

# Reflections on the Spanish Language, Culture, and Place

## Language & Respect

I love the Spanish language, but not the casual slang words, like *cabron~a*, which is often used like “dude” in English but sort of carries the meaning of “b\*tch.” I feel younger boys could work on this one a bit more. ( ❤ for the aunties.)

## Old Spanish & Music

I mostly love Old Spanish, which feels more classic, romantic, and conservative. Old Spanish music is very beautiful as well. I like listening to Spanish music when I run and work out, though I've felt conflicted at times after seeing how the United States has been treated, especially in light of the Modern Cold War.

## Language in the United States

I prefer English being spoken in the USA, but I also appreciate how intelligent Americans are, learning and adapting to so many languages. In Arizona, there is a very large Spanish-speaking population, and many are bilingual and will respectfully speak English with English speakers.

## Puerto Rico

❤ Puerto Rico and her magical ocean changed me forever. It was the best gift and experience I could have given myself. Even though there is a lot of conflict right now, there is so much beauty in Spanish culture. I learned so much during my time in Puerto Rico PR changed my spirit ☀

## Ancestry & Belonging

At the time, I didn't know I had Spanish ancestry, but now I do. It's been a very interesting journey that led me here, into a very Spanish community, where I can feel my Puerto Rican soul and also my American spirit.

## Closing

Arizona is great.

***Learning language through music:***

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