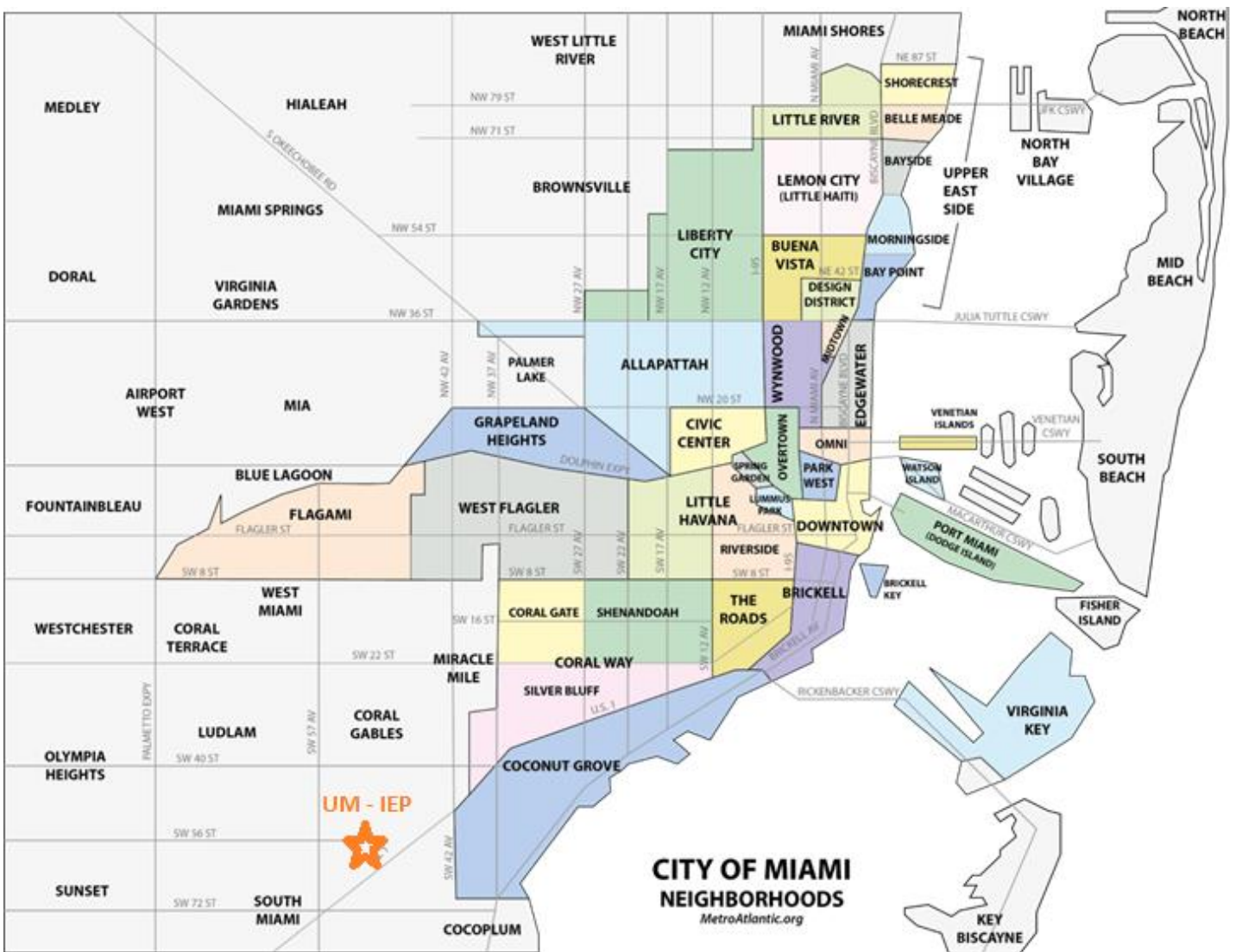


IEP Housing Guide

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Miami Neighborhoods

The Intensive English Program is [located](#) on the beautiful Coral Gables campus at the University of Miami. As an IEP student, you are required to live off campus. Utilize this guide to find out more about the different areas of Miami where our students live.

