



Information for Families during the Welcome Days

SLU-Madrid invites parents and families to accompany their sons and daughters to our "Welcome Days." We look forward to meeting you! Please come to campus with your son or daughter on Sunday, September 1. We have activities designed specifically for parents and other family members, including a coffee reception, a Sunday mass, an opportunity to meet informally with the Campus Director and Academic Dean, and tours of campus.

Morning Events on Sunday, September 1

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| 9:30 | Check-in opens in the front lobby of San Ignacio Hall (Calle Amapolas, 3). Please arrive before 11:00. Parent Coffee Social: San Ignacio Hall Cafeteria |
| 10:00 | Mass at San Juan Crisóstomo, Calle Domenico Scarlatti 2, Madrid |
| 11:00 | Welcome from Paul Vita, Ph.D., SLU-Madrid Director and Academic Dean San Ignacio Hall |
| 11:45 | Student departure for the Welcome Days at Guadarrama |
| 12:00 | Meeting the Admissions Counselors and Campus tours for families |

It's also with pleasure as well that we invite the families of our new students to our annual Convocation Ceremony, the inauguration of our new students' academic life at Saint Louis University. The event takes place at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 3, on the patio of Padre Arrupe Halle (Avenida del Valle, 34).

Hotels and Guest Accommodations

Our campus is located close to many hotels, many of which offer discounted rates for Saint Louis University visitors. Rates are subject to change and based on availability. Please note that family members and guests of students are not allowed to stay in host family housing or with students at the Welcome Days activities in Guadarrama.

- [Find Hotels near SLU-Madrid.](#)
- [Find SLU-Madrid on Google Maps.](#)

Parking

There is ample street parking (metered) in SLU-Madrid's neighborhood. Street parking is free on Sundays.

Some Tips for Parents

Prepare questions: Think about what you want to know, not just what you should find out. Consider what you want to learn prior to leaving your student in Madrid. Also think about what information may help you throughout their time at SLU. Thinking ahead will help you determine what's truly important to you and your student.

Listen and take notes: You may jot some notes while talking to people at SLU-Madrid sharing information — make note of websites where the info resides online. Once you return home, you can read through your notes. It will make remembering everything from memory easier. Use your cellphone to take pictures of important slides in presentations — sometimes a visual can help in recalling what you learned.

Get to know other parents and families: SLU-Madrid is an excellent place to mix and mingle with others who are going through the same thing that you are. Develop informal support structures and compare notes with other parents and family members.

Give your student some space: This is their first full campus experience as a SLU student so it's important that they learn to navigate on their own. Give them space to meet people, to ask questions and take charge of their college life. Empowering them to be their own self-advocate will help build their confidence for their return in the fall.

Take care of yourself: September in Madrid can be quite hot. Drink water. Stay cool and pace yourself. Take breaks.

Take care of your belongings: If you are visiting Madrid and Spain for the first time, be cautious of petty theft schemes, including pickpocketing. For more information on common criminal schemes in Spain and ways to avoid crime, you may visit Spain's country information at this USA government webpage at travel.state.gov.

Create a reflection checklist: Take notes of things you learn during your stay so you can discuss these items with your student once you return home. What family expectations may you have of them? Allow your student to share with you their personal goals they have for college. Listen to what they learned during the Welcome Days in Guadarrama. Discuss how they can be responsible for managing problems as they occur in college by knowing the resources and services available for them at SLU-Madrid.