

## Homestays

At its core, a culture is made of up relationships, and in the Dominican Republic family is the most important relationship. In comparison to North American and European cultures which stress individualism, the Latino Caribbean culture values the family above all else. Spending time living with a local Dominican family will give you a special glimpse in what it is that truly gives the Dominican Republic its special flavor. Through sharing in home-cooked meals and every-day conversation, you will find that you share many more similarities than differences.

If your group is planning on spending a week or more in Santo Domingo, as a group you can choose to take part in family home stays rather than stay in a hotel. You will live with a local family, sharing breakfast and dinner each day. At the homestay you will have your bedroom, which will be shared with another member of your group. There is no additional cost and CSA will pick you up at your home each day to bring you to our center for the day's classes and activities.

Homestays are especially meaningful for groups that have a focus on Spanish language learning as they provide additional opportunities outside of class to practice your Spanish with native speakers. At times it may be frustrating to not be able to speak as easily as you might like, but you will also probably be surprised by how well you are able to communicate by the end of your stay.

## Las Colinas, Hato Mayor

Those opting to work in Hato Mayor or El Seibo will stay at Hotel Las Colinas in Hato Mayor. The site provides a pool, recreation spaces and a beautiful terrain. Internet access will be limited and can be accessed via a computer. Participants will share rooms with other members from your group in rooms of 2, 3, 4 and 5 and you will have breakfast and dinner at the Hotel.



### Fusimania, Puerto Plata

Fusimania, a retreat center located in the mountains of rural Puerto Plata is the site for our programs in Puerto Plata. Fusimania is run by the Claret Catholic priests and consists of modest double rooms with a bathroom in each room, areas to read and relax and a common dining area.



### CAET, Neyba

This lodging site is nestled in the mountains of Neyba with a beautiful view of the valley. Participants will sleep on bunk beds and share bathrooms (women/men). All meals will be on site and consist of plantains, meat and salad.

### Local hotel Santo Domingo

During the first portion of the trip in Santo Domingo, the group will be lodged in double and triple rooms in a modest hotel called Maison Gautraux, located in Gazcue. You will have breakfast and dinner at the hotel and lunch at CSA's center