The city of Miami offers unique cultural events, beautiful beaches, major league sports, and a warm climate year-round. Miami is a unique and culturally diverse city, which is witnessed in each of its neighborhoods.

Coral Gables

distance to the IEP: UM is inside Coral Gables

The University of Miami sits inside the middle of Coral Gables. Coral Gables, or simply just The Gables, is known to be one of the safest areas of Miami. Coral Gables is home to parks, [golf courses](#), [The Venetian Pool](#), a downtown business district, and [shopping areas](#).

South Miami

distance to the IEP: 2.3 miles

South Miami is just south of the University and is a popular location for IEP students to live. South Miami is home to Sunset Place, which contains shops, bars, restaurants, a bowling alley, and a movie theatre. It is easy to walk or bike to campus from South Miami, as well as take the [Metrorail](#).

Coconut Grove

distance to the IEP: 3.4 miles

Coconut Grove is only a few minutes away from the University. It has a unique atmosphere, and is very different from the rest of Miami, and has a very laid-back atmosphere. Coconut Grove streets are lined with tropical plants and trees. You can find [free yoga in the park](#), or go shopping or watch a movie at the [Cinepolis](#). There are both low-key and upscale restaurants, bars, and coffee shops.

Dadeland

distance to the IEP: 4 miles

Dadeland is south of the University, and lies at the end of the [Metrorail](#) line. The area is mainly suburban. You can find a large mall, [Dadeland Mall](#), for any shopping needs.

Little Havana

distance to the IEP: 6 miles

Little Havana, as referenced by its name, is a piece of Cuban culture in the middle of Miami. You can find colorful murals, statues, and old men playing dominoes in the park. Up and down Calle Ocho (8th street), you can find famous [salsa clubs](#), Latin restaurants, and Cuban coffee. Viernes Culturales (Cultural Fridays) is the last Friday of the month and is a Cuban celebration along Calle Ocho.

Brickell

distance to the IEP: 6.5 miles

Brickell is just south of downtown, with tall skyscrapers and apartment buildings; it's a financial and business center. Brickell is an upscale neighborhood with restaurants, bars, clubs, and amazing views of the ocean, depending on the building. There is a [Metrorail](#) stop in the middle of Brickell, and has easy access to the [free metromover](#) which connects with Downtown. Also at the center of Brickell, is the [Mary Brickell Village](#), home to clubs and fine dining.

Downtown

distance to the IEP: 7.6 miles

In downtown Miami, you can find The [American Airlines Arena](#), where the Miami Heat Play, the [Freedom Tower](#), [Perez Art Museum](#), and [Bayfront Park & Bayside Marketplace](#). You can take the [free metromover](#) around Downtown, or rent a Citi Bike to see the sights.

Wynwood

distance to the IEP: 11.2 miles

Wynwood is known as the Design District. Nearly every [wall in Wynwood](#) is covered with a mural. It's known for its street art, and graffiti, and art exhibits. Wynwood has a very young and fresh atmosphere. There are outdoor bars, restaurants, and a ton of food trucks. The Second Saturday of each month is the night to be in Wynwood- art, dancing, live music, etc.

South Beach

distance to the IEP: 14.5 miles

South Beach is perhaps the most well-known part of Miami, famous for its beaches and nightlife along Ocean Drive. If you plan to live here, know that it is a bit far from campus and you'll have to cross the McCarther Causeway every day, with a strong possibility for traffic. South Beach has a variety of restaurants, bars, and clubs. It is also famous for its Art Deco buildings, which are an iconic part of South Beach's history.

Dadeland

Some students choose to live in **Dadeland**, which is just south of the University, and has a large shopping mall. This is what they think about it.

