

A large stone sculpture of an elephant's head and trunk, set against a clear blue sky. The elephant's trunk is raised and curled. The sculpture is made of dark, textured stone. In the background, a white stone pillar is visible. The bottom of the image features a decorative border of colorful, interlocking geometric shapes in shades of red, purple, green, and orange.

Study Italian in Catania

The City of the Elephant

programs, dates & prices 2025



Giga
International House
Catania
Italian department

benvenuti nella scuola italiana

Mirë se erdhet أهلا وسهلا
Bienvenus Welcome Bine aji venit! Добро пожаловать Maligayang pagdating
italiano albanese arabo bulgaro cinese croato filippino francese inglese olandese portoghese russo spagnolo

Course time table

08:00 - 08:55	PRIVATE LESSONS combo course
09:00 - 10:30	INTENSIVE GROUP COURSE communicative activities session
	coffee break
11:00 - 12:30	INTENSIVE GROUP COURSE language analyses session
	lunch break
1:00 - 1:45	SUPER INTENSIVE GROUP COURSE or combo course or private lessons
1:45 - 2:30	SUPER INTENSIVE GROUP COURSE or combo course or private lessons
afternoons & evenings	weekly social & cultural activity program



day	sample
MONDAY	Catania walking tour or social lunch/dinner
TUESDAY	movie night
WEDNESDAY	cultural lectures
THURSDAY	museum guided tours
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Italian courses
International House
Catania

WEEKLY SOCIAL & CULTURAL ACTIVITY PROGRAM





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Catania

Italian courses in a group

ENROLMENT FEE € 50	INTENSIVE 3 h/day in a group	COMBO 3 h/day group + 1 h. private	SUPER INTENSIVE 5 h/day
1 WEEK	€ 240	€ 440	€ 420
2 WEEKS	€ 470	€ 870	€ 850
3 WEEKS	€ 700	€ 1300	€ 1280
4 WEEKS	€ 930	€ 1730	€ 1710
5 WEEKS	€ 1105	€ 2105	€ 2085
6 WEEKS	€ 1280	€ 2480	€ 2460
7 WEEKS	€ 1455	€ 2855	€ 2835
8 WEEKS	€ 1630	€ 3230	€ 3210
<i>extra week</i>	€ 150	€ 350	€ 330



Learn Italian at
Giga International
Intensive Summer Course 2015

2025 STARTING DATES for Absolute Beginners

*All other course levels
can start on any Monday.*

*For every public holiday, we discount
the course price on the invoice*



JANUARY	07.01 *	20.01		JULY	14.07	28.07 ****	
FEBRUARY	03.02	17.02		AUGUST	*****	25.08	
MARCH	03.03	17.03		SEPTEMBER	01.09	15.09	29.09
APRIL	07.04	22.04 **		OCTOBER	13.10	27.10	
MAY	05.05	19.05		NOVEMBER	10.11	24.11	
JUNE	03.06 ***	16.06	30.06	DECEMBER	09.12 *****	**** **	

* Monday Jan 6th is a Public Holiday (Epiphany)

** Monday, April 21st is Public Holiday (Easter Monday)

*** Monday, June 2nd is Public Holiday (Day of the Republic)

**** until Friday, August 8th, included

***** The school is closed from Monday, August 11th to Friday August 22nd

***** Monday, April 21st is Public Holiday (Immaculate Conception)

***** The school is closed from Monday, December 22nd to Sunday, January 4th, 2025

Italian language private lessons

	1 hour	5 hours per week	10 hours per week	15 hours per week	20 hours per week
1-to-1	€ 40	€ 200	€ 400	€ 600	€ 800
2-to-1	€ 60	€ 300	€ 600	€ 900	€ 1200



