by Line III (green line) of the underground metropolitan of the city (Zona Universitària station), connected to both Sants Railway station and Plaça Catalunya station in the center of the city.

MOVING AROUND CAMPUS NORD

You may find more information on the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC) in www.upc.edu (choose the English menu). Please look there for the information for visitors and the Barcelona-North Campus map (Campus Nord). Your will find useful information on Barcelona and the University.

The following maps show the neighborhood of the campus and the map of the campus itself.

Note that the campus includes a large number of buildings. These buildings are all identified by a letter and a number (for example, C2). These buildings are distributed as in a mesh. The letter indicates the row (for instance, A, B, C...) and the number indicates the row (1,2,3...). That way, it is very easy to identify any building. Some meaningful buildings (for the course) are the following ones:
A1 to A5 - Classrooms

C1 – Site of the department of construction engineering. Prof. Roca office is in room 206 of building C1.

C2- Site of the School of Civil Engineering. Academic Secretariat and other offices.

B1 – Calculation center

Other buildings:

BIB: Main library

TG: Rectorate of UPC

Important: The OMI (office of International Mobility) is in the ground level of A4

The international relations office is in building BO

Neighborhood of Campus Nord of UPC. Note the location of the metro stations “Zona Universitaria” and “Palau Reial”
BEFORE ARRIVING TO BARCELONA

If you are a citizen from a country belonging to the European Union you will not need to follow any administrative procedure to become a UPC full time student. Students from countries not belonging to the European Union who come to study for more than three months must apply for a student visa at the Spanish embassy in their home country. Students’ relatives must apply for a student family visa.

**Important:** If your studies take less than six months, the Spanish embassy is likely to issue a student visa with the label ESTUDIOS TOTAL 180 DÍAS (total stay for studies 180 days). This kind of visa will not allow you to obtain another student visa during your stay in Spain, so you can not extend your stay.
AFTER ARRIVING TO BARCELONA

At your arrival you will have to solve some administration requirements as soon as possible. These include the (1) registration to the International Mobility Office of UPC, (2) enrolment as student of the School of Civil Engineering of UPC, (3) opening of bank account, (4) registration as local inhabitant (“empadronamiento”) and (5) application for Number of Identification of Foreigner (NIE).

You will receive support from the OMI to carry out these steps. In addition, detailed explanations and direct support will be provided during the welcome week organized during September 15-19, 2008.

Registration to International Mobility Office of UPC (OMI)

At your arrival to Barcelona you must complete your registration process at our International Mobility Office (OMI, for its Spanish abbreviation). The staff there will provide you with useful information for your stay and will check if everything is right regarding your VISA. The office is in Campus Nord of UPC at the following address:

International Mobility Office (OMI)
08034 Barcelona
Tel. 34 93 401 69 37
oficina.mobilitat.internacional@upc.edu

During your stay in Barcelona, you may address to the OMI for help or advise regarding any problem related to your VISA or any other issue related to your stay in the city.

Before your arrival, you may also contact them in case of any problem in obtaining your VISA, for they will try to assist and help you.

Registration to the School of Civil Engineering

Your will have to enrol as student of the SAHC master in the UPC. The registration is done at the window of the Academic Secretariat of the School of Civil Engineering of Barcelona in the ground floor of building C2.

The registration as student of the School of Civil Engineering is compulsory. It is needed to use all the facilities and advantages of the school, including the library, the computer system, electronic address, UPC student card, and so on.

Opening a bank account

To open a bank account, your will need your passport and the NIE number.

Foreigner students of the UPC will be permitted to open a bank account without the NIE (see below) However, they need to obtain the NIE (and deliver it to the bank office) within 45 days.
Application of Number of Identification of Foreigner (NIE)

The NIE is an identification number given by the Spanish Foreigners Office.

To open the bank account and for other purposes you will need a NIE number. The NIE number can be obtained at the police comissariat in Guadalajara street, 1-3 from Monday to Friday between 9h and 14h.

To apply for the NIE, you will need to register as local inhabitant (“empadronamiento”).

To apply for the NIE, you will need the application form (original and copy), passport (original and copy), color photograph (3 copies), certificate of inscription to the SAHC course provided by the School of Civil Engineering (or admission letter provided by the Department or School) and the certificate of “empadronamiento”.

The OMI will provide you detailed instructions and support to obtain the NIE (in particular, to fill the forms). However, you should take into account that obtaining the NIE may take one or more weeks.

Empadronamiento

“Empadronamiento” refers to registering oneself in local Town Hall as local inhabitant. Requirement is that you live and intend to live in municipality for at least 6 months.

To so register, one needs to present at the Town Hall one’s passport, residency card, registration certificate or rental agreement (with utility bill). Hence, the main requirement is to having already accommodated in Barcelona.

Welcome Seminar

At the beginning of the course a welcome seminar will be organized during which the students of the SAHC will be introduced to the main aspects related to the city, university and the master itself. The welcome week will include the following activities:

- Presentation of the UPC and the School of Civil Engineering
- Visit to the premises of Campus Nord (North Campus) of UPC
- Instructions and support to undertake required bureaucratic actions (registration to OMI and School, application to NIE, bank account...)
- Introduction of some of the main services offered by the university and: Description and demonstration of resources of the Library of the Campus and Computer system of the School of Civil Engineering
- First scientific seminar including lectures offered by docents and students.

A more detailed programme will be sent opportune.