How to Socialize & Get Involved with the Community

The best way to make new friends is to get involved with groups that share your interest, try new activities, and to push your way out of your comfort zone. If you are in a non-English speaking country, try activities that are meant for locals to interact with English speakers and/or foreigners.

Below is a list of ways you can get involved and immersed into the community:

- Informal sports or fitness groups
- Fun noncredit class (cooking, wine tasting, art, dance)
- Tandem language partners
- Volunteering (school, museum, health center, animal shelter, orphanage, church, EFL tutoring)
- Informal performing groups (choir, dance, acting)
- Trivia group
- Bible/religious study
- Nature walk group
- Board game or card game group

When socializing abroad, it is also important to be extra aware of the cultural and language differences. It might be helpful to practice common phrases to help in bettering your communication.

Adapted from Making the Most of Study Abroad: A Guide to a Top-Notch Experience by Melanie L. D'Amico and Joshua Pope