Italian *plus...* extra courses

	DESCRIPTION	PRICE PER WEEK
"A TASTE OF SICILY" home cooking program	<i>2 sessions per week</i>	€ 255
"DRINKING FROM ODYSSEUS' CUP" Sicilian wine tasting program	<i>2 sessions per week</i>	€ 150
"HIKING ON POLYPHEMUS' FOOTPRINTS" Sunset on Etna hiking program	<i>2 sessions per week</i>	€ 320
"DIVING INTO NEPTUNE SEA" guided diving program	<i>2 sessions p er week</i>	€ 175
"DIVING FOR BEGINNERS" the Baptism of the Sea	<i>1 session</i>	€ 110
"NADD EU SCUBA DIVING LICENSE": Discovery Scuba Diving program	<i>2 sessions per week</i>	€ 355
SICILIAN CERAMICS Sicilian ceramics decoration program	<i>2 sessions per week</i>	€ 365

Italian *plus...* culture courses

	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
"HISTORY AND ART HISTORY IN SICILY"	2 week program, 10 lessons, 1,5 hours per day	€ 900
"CINEMA AND LITERATURE IN SICILY"	2 week program, 10 lessons, 1,5 hours per day	€ 900
"MAFIA AND CINEMA"	2 week program, 10 lessons, 1,5 hours per day	€ 900

The highlights of the program

This program is recommended to those who want to have the fullest experience of Sicily in 2 weeks only!

The program includes

- 5 (five!) trips and guided tours in 5 UNESCO sites in Sicily!
- 2 lectures on History and on Cinema in Sicily!
- 1 cooking class on the famous Arancini
- 1 wine tasting on Etna wines

A unique chance to get to know a lot about Sicily in 2 weeks only!



The Gran Tour of UNESCO sites in Sicily

30+ program



	week 1	week 2
day 1 - monday	guided tour CATANIA	guided tour TAORMINA
day 2 - tuesday	lecture HISTORY OF SICILY	guided tour NOTO
day 3 - wednesday	guided tour SYRACUSE	lecture MYTHOLOGY IN SICILY
day 4 - thursday	guided tour PIAZZA ARMERINA	hiking tour ETNA
day 5 - friday	cooking class ARANCINI	wine tasting ETNA WINES
day 6 - saturday	free day	free day
day 7 - sunday	free day	free day



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The Gran Tour of the UNESCO sites in Sicily

30+ program



The Gran Tour of the UNESCO sites in Sicily

30+ program

DATES

17.03

07.04

05.05

03.06

15.09

13.10

10.11

PRICE

€ 1025

	SINGLE ROOM 7 nights	DOUBLE ROOM 7 nights (total price)
HOME-STAY only breakfast	€ 315	€ 490
HOME-STAY breakfast & dinner	€ 385	€ 630
B&B breakfast only, no use of kitchen	€ 455	€ 630
SHARED APARTMENT with use of kitchen	€ 525	€ 700
INDEPENDENT STUDIO APTMT	€ 595	€ 770
HOTELS	to be quoted on request	to be quoted on request



Accommodation options



CANCELLATION FEES:

- before 07 days prior to the date of arrival: no fee
- during the last 7 days before the arrival date: full payment of the accommodation bill