Name: Shoug

Country: Kuwait

How do you arrive to the IEP? I usually Uber or Lyft, or I take the metro-rail.

How long does it take? It takes 15 minutes.

Who do you live with? I live alone.

What kind of home? I live in an apartment, but I'm not sure if it's a private owner, or association.

What are some of the apartment amenities? It has a dishwasher, wifi, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, a swimming pool, exercise room, community room, parking spot, and it's pet friendly, as well as have an in-unit washer & dryer.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? It's quiet and everything is close by.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? It's not walking distance from the university.

Name: Maria

Country: Venezuela

How do you arrive to the IEP? I take the metro-rail.

How long does it take? It takes about 25 minutes by metro-rail to get to the IEP.

Who do you live with? I live alone.

What kind of home? I live in an apartment with a private owner.

What are some of the apartment amenities? It has a washer/dryer, dishwasher, wifi, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, a swimming pool, exercise room, parking spot, and it's pet friendly, and a balcony.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? I love that you have everything nearby. For example, downstairs in my building, there is a restaurant. It's also near the metro-rail station and the Dadeland Mall.

Would you recommend Dadeland to other people? Yes, I will recommend you to live in Dadeland, but in Dadeland South, because you have the Dadeland Mall near. Also, really near the Dadeland South metrorail station and you have, like less than 5 minutes walking the Publix. Furthermore, during the weekend, in the Dadeland boulevard, sometimes they have free concerts.



Doral

Some students choose to live in **Doral**, which is a bit far from the University of Miami, but many people seem to have family there. This is what they think about it.

Name: Mitchell

Country: Venezuela



How do you arrive to the IEP? I drive my car. It depends on traffic, but it usually takes me about 45-60 minutes to get to the IEP.

Who do you live with? I live with family members.

What kind of home? I live in a house owned by an association.

What are some of the housing amenities? I have a balcony, swimming pool, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, a dishwasher, wifi, washer/dryer inside my home, parking spots, bike racks, a community room, exercise room, and it's pet friendly.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? It's very quiet.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? Sometimes it smells bad.

Would you recommend living in Doral? I recommend it only if you have a car. It's not as cool as Coral Gables or Brickell, but it's still good if you have a car because it's far from UM and there's a lot of traffic.

South Miami

Some students choose to live in South Miami, which is a little bit south of where the University of Miami is. This is what they think about it.

Name: Louisa
Country: China



How do you arrive to the IEP? I take an Uber or Lyft

How long does it take? It takes only 5 minutes.

Who do you live with? I live with 2 friends from the IEP, and one non-IEP friend. I went to high school with two of them.

What kind of home? We live in a house with a private owner.

What are some of the apartment amenities? We have a washer/dryer inside the home, a swimming pool, an exercise room, and a parking spot.

Name: Junko
Country: Japan



How do you arrive to the IEP? I ride my bicycle

How long does it take? It takes 10 minutes.

Who do you live with? I live with non-IEP friends

What kind of home? We live in a house with a private owner.

What are some of the apartment amenities? We have a swimming pool, bike racks, and wifi.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? I like that it's near the university, grocery stores, and the metro-rail.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? There are many old houses, including my house, so there are many ants and lizards.

Would you recommend South Miami to others? Yes , I would definitely recommend it.

Name: Jason
Country: Taiwan



How do you arrive to the IEP? I ride my bicycle

How long does it take? It takes 15 minutes.

Who do you live with? I live with 4 friends I met in the IEP.

What kind of home? We live in an apartment. I'm not sure if the owner is private or through an association.

What are some of the apartment amenities? We have a swimming pool, community room, bike racks, and a parking spot.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? I like that it's safe and quiet.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? It's a little bit dirty.

Would you recommend South Miami to others? Yes , I would recommend living in south Miami because it is very convenient, near the school and has many supermarkets and Restaurants; it's maybe a little expensive, but I recommend it.

