InField

Off-campus housing information

If you are interested in finding your own local housing during your stay, your best option may be to find a sublet in the Isla Vista ("I.V.") neighborhood directly west of campus. Isla Vista is within walking distance of UCSB, and it is also on the bus lines. Another nearby area is Ellwood, which is too far away to walk to campus, but is accessible by bike and bus. Downtown Santa Barbara is also easily accessible by bus, but is more expensive than either Ellwood or Isla Vista. We don’t recommend staying in the midtown area unless you will have a car, as midtown is not well served by busses and is too far away from campus to bike.

Sublets in Isla Vista generally range from $500-$900 per month for one bed in a shared bedroom in a multi-bedroom apartment, although you may occasionally find an entire apartment available for rent. Sublets are usually fully furnished, and have all the essentials for apartment living (kitchen items, towels, blankets, etc.), but you should confirm this before you agree to move in.

Isla Vista, Ellwood, and downtown Santa Barbara all have conveniently located grocery stores so that you may cook your own food.

The very best place to find sublets is on Craigslist:
http://santabarbara.craigslist.org/sub/

You might also try placing your own ad on the housing-wanted section of Craigslist:
http://santabarbara.craigslist.org/hsw/

There is also a website called “Sabbatical Homes,” but these are generally for longer periods of stay:
http://sabbaticalhomes.com/

Finally, “Vacation Rentals by Owner” may have some useful listings:
http://www.vrbo.com

If you have any special housing needs or concerns for InField, or if you have questions about a particular location (or just want some advice on an ad you saw on Craigslist), please email Andrea Berez at aberez@umail.ucsb.edu.