SECURITY DEPOSIT for damages in the accommodation

- no fee
- students are responsible in full for all damages caused

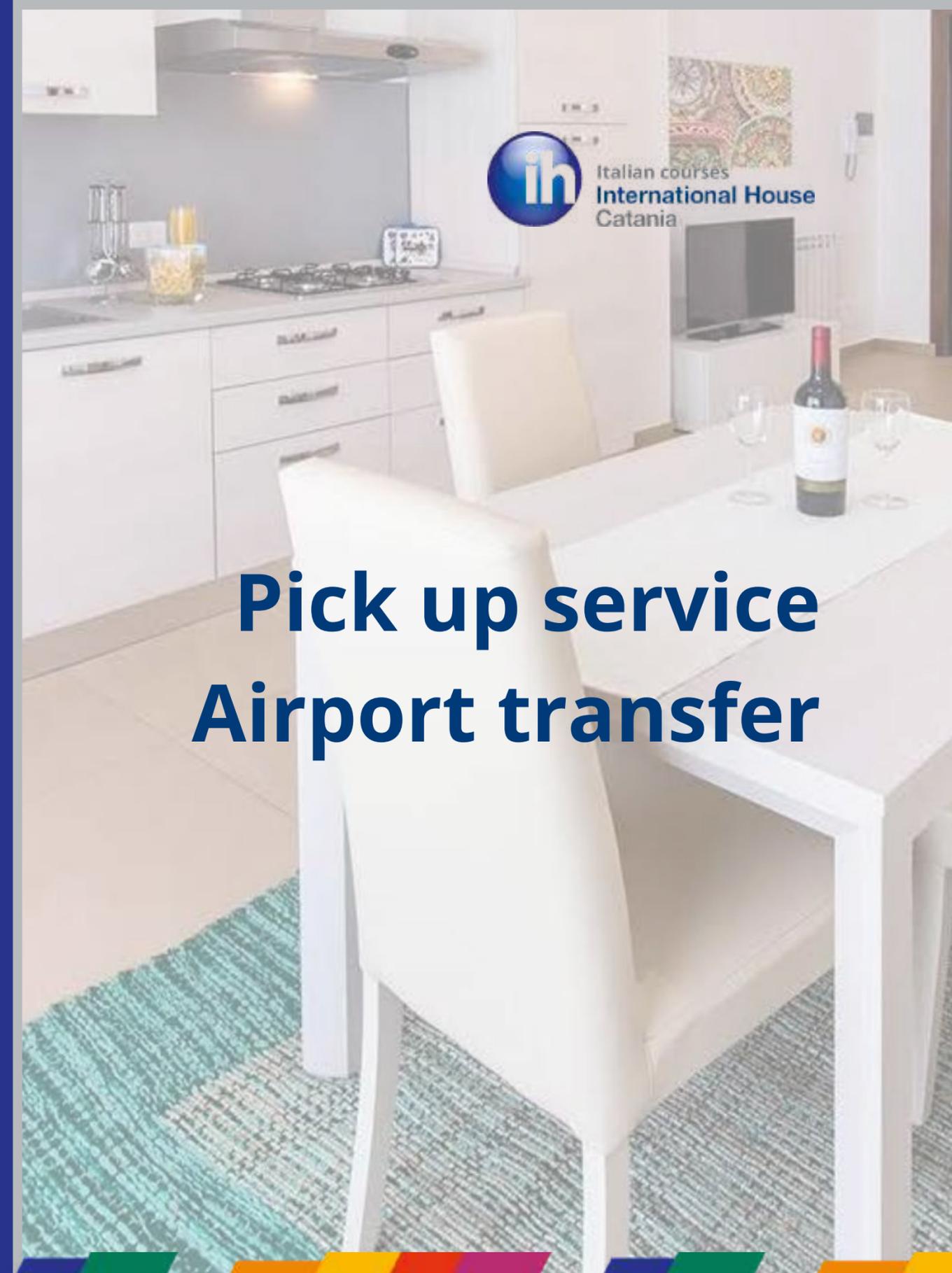
CITY TAX

- € 2 per night x 4 nights (total € 8) to be paid directly to the accommodation owners/managers



Notes on Accommodation bookings

	ONE WAY from/to Catania Airport	RETURN from/to Catania Airport
from 1 to 3 people	€ 50	€ 100



**Pick up service
Airport transfer**



Catania's Vincenzo Bellini airport (former Fontanarossa) is less than 10 km from the city centre.

The shuttle bus is not the fastest means of transport but it is definitely convenient and therefore the most popular choice among those who want a low-cost holiday; for those who prefer the comfort or freedom of schedules taxis or rental cars are better choices.

