



Living in Sanlúcar de Barrameda

Welcome to Sanlúcar de Barrameda

Sanlúcar de Barrameda is a picturesque coastal town at the mouth of the Guadalquivir River, known for its sweeping beaches, horse races on the sand, and mouth-watering local cuisine. It's a town steeped in history, charm, and warm southern sunshine — offering families a **slower, scenic lifestyle**, strong community feel, and daily access to the sea.

Located around **30 minutes from Sage College**, Sanlúcar is ideal for families who are happy to commute in exchange for **authentic Andalusian living, green spaces, and a strong sense of local culture**.

From morning markets and riverside walks to after-school tapas and golden sunsets, Sanlúcar offers a unique balance between **tradition, beauty, and family life**.

About Sanlúcar de Barrameda

Sanlúcar is a town where **history and nature meet the sea**. Once the departure point for Spanish explorers sailing to the New World, which includes Magellan's first circumnavigation of the world, it's now best known for its **sherry wine (Manzanilla), seafood, and horse races on the beach** every August.

The town is made up of:

- A charming **historic centre** with winding streets, plazas, and churches
- The **Mercado de Sanlúcar de Barrameda**, the famous food market that sells fresh and local seafood and produce.
- An abundance of seafood restaurants such as **Casa Bigote** and **Casa Balbino** where you can try the Sanlúcar seafood specialties such as shrimp fritters (Tortillitas de camarones) and the prized king prawns 'Langostinos de Sanlúcar'.



- Beautiful beaches such as **Playa de Bajo de Guía** and **Playa de la Calzada**
- Easy access to **Doñana National Park**, just across the river
- A strong **sense of community**, where everyone knows your name
- A growing number of families from Jerez and Cádiz looking for **quiet, nature-filled living**

Life in Sanlúcar flows at a gentler pace. Families spend weekends strolling through the Plaza del Cabildo, meeting friends at beach bars, and making the most of the town's generous sunshine and simple pleasures.

Popular Neighbourhoods

 **A note on housing:** Sanlúcar offers **excellent value** compared to Cádiz or El Puerto. Family homes are affordable and often come with patios, terraces, or gardens. Be aware that many beachside rentals switch to holiday lets in summer. Look for **year-round contracts**, especially in Bajo de Guía or Las Piletas.

- **Barrio Alto** – Historic heart of town with traditional townhouses, quiet streets, and lovely views
- **Bajo de Guía** – Coastal area known for seafood restaurants and easy beach access
- **La Capillita & Las Piletas** – Family-friendly, residential zones close to schools and green areas
- **Monteolivete / La Dehesilla** – Modern urbanisations with parking, parks, and a suburban feel
- **Bonanza** – Near the river mouth; more local and tranquil

Rental prices range from **€800–€2,500/month** depending on location and season. Property prices remain relatively low, attracting buyers from across Spain.



Shops & Essentials

Sanlúcar is well-equipped with supermarkets, local markets, and essential services:

- **Mercadona Sanlúcar** –  Av. de Huelva
- **Lidl** –  Av. Almirante León Herrero
- **Supermercado Día & Covirán** – Several central locations
- **Plaza de Abastos (Mercado de Sanlúcar)** –  Calle Trascuesta. A must-visit for fresh produce, meat, and famous local seafood

 Most shops are closed on Sundays — families use this as an opportunity for slow mornings, long lunches, and beach outings.

Cafés, Restaurants & Local Eats

Sanlúcar's **food culture is exceptional**, particularly if you love fresh fish, seafood, and traditional tapas. The town is known across Spain for its **langostinos (king prawns)**, **Manzanilla wine**, and casual riverside dining.

Family Favourites

- **Casa Bigote** – Renowned seafood restaurant in Bajo de Guía, perfect for special occasions
- **Taberna der Guerrita** – Traditional taberna with an excellent wine list and history
- **Chiringuito La Orilla** – Family-friendly beachfront dining with great views and informal vibes
- **Café La Ibense** – Ice cream and breakfast favourite in Plaza del Cabildo
- **La Lobera** – Cosy bakery and coffee shop with great brunch

Most restaurants are welcoming to children, and dining out is a part of daily life.



Parks, Playgrounds & Kids' Activities

 Sanlúcar's **beaches and riverbanks** form the natural playground for children. Families spend afternoons at the beach year-round, often meeting friends for after-school play, walks, or water sports.

- **Playa de Bajo de Guía** – Calm waters and a wide promenade perfect for scooters and bikes
- **Playa de la Calzada** – Long stretch of sand with plenty of space for beach games
- **Parque de la Dehesilla** – Large park with swings, sports areas, and plenty of shade
- **Parque Carmen Maura** – Centrally located and ideal for younger children
- **Doñana National Park** (accessed by ferry) – Wildlife tours, birdwatching, and outdoor learning

There are also local surf clubs, horse riding schools, and football academies that welcome international families.

Festivals & Local Life

Sanlúcar offers a rich calendar of **events, traditions, and celebrations**, many of which take place outdoors and are fun for all ages:

- **Horse Races on the Beach (August)** – A spectacular and iconic annual event
- **Feria de la Manzanilla (Late May)** – Colourful fair with flamenco, fairground rides, and family fun
- **Semana Santa (Holy Week)** – Reverent processions through the streets
- **Carnival (February)** – Family-friendly costumes and parades
- **Noche de San Juan (June)** – Bonfires on the beach to welcome summer

Transport & Getting Around

- Distance to Sage College: ~30 minutes by car
- Car is essential – Public transport to Jerez is limited; most families drive



Health, Safety & Emergency Info

Medical Services

- **Hospital Comarcal Virgen del Camino**

 Av. de San Francisco |  956 38 90 00

Local hospital with emergency care and specialist services

- **Centro de Salud Barrio Alto (Public)**

 Calle Cuesta de Belén |  956 38 93 00

- **Centro Médico Sanlúcar (Private)**

 Calle Ganado, 46 |  956 36 62 29

- **Clínica Dental La Calzada**

 Av. Calzada Duquesa Isabel, 18 |  956 36 12 94

- **HLA Hospital Jerez (Private)**

 Av. Puerta del Sur, Jerez |  956 35 73 00

 Pharmacies are found throughout the town and publish emergency rotas in their windows.

Service	Number
All Emergencies (Fire, Ambulance, Police)	112
Guardia Civil Cádiz	956242222
Local Police (Cádiz)	092

Real-Life Tips from Families

- The beach becomes a second home – especially after school or on Sundays
- Manzanilla is served everywhere – but soft drinks and snacks for kids are also cheap and plentiful
- Local life is strong – Expect to see the same faces often and build lasting connections



- Shops are closed on Sundays – Stock up Saturday and enjoy a slower rhythm
- It's peaceful, sunny, and welcoming – Sanlúcar may be a bit further from school, but the quality of life more than makes up for it