

GUIDANCE FOR INCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

About our school

Paradis International College is a forward-thinking educational institution located in Iași County, Romania, dedicated to nurturing students from preschool through high school. With accreditations from Cambridge, British School Overseas and the national authority ARACIP, the college offers a comprehensive curriculum that emphasizes academic excellence, personal development, and global citizenship.

The school's educational approach is rooted in the theory of multiple intelligences, promoting critical thinking, creativity, and self-awareness. Students are encouraged to explore their passions through a balanced academic program, a robust "hidden curriculum" that fosters essential life skills, and a diverse range of co-curricular activities. These include debate clubs, robotics, public speaking, and international projects, all aimed at broadening students' horizons and preparing them for a dynamic global landscape.



CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Cambridge International School

At the high school level, Paradis International College follows the Cambridge curriculum, offering IGCSE and A-Level courses taught entirely in English. Students have the flexibility to choose subjects aligned with their interests and future aspirations, supported by a mentoring system that provides personalized guidance.

The college's campus is designed to be an integrative and stimulating environment, featuring experiential spaces that cater to the holistic development of each student. With a dedicated team of educators and a commitment to fostering a culture of mutual respect and continuous growth, Paradis International College stands as a beacon of innovative education in Romania.

For more detailed information, you can visit our website or the provided school brochure (paradis-college.ro/en).

Membership of Round Square is a great honour for Paradis International School giving our students many opportunities including the chance to participate in an exchange program - living in another country while studying at another Round Square school and hosting a student from another country for 2 - 3 weeks.



Travel to Paradis International College

You will need to let the Round Square Representative know your travel arrangements as soon as they are made. Before purchasing your plane ticket please contact the Round Square Coordinator to confirm exact dates of your arrival. Paradis College is approximately 30 minute away from Iasi Airport with excellent taxi connections.

Minors under 18 going on exchange might have different rules for traveling unaccompanied abroad on their own to and from the exchange. Many airlines offer an unaccompanied minor (UM) service, which provides assistance to the child throughout the journey. This service often includes supervision during layovers and assistance with boarding and disembarking. Airlines typically charge a fee for this service, and it may be mandatory for children under a certain age. The challenge of flying alone is part of the adventure, and often students enjoy it. Please consult the rules for your country. In some cases, a family member flies with a child to or from the exchange, sometimes spending time traveling in the country before or after the exchange. From Paradis' perspective, either approach can work. That decision is up to you and your family. In some cases the school might decide to send two pupils together in an exchange for additional support during the entire time of the experience.

Airport pick-up - your host family will be collecting you from the airport. Please communicate with them clearly and make sure you have the name and mobile phone number of the person meeting you and that they have yours.



Passport & Visa

Romania is part of the EU and Schengen zone. Please make sure you have a valid passport or accepted traveling documents. Visa - It is your and your family's responsibility to acquire any visas or other necessary documents to enter your host country. Start this process as soon as possible. Visa applications can be quite complicated and take weeks to process.



Medical/Accident/Liability insurance

It is also your family's responsibility to have medical, accident and liability insurance coverage for your time abroad. This must be purchased before departure, either through a travel agent or directly from an insurance company. Cost will depend on the nature of the coverage. Some students may be covered by their parents' extended medical plan. Carefully check coverage details regarding exclusions. Dental work can also be expensive in other countries. Exchange students should have dental check-ups and necessary dental work completed before departing.

Medical preparation and immunizations

Check with your physician or a travel clinic to learn if there are any recommended or required immunizations or medications for your trip and if you are fit for the exchange abroad. Please carefully fill in your medical form and make sure you declare any important information regarding your health. Make sure to have your medication. Please inform us if you have carry with you any special medication such as Epipen pens, inhalers or other special medication on prescription.



Academic commitments

While on exchange, you are expected to fully participate in the life of your host school, including academics. Depending on your courses, you may need to keep up with a couple of subjects or do some independent work from your school. We encourage visitor students to work on an individual project during the exchange in school gaps or classes where their attendance require individual work. We also encourage culture sharing so we hope that visitor students will prepare a presentation for a school assembly. Before departure make academic plans with your advisers or teachers to see if there's any work you need to stay current with. On your first day of arrival you will discuss the class/topic choices while at Paradis. Make sure you prioritise the topics you study in your home country.

Financial aspects

The host family will cover the expenses of having an exchange student into the house for the agreed period. The exchange student will cover the cost of souvenirs and any other extra things they buy while in the city so pocket money is required.

The host family does not cover:

- Airfare and travel costs of guest student;
- Travel and medical insurance, immunizations, visas, and related exchange expenses;
- Elective programs such as outdoor adventure trips or proms;
- Tuition and school meals (those are provided by Paradis College);
- Spending money.

It is expected that similar agreement is provided when the outgoing return visit is agreed with our student.

Debit cards are a great way to access money from ATMs while abroad, but students are still advised to have some cash from their exchange country on arrival.



Family expectations

Exchange students live with a host family. Living with a family will provide you with a window into the country's life. Your hosts are opening themselves and their home to you. Be a gracious guest. Interact with the family and resist the urge to hang out by yourself in your bedroom online. Your family's house rules will apply. In addition, please consult the code of conduct and the rules of our school.

Rules

Exchange students are not allowed to smoke, consume, alcohol or use illicit drugs, engage in any romantic relationships or post pictures of their host family, their house or our school on social media without prior consent. Any behaviour like inappropriate language, bullying, improper physical advances, privacy breaches or gross misconduct might result in the termination of the exchange.