The bus is the cheapest way to reach the centre of Catania from the airport and vice versa. You can take the Alibus of the AMT company that will take you to the railway station in the city centre in just 20 minutes. It is a circular line that makes a total of 15 stops. Alibus runs every day, including holidays, every 25 minutes. The first run is from the airport at 4.40 am, the last at midnight. The price of the one-way ticket is very affordable: only 4 euros!

If you do not want to waste time or if you want to travel comfortably, the most suitable means for you is definitely a taxi. One of the companies authorised to operate at Catania Airport is

- Taxi Catania (<https://www.radiotaxicatania.org/en/>)

In normal, flowing traffic conditions, a ride from Catania airport to the city centre costs around € 20/€ 30 with the daytime rate and around €36 with the night or weekend rate.



All enrolments are subject to the following General Conditions, which become legally binding on acceptance of enrolment by INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CATANIA – Italian Department.

Lessons

- All group classes run Monday through Friday except during official Italian holidays
- On their first day, students should arrive at school at 08.30
- One lesson hour equals 45 minutes
- Group lessons are usually held in the mornings, however on occasion (generally during high season) these group lessons may be scheduled in the afternoon
- Individual lessons are generally held before or after group classes
- The number of course lessons includes the entrance/placement test (mandatory) and final exam (given on request)
- Completion of a particular 4-week course does not guarantee advancement to the next level
- In the rare event that a student arrives, takes the entrance exam and is the only student for a particular level, the student's tuition cost will be converted to private one-to-one lessons, with a 50% reduction on the total number of group course lessons.

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- The intensive 4-lesson (3 hours) course will be converted to 1,5 hours of individual tuition
- In the event that there are only 2 students for a particular level, the number of lessons for the class will be reduced by 15 minutes for each session of the intensive course given the more intense nature of a small class size
- In case of complaints, a student can address our administrative office to talk to the Director of Studies. The student will be asked to state the details of his complaint in writing on a specific form provided by the office. The policy for complaints is on display in our school administrative office

National Holidays

The school is closed on Epiphany (6/1), Easter Monday, Liberation Day (25/4) Labour Day (1/5), Day of the Republic (2/6), Assumption of Mary (15/8), All Saints' Day (1/11), and Immaculate Conception (8/12). A refund will be made for Public Holidays on the following basis:

- INTENSIVE courses = 30 €
- COMBO INTENSIVE courses = 70 €
- SUPER INTENSIVE courses = 65 €

Accomodation

Finding accommodation is a free service for all students enrolled on our courses.

All housing is on a first reserved first served basis and is strictly booked from week-end to week-end. On the day of departure, students must vacate their accommodation by 10.30.

The school acts only as an intermediary regarding the lodgings and takes no responsibility regarding the relationship between the renter and the student.

All of the accommodations available through the school have been selected by our Accommodation Manager, according to our Inspection Scheme for cleanliness, comfort, and location.

Since all accommodations are privately owned and operated, there are minor differences in amenities, but all meet a standard level of quality and convenience and are regularly checked by our school. In case of complaints, a student can address our administrative office to talk to the Apartment Manager. The student will be asked to state the details of his complaint in writing on a specific form provided by the office. The policy for complaints is on display in our school administrative office.

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Extra courses

Extra courses are operated through external partners who are liable for the services provided.

Balance

All fees must be paid in full at the latest on the first day of arrival at school.

If payment in full has not been received within the first day the school reserve the right not to admit students in class to start the course.

On no account can the tuition fee paid for group classes be transferred to individual classes, after the beginning of a course.

Payment conditions

Payments for the language course can be made by bank transfer or Paypal

Payments for pick-up, extra courses, and accommodation can be made by bank transfer or Paypal. Our registration office will coordinate all necessary information.

Bank charges are to be met in full by the agencies

Terms & conditions

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After the complaint, the school must have time to verify the validity of the complaint (within 24 hours, excluding holidays) to determine if it is justified reasons that satisfy the request for change of accommodation or refund or if it is just a small problem that can be resolved immediately or if, on the other hand, there is no valid reason for the complaint.

Pick-up booking conditions

This service must be reserved at least one week in advance of arrival.

All last-minute flight changes or late flights (on Saturdays and Sundays) must be immediately communicated directly to the taxi service. The telephone number of the taxi service is always provided by our office to the booking party who is responsible for informing the taxi service.

The school is not responsible if agents do not notify the student of the stated conditions or if the student does not follow the conditions given.

This service is not cancellable within 48 hours of your arrival.

Our bank information (for bank transfers) is:

ACCOUNT HOLDER	LAC Lingua Arte Cultura Soc. Coop. arl
BANK NAME	BANCA ETICA
BANK ADDRESS	via Niccolò Tommaseo 7 – 35131, Padova (PD)
IBAN Code	IT41P0501804600000020000137
BIC Code (swift)	ETICIT22XXX

Please always clearly specify for whom the payment is made.

Visas

According to the Italian Law n° 68, May28, 2007, foreigners (citizens no belonging to the European Union) staying in Italy for less than 90 days with a regular Tourist Visa do not need to apply for a Permesso di Soggiorno.

As per the Official website of the Italian Police

(<http://www.poliziadistato.it/pds/ps/immigrazione/ingresso.htm>), all individuals entering Italy who are citizens of non-European countries (countries not belonging to the Schengen area) and



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staying in Italy for fewer than 90 days are only required to get their passports stamped at the customs station at the airport of entry. The customs stamp is equivalent to the Dichiarazione di Presenza required of the Schengen area citizens. Additionally, according to the current legislation, U.S., Canadians, Australians, N.Zs. and Japanese citizens, do not need to apply for a Permesso di Soggiorno, if staying for fewer than 90 days.

If the stay is for over 90 days, all aliens (citizens not belonging to the European Union) who enter Italy legally must comply with the rules governing the stay of aliens in Italy, and are required to report their presence on Italian territory to the local Central Police Station ('Questura') of the province in which they are staying within 8 working days from the date of entry, and apply for a residence permit ('permesso di soggiorno') pursuant to article 5 of Law 286/1998. Aliens requesting this residence permit are required to be fingerprinted.

We suggest reading the Italian Police website for up-to-date information <http://www.poliziadistato.it/> and the Foreign Office website www.esteri.it

Minors

All minors are to be accommodated in a homestay with half-board lodgings.

Accident and medical insurance

We recommend students to take out medical and personal insurance before leaving their home country.

Citizens from the European Union are entitled to free medical care in Italy if they hold an E111 Form which can be obtained from their local health authority in their home country before departing for Italy.

Citizens not of the European Union must conform to the requirements issued by the Italian Government. Details can be obtained at their local Italian Embassies.

IH CATANIA - Italian Department has insurance for those liabilities expressly imposed by Italian law and for in-door and out-door activities organised by the school.

Policy on harassment, bullying and discrimination

The school is committed to providing a working and learning environment that is free from all forms of harassment, bullying and discrimination.

Terms & conditions

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The School makes all students and employees aware of the policy forbidding harassment, bullying and discrimination and their responsibility to comply with the policy. This policy is clearly stated in our terms and conditions so students are perfectly aware of it and accept it. Appropriate action, which may include warnings and dismissal/disciplinary proceedings for serious or repeated offenses, may be taken against any student or employee who violates this policy.

Staff and students commit to treating everyone equally and without discrimination.

Personal data

Students authorize our school to use their personal data in accordance with the current Italian law (n° 196/2003) which foresees also that this information will be kept in archival form for legal use related to the booking and course-related operations. The student authorizes the school also to send, periodically, information and promotional material about the school and the courses offered.

The student may request at any moment that all of this information be deleted.

Use of photos and comments

Permission is given for the use of student comments or testimonials and photographs/images of students in the official promotional material of our school and courses by the student with acceptance of these terms and conditions.