Coconut Grove

Some students choose to live in Coconut Grove, which is close to where the University of Miami is. This is what they think about it.

Name: Giovanna

Country: Brazil



How do you arrive to the IEP? If I drive my car, it takes 5 minutes. It takes about 12 minutes on my bicycle.

Who do you live with? I live with family members.

What kind of home? I live in a house with a private owner.

What are some of the housing amenities? I have a balcony, swimming pool, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, a dishwasher, wifi, washer/dryer inside my home, parking spots, bike racks, and it's pet friendly.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? I can go back and forth on my bicycle. There are a lot of services close to my house, like Sunset Place and Cocowalk or Merrick Park, restaurants, supermarkets, laundry, etc.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? Until now, nothing! Everything is very good and nice!

Would you recommend living in Coral Gables? Yes! I highly recommend living in Coconut Grove. This neighborhood is immersed in an intensive natural tropical environment, you can see wildlife everywhere! It is amazing to have peacocks in your front yard every morning! It is biking distance from UM and all the great supermarkets, restaurants, pharmacies, services stores and much more! And it is very quiet!

Coral Gables

Some students choose to live in Coral Gables, which is where the University of Miami is. This is what they think about it.

Name: Miao Ai
Country: China



How do you arrive to the IEP? I come by Uber/Lyft.

How long does it take? It only takes about 10 minutes. There's no traffic because I leave home very early, at 7:20am.

Who do you live with? I live with 2 people. I found my roommates from a Chinese WeChat group.

What kind of home? We live in an apartment that is owned by an association.

What are some of the apartment amenities? We have a balcony, swimming pool, exercise room, community room, parking spot, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a washer/dryer inside the apartment.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? I love that my friends live near me, so we can have meals together.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? Sometimes I have some different views with my roommate.

Would you recommend Coral Gables to others? Yes, definitely. It's very convenient to live here.



Name: Tawfiq Aljohani
Country: Saudi Arabia

How do you arrive to the IEP? I walk.

How long does it take? It only takes about 10 minutes walking. If it's nighttime, I take an Uber.

Who do you live with? I live with alone.

What kind of home? I live in a studio room, that is connected to a house with a private owner.

What are some of the apartment amenities? I have a dishwasher, wifi, and 1 bathroom.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? I like that it's close to UM, and to the metrorail. It's also near to Sunset Place.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? There has been some crime near me. I got two bicycles stolen. I don't feel safe walking at night (Coral Gables, west of campus).

Brickell

Some students choose to live in Brickell, which is similar to Downtown. There are tall apartment buildings, bars, nightclubs, coffee shops, etc. This is what they think about it.

Name: Enas

Country: Saudi Arabia



How do you arrive to the IEP? Sometimes I Uber or Lyft. Other times I take the metrorail or the bus.

How long does it take? It takes about 30-45 minutes around 8:30 because it's actually peak hour, so there is a lot of traffic.

Who do you live with? I live with my husband.

What kind of home? We live in an apartment; it's privately owned.

What are some of the apartment amenities? There is a washer/dryer inside the home. It also has a dishwasher, wifi, a balcony, exercise room, swimming pool, parking spot, and a community room. It's a 1/1 (one bedroom, one bathroom).

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? The sea view is amazing. There are very fancy lounges around my area, but I like the view the most.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? There are no fast food restaurants around my area, and the nearest CVS is 20 minutes away by foot, which is far for me.

Downtown

Some students choose to live in Downtown Miami. This is what they think about it.

Name: Michel

Country: Venezuela

How do you arrive to the IEP? I drive my car.

How long does it take? It takes about 30-40 minutes.

Who do you live with? I live with family members.

What kind of home? I live in an apartment; it's privately owned.

