For Adults

Language Immersion Programs

Relax with our all-inclusive programs

Comfortable Lodging

You will stay at our International Retreat Center in a "Language Village" with modern and comfortable cabins, and eat meals together with other participants in the Village dining hall. Each cabin has its own shared bathroom and a cozy living area. Towels, linens, pillowcases and blankets are provided. All activities, language instruction and socializing around the café or the campfire take place right on site.

Delicious Meals

Home-cooked meals reflect the cuisine of the cultures you’re learning about, with plenty of delicious foods to choose from. Lunch and dinner are served family style, with breakfast served cafeteria style or buffet. The breads, pastries and desserts are home-baked, adding an authentic flair not easily found elsewhere! We can accommodate most dietary needs, including vegetarians or restricted diets.
All of our programs include overnight lodging, meals, language instruction and activities.

International Retreat Center

Turtle River Lake near Bemidji, Minn.

Nestled on 875 acres of woodland around the shores of Turtle River Lake, seven Language Villages featuring culturally authentic architecture provide an unparalleled immersion setting with ample outdoor activity spaces and hiking trails. Cozy and comfortable cabins and lodges feature semi-private bathrooms and sleeping rooms housing two to six participants.

Site Rentals Turtle River Lake

The Concordia Language Villages retreat center can provide your group or team with an opportunity to escape from everyday life to an international setting conducive to reflection and learning. Our guest services staff will work diligently to meet all your needs, allowing you to focus on your goals and agenda. Please contact us for specific details and to select the facilities that best meet your group’s needs.

Languages

Chinese

Get ready for your next business trip to China, a new adoptee in your family or explore your heritage. You will learn about Chinese names, cultural norms, current affairs and regional foods. As an introduction or as a refresher, this course accommodates all levels of language learners.

Finnish

Stay at Salolampi, the Finnish Language Village, where the Finnish-style log cabins are surrounded by birch trees. Two saunas, kantele music and a variety of hands-on activities such as singing, dancing or an outdoor game of mölky contribute to your getaway immersed in all things Finnish. This program is generously supported by the Salolampi Foundation. (www.Salolampi.org)

French

Experience the French language and cultures with all of your senses. Hear accents from Toulouse, Quebec and Cameroon. Enjoy French and Francophone cuisine. Engage en français by sharing anecdotes from around the world. Or participate in the Les Voyageurs program, where you will start your canoe adventure at our base camp on Turtle River Lake near Bemidji, Minn. Learn about the history of the French fur trade in North America and practice canoeing skills while living la vie des voyageurs!
German

Getting ready for a trip to the German-speaking world? Want to speak German for pleasure or need to use German in your work environment? Our unique program is designed with you in mind. Programming includes delicious, authentic food, conversation, cultural presentations, songs and many activities such as Spazierengehen, Musik and Film und Tanz. Explore the natural world on gorgeous hikes through the forest, discuss German literature and debate environmental policies in das Waldsee Biohaus, our modern super energy-efficient environmental learning center. You will gain confidence and further your abilities in German, allowing you to apply your newly acquired language auf der Stelle.

Italian

Whether your goal is to learn how to make authentic Italian recipes at home or to gain the confidence to explore Rome on your next vacation, this inviting program will give you all the tools you need to conquer this warm and lyrical language and understand Italian culture. Bring a friend and join us for Italian language immersion interspersed with wonderful food, cultural classes and a game of Roverino!

Japanese

Join us for a Japanese language immersion weekend adventure! The staff of Mori no Ike will take you on a journey to explore the language and culture of Japan.

Study Japanese in small groups with language experts. Try out cultural activities such as taiko drumming, Japanese bread making and shodo (calligraphy with a brush). Enjoy authentic Japanese meals. Learn fun songs with other Japan enthusiasts. We can’t wait for you to join the Mori no Ike community!

Norwegian

At Skogfjorden, you’ll feel like you’re in Norway with the surrounding architecture and the beautiful view of your own fjord. Enjoy current-day Norwegian meals and a supportive community of learners. Dynamic and fun presentations about literature, music, history and Vikings enrich your learning experience and inspire your specific interests and language abilities.

Spanish

Traveling to a Spanish-speaking country for business or pleasure? Need to use Spanish with your clients or staff at work? This program is designed for you! Our program is unlike any other. Throughout the program you will be surrounded by caring and well-trained staff from around the globe and gather a collage of experiences designed to increase your Spanish language skills. Active language classes and home-style meals from around the Spanish-speaking world are just a few examples of what this program has to offer. You will be ready to use your newly acquired language skills right away!

Swedish

Sjölunden for adults features a rich array of authentic cuisine, music, arts and crafts. We’ll help you improve your Swedish pronunciation, expand your vocabulary, learn new conversational skills and broaden your knowledge of Swedish-speaking cultures. A talented and motivated staff provides expert instruction in small and large group settings, catered specifically to participants’ language abilities, from beginners to native fluency. You’ll participate in language classes, presentations on culture and history, musical experiences and workshops on ethnic arts and crafts.
Our Methods

The success of the Concordia Language Villages approach to teaching language is based on the following curriculum design and delivery principles. These hold true for language learners of all ages, all backgrounds and abilities, and all levels of motivation and aspirations:

• Giving learners courage to use the target language;
• Being learner-centered so the participants become invested in their own learning;
• Offering linguistically and culturally authentic settings;
• Creating a real need to interact and communicate;
• Being experiential, involving multiple senses and drawing on multiple intelligences.

Learning comes naturally when you are free from the distractions of everyday life, especially when encouraged by supportive staff and other motivated learners.

Lifelong Language Learning

Work at the Villages

Each summer we hire native speakers and proficient non-native speakers to work in our Language Villages. Contract dates vary from Village to Village and include room and board, orientation and salary.

Apply online at: ConcordiaLanguageVillages.org/staffing.

About Concordia College

Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., is a private, coeducational, four-year liberal arts college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Concordia is a nationally recognized leader among undergraduate institutions in study abroad.

Lifelong Language Learning

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