Complaints and queries. Resolution of disputes

Students should bring any problems to the school's attention immediately in order to receive all the assistance and help needed to resolve any issues arising during their stay at school. We do not accept retrospective complaints or queries.

If a student wishes to complain about any aspect of the services, the complaint should be made in the first instance to the IH CATANIA - Italian Department office.

In the event that the matter is not resolved, the student or student's agent should make a complaint in writing to the Director of the IH CATANIA - Italian Department.

Such complaints will be investigated provided that:

- the complaint is received during the course stay
- the complaint was initially registered in writing
- all bills relating to the student making the complaint have been settled in full

Terms & conditions

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Cancellations and refund policy - general

The following are IH CATANIA - Italian Department charges and refunds for cancellation or withdrawal from a course:

- The school must be informed immediately of any requested changes or withdrawal notices or cancellations in writing
- The € 250 is never refundable after enrolment has been accepted by IH CATANIA - Italian Department and the school has sent a confirmation for the course and/or any other related service

Deposits and fees are not transferable from person to person

If the IH CATANIA - Italian Department rejects an application, the applicant is entitled to a full refund within 30 day

Refunds of tuition or accommodation fees prior to arrival

The following are IH CATANIA - Italian Department charges for canceling the accommodation booking:

- before 7 days prior to the date of arrival: no fee
- during the last 7 days before the arrival date: full payment of the accommodation bill

Security deposit for damages in the accommodation

No security deposit for damages in the accommodation is required. Students are responsible in full for all damages caused

City Tax

The Municipality of Catania requires the payment of the City Tax to hotels, B&Bs and Independent studio apartments. Students will pay for the City Tax directly to the administration managers of the to hotels, B&Bs and Independent studio apartments

Refunds of tuition fees after the course start date

If a student does not attend, withdraws or shortens his/her course after the course has begun, tuition fees will not be refunded. No refunds are allowed for a delayed start or premature departure. Student tuition is never refunded due to absence from class and study hours subsequently lost can not be made up.

For entitlement to a refund, a 2-week notice period is required and the refund of any tuition in excess of this period will be refunded in full, less a cancellation fee of € 150.

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Refunds of accommodation fees after arrival

No refund is allowed for delayed arrival or premature departure. Should a student withdraw from his/her accommodation after arrival without satisfying the Administration Office with a valid motive, a 2-week notice is required. In this case, any accommodation fees paid in excess of this period will be refunded in full, less a cancellation fee of € 150.

In the event of a fully justifiable reason for withdrawal, with the help of our Apartment Manager, the Administration Office will move the student to another apartment or find an alternative solution.

Liabilities

IH CATANIA – Italian Department and its staff and representatives are not held liable for any loss, damage or injury to persons or property howsoever caused, except where liability is expressly imposed by Italian law. IH CATANIA - Italian Department is not held liable in the event that any service contract to be provided by IH CATANIA - Italian Department should become impossible to supply for any cause or reason beyond the control of IH CATANIA - Italian Department

Valid prices

Prices in the brochure are valid from January, 1st until December, 31st

Expulsion

IH CATANIA - Italian Department reserves the right to dismiss any student whose conduct is unsatisfactory at the discretion of the centre Director, whose decision is final. There will be no refund for fees in cases of expulsion and any billed but unpaid fees become payable immediately.

Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

All enrolments are subject to the above-mentioned General Terms and Conditions, which become legally binding on acceptance of enrolment by IH CATANIA - Italian.

By IH CATANIA - ITALIAN DEPARTMENT's acceptance of an applicant's electronic and/or signed form of registration or any other written form of registration (also through agencies and representatives), the applicant tacitly agrees to accept these General Conditions.



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The application is made according to the Italian Law, and the Italian Law will be applicable to any kind of dispute concerning any matter that might rise a dispute, due to the enrolment.