



Kaplan International Center

# Berkeley



Situated in the heart of downtown Berkeley, only 20 minutes from San Francisco, the Kaplan International Center Berkeley has provided countless international students with an unforgettable learning experience in the United States.

Berkeley is a major cultural center and is the home of the University of California Berkeley, one of the top universities in the world. As a vibrant college town, renowned for its unique charm and colorful mixture of people and lifestyles, Berkeley is an ideal location for international students. With San Francisco just a short, 20-minute train ride away, students take advantage of all this metropolitan city has to offer, while studying and living in a safe and relaxed atmosphere of academic excellence. Located in the Bay Area, Berkeley has long been a premier tourist destination due to the region’s diverse landscape including beautiful forests, beaches, mountains and California’s famous wine country.

The KIC center is located right in the center of downtown Berkeley, only one block from the UC Berkeley campus. Whether you’re just starting your English studies or are already an advanced student, and whether you're looking for an intensive or a part-time course, you can surely find something to suit your needs.



Kaplan Berkeley Center



Kaplan International Center Berkeley  
150 Berkeley Square  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
USA

Kaplan International Centers in the USA are accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training.

Kaplan International Centers is a member of TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) and NAFFSA (Association for International Educators).





## KAPLAN INTERNATIONAL CENTER BERKELEY

### Center Facilities

#### Classrooms

KIC Berkeley has 10 classrooms.

#### Multimedia and Study Center

KIC Berkeley has a large area for quiet study with individual study cubicles. There are 15 computers with internet access and online language learning resources. Televisions, DVD players and headphones are also available.

#### Library

The Kaplan center has a library, which includes not only study guides but also fiction books. The Kaplan center is a block away from the Berkeley Public Library, which has extensive collections of foreign language books and ESL materials.

#### Student Lounge

There is a student lounge available for students' use. It includes two vending machines, a refrigerator and a microwave.

#### Cafeteria

The Kaplan Center is in the heart of downtown Berkeley, and surrounded by a variety of restaurant and cafe options.

#### Sports facilities

There are numerous parks with basketball courts, tennis courts, and a baseball field nearby.

#### Gym facilities

Students can join a local gym such as the YMCA or 24 Hour Fitness located nearby.

#### Activities/Social Program

There is a wide choice of activities available to students in Berkeley. Popular activities include hiking in the Berkeley Hills, college sports at UC Berkeley, and visiting local farmers' markets. Plus, the sights and delights of San Francisco are only 20 minutes across the Bay by train. Weekend trips include wine tasting in Napa Valley, skiing in Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Parks, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and more.



### Your first day

On the first day of your course you need to report to Kaplan Berkeley at 10 am. Your first day will be a Monday unless there is a national holiday on the Monday - in which case your first day will be Tuesday.

#### Your course will begin with an all-day introduction, which will include:

- Welcome coffee/tea
- A fun speaking activity
- A placement test to determine the level of the course you require
- Lunch and walking tour of Berkeley
- Presentation: Student visa - policies and procedures
- Homestay/apartment information
- Presentation: Student activities, academic advising

#### Please bring the following with you:

- I-20 form (if you have an F-1 visa)
- Proof of health insurance (unless you plan to purchase Kaplan's health insurance)
- Photocopies of passport/I-94 immigration papers

At the end of the day you will receive information about your class schedule, classroom number, study level, specific skills, and the hours you are to attend class. You will be assigned to the most appropriate class for your level of English.



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## Local Information

### Transport - buses and trains

Berkeley has an extensive transportation system including local bus lines and train system (BART) which services the East Bay, San Francisco, and local airports.

### Banks and Post Office

There are numerous banks all within one-block of the Kaplan center. The post office is a 5-minute walk away on Shattuck Avenue.

### Restaurants and Cafes

Berkeley is famous for its culinary scene, with some of the most well known chefs and restaurants in the world. There is also a great variety of cuisines from all around the world to suit every budget.

### Department stores and supermarkets

There are several department stores within walking distance. Berkeley is world renowned for great local grocers with an assortment of fresh, organic foods. There is also a farmer's market every week a few blocks from the center.

### Telephone and Internet Café

Pay phones are located on the campus. The campus has wireless internet access.



View of Berkeley

### Cost of Living

#### Approximate prices in USD (subject to change)

Lunch	\$5-10
Hamburger	\$3-7
Coffee	\$2-4
<b>Tickets:</b>	
Movie	\$6-10
Bus	\$2 per trip
	\$80 per month
Bay Area Rapid Transport (BART) to San Francisco	\$3.75 one way

### Sample Activities Schedule

Please note that this is a sample program and activities may change. Some activities are organized by the center and some activities are independent.

#### Week one

Monday	Orientation
Tuesday	Hiking in the Berkeley hills
Wednesday	Oakland A's baseball game
Thursday	Farmer's market
Friday	Student party
Saturday	Santa Cruz trip

#### Week two

Monday	Orientation
Tuesday	Movie night
Wednesday	UC Berkeley campus tour
Thursday	Soccer game against KIC SF students
Friday	Visit Golden Gate Park
Saturday	Wine tasting in Napa Valley



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## Transfer Information

### Kaplan Transfers

A staff member, shuttle service employee, or your host family will be waiting for you at San Francisco International airport (SFO) or Oakland airport (OAK). They will be holding a Kaplan sign. Before your departure you will receive a welcome packet confirming this information.

If there are any problems, you should call the transfer service at 1-888-863-2482. You can also call Kaplan Berkeley's 24-hour phone numbers: 1-916-535-1767 or 1-888-331-2809. Be prepared to tell them your name, location, and the problem you have encountered.

### Independent Transfers

Students who opt not to use the transfer service should take a BART transport from San Francisco to Berkeley. The BART has a stop inside of the International Terminal at San Francisco International Airport (SFO), making it very convenient for students.

If students use BART, they are advised to take a Dublin Pleasanton Train to the Balboa Park station. Here students should exit and transfer to the Daly City/Richmond Train, then exit at the Downtown Berkeley Station. From here the Kaplan center is across the street. The ride time is approximately 40-45 minutes.



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