What are some of the apartment amenities? There is a washer/dryer inside the home. It also has a dishwasher, wifi, a balcony, exercise room, swimming pool, parking spot, community room, and it's pet friendly.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? The location and nightlife

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? The traffic and construction

Name: Talita

Country: Brazil



How do you arrive to the IEP? I take the metro-rail.

How long does it take? There is a lot of traffic downtown, which is why I choose to take the metro-rail. By metro-rail, in 30 minutes, I'm here in class.

Who do you live with? I live with family members.

What kind of home? I live in an apartment; it's privately owned.

What are some of the apartment amenities? There is a washer/dryer inside the apartment. It also has a dishwasher, wifi, a balcony, exercise room, swimming pool, parking spot, community room, bike racks, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and it's pet friendly.

What do you LOVE about your neighborhood? There are a lot of things to do, to see, to visit. It is near Wynwood, in front of a park, and the events in Miami happen there.

What do you DISLIKE about your neighborhood? Sometimes it's too crowded.

Would you recommend living in Downtown to other people? Certainly yes! I love this place because to me it is close to everything. 7 minutes to Wynwood, 10 minutes to Miami Beach, 15 minutes to Coconut Grove, 20 minutes to Coral Gables, and the Metro Rail is very close to my house. In the city center, we have the MetroMover, a free and incredible public transport. We are near famous sights in Miami, such as American Airlines Arena, Bayside MarketPlace, Hard Rock Café, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Perez Museum, Science Museum, Miami Children's Museum, the new and fancy mall Brickell City Centre, etc. Also, Downtown is a region where most of events in Miami happen. For example, I walked every day to the Miami Book Fair, and the Chipotle Festival, and I enjoyed it a lot. In addition, we have parks, zoo, free yoga and some schools and colleges. I really love living here.

Additional Resources:

Living expenses in Miami can vary greatly depending on your lifestyle. We know that it can be complicated to arrange housing before you arrive, so we can help you! If you would like housing assistance, please contact [Brett Helms](#), our Program Coordinator.

When searching for an apartment or house in Miami, please keep in mind:

- You can save money by getting a roommate
 - You can avoid purchasing a car by living close to campus, or close to a Metrorail stop
 - Most apartments are rented *without* furniture (*unfurnished*)
 - Rent can range between \$700-\$1800 depending on rooms, amenities, etc.
 - Apartment ads in the US are described by the number of bedrooms and bathrooms. For example, an apartment with 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom would say “a 2-1 apartment.” The bedroom number is first, the bathroom number is second.
 - Rental apartments usually come with an oven, refrigerator, and stove.
 - You will need to sign a lease, which is a contract between you and the landlord. Most leases are for 12 months. Shorter leases can be hard to find.
 - When you sign the lease, you will usually pay three amounts: first month’s rent, last month’s rent, and a deposit (usually the same amount as 1 month’s rent).
 - Keep a copy of the lease in a safe place. Also, take pictures of the apartment before you move in.
 - You can choose to purchase renter’s insurance to cover your belongings. In most cases, the insurance of the building will only cover the building and structure itself; the protection does not cover your items inside the apartment or in your car.
-

Resources for finding apartments/houses:

- [The UM Off-campus housing guide](#)
 - [Padmapper](#)
 - [Miami Herald Renter’s guide](#)
 - [Backpage](#)
 - [Move](#)
 - [Trulia](#)
 - [Apartmentlist](#)
-

Homestay options:

It takes about 3 weeks to find a homestay, so if you plan to use this option, give yourself some time before arriving to Miami.

IHPS Homestays

Email: info@IHPSHomestays.com

Phone: 626-798-0209

Website: www.ihpshomestays.com

Sara's Homestays

Email: sara@sarahomestay.com

Phone: 212-564-5979

Website: www.sarahomestay.com

Universal Student Housing

Email: contact@usaish.com

Phone: 866-900-4874

Website: www.usaish.com/homestay



Note: The University of Miami does not endorse any of the organizations or institutions listed above. This list is provided solely for your convenience.