Guest students must not leave the school grounds unattended and without permission from teachers. Paradis students might organise social events with the guest student. They must not go out after dark unless accompanied by at least one other student and with the approval of their host families. No student may travel in a car driven by another student, or anyone under 25. Guest students will go out after school or during weekends with their host parents/students or accept other invitations only with the permission from the host family and ideally with electronic approval from the parents of the guest students. Full set of school rules is provided to exchange students.



Packing

Research the weather to help you determine what clothes to bring. Paradis International College has a strict uniform policy: all students must wear the school uniform 4 days a week, Friday being considered casual Friday.



Exchange students are expected to wear their school uniform on formal days (2 days a week) Paradis (or white plain) Tshirt with black/navy sport trousers on the sports days (2 days a week). You'll most likely need an electrical outlet adapter and/or an electrical currency converter for your electronic devices. Do not pack expensive jewellery or brand clothing and avoid carrying high amounts of cash with you. We advise to have a swimming costume with you for use at our swimming pool.



Timetable & support

When you arrive at Paradis, your host student is going to be your Buddy, who will help you to settle in. You will get a full tour of the school and a list with all the school classes and rooms. An initial discussion with our Round Square representative will take place to clarify any plans for the time spent here and answer your questions.



Your timetable will initially be based on your Buddy's timetable, with changes implemented as and when these are required by you. If you need more time to study the work you have been set from your school back home, then just let us know.

Paradis College starts classes at 8.10 am every day with breakfast and lunch served in the school cafeteria. The latest classes finish at 5 pm, but timetables differ depending on the topics studies. You might also have gaps where individual work can be done or access to extracurricular might be provided.



Mentally prepare for living in an unfamiliar environment. To a significant degree, you are responsible for your own wellbeing while abroad, so you'll need to educate yourself about cultural differences you may encounter. Only you can control your own personal behavior. Prepare for living in an unfamiliar location. Consider how you might respond or react to unexpected situations and how you'll conduct yourself in public settings. Prepare to tolerate and manage uncertainty. Actively minimize risks and prepare for potential hazards. Your goal is to make informed, responsible, and reasonable choices concerning your own health and safety. Exchange students must keep in mind that they won't be able to easily identify potentially dangerous situations as they might at home, where they are familiar with social and cultural cues and spoken and written languages.

Heed and respect your host family's opinions and advice. If you need emotional support, contact School Counselor Florina Solcan (florina.solcan@paradis-college.ro, +40741906077) or our Round Square Representative.



Emergency arrangements and dealing with any problems

Guest students should have medical insurance. Our school has a doctor and nurse on duty but in case of an emergency, other hospital facilities might be used and agreements for emergency treatment will be signed in advance. The school and host family should inform guest students' parents of any medical situations. In the event of a significant misunderstanding or issue between students or one or more members of the host family and the parties involved should promptly contact Paradis' School Round Square Representative (Flavia Tudoreanu, flavia.tudoreanu@paradis-college.ro, +40749954056). To consult all our procedures including fire or earthquake emergency evacuation drills and other policies please visit <https://paradis-college.ro/en/>.



Romanian's culture and cuisine

Romania offers a unique cultural experience shaped by its diverse history, where Latin roots, Eastern Orthodox traditions, and rural heritage come together. As an exchange student, you'll find that Romanians are warm, hospitable people who take pride in their customs, from sharing home-cooked meals to celebrating traditional like Mărțișor, Easter or Christmas with great enthusiasm. You'll encounter a strong sense of identity in everything from the language and cuisine to the colorful folk costumes and music. Romanian cuisine is hearty, diverse, and full of flavour, combining Balkan, Turkish, Hungarian, and Slavic influences. You will get to enjoy traditional dishes like sarmale (cabbage rolls), mămăligă (cornmeal porridge similar to polenta), and sweet treats like cozonac (a festive walnut or cocoa-filled bread).



Romania is a country of striking natural beauty, from the towering Carpathian Mountains and dense forests to the serene hills and valleys of regions like Moldova. Whether you're hiking through national parks, visiting painted monasteries nestled in the countryside, or simply enjoying the changing seasons, Romania's varied landscape offers a rich backdrop for cultural discovery and outdoor exploration."



Paradis College is located in Iași (Moldova region) and is considered the cultural and academic heart of eastern Romania. It is a vibrant city steeped in history, education, and tradition. Known for its beautiful architecture, historic churches, and prestigious universities, Iași offers exchange students a welcoming environment where they can experience Romania's intellectual spirit, explore lively arts and café scenes, and walk through landmarks like the Palace of Culture and Copou Park.



Whether you're exploring our medieval castles, hiking in nature, joining in school life, or experiencing the close-knit atmosphere of a Romanian family, you'll gain meaningful insights into a country that balances old-world charm with modern European life.



Notification from Round Square:

Round Square's role in student exchanges is one of facilitator, enabling Round Square schools to connect and organize exchanges for the benefit of the students taking part. Round Square does not organize any exchanges itself and is not therefore responsible for individual exchange arrangements. It is important for students and parents to note that Round Square does not vet or monitor the arrangements made by the schools and does not have any contact with or role in selecting host families. Round Square provides schools with best practice protocols but you must satisfy yourselves that the arrangements made by the individual school you are considering allowing your child to visit are appropriate. Round Square therefore accepts no legal responsibility or liability for student exchanges whatsoever.



CONTACT INFORMATION PARADIS INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Address: 8C Dealul Zorilor Street,
700485 Reditu, Iași County, Romania

Phone: +40725.893.627
E-mail: contact@paradis-college.ro
Site: www.paradis-college.ro

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram & Tik Tok:

