

Colegio Santa Úrsula

Lima, Peru



In San Isidro, German Ursuline nuns opened a girls' school in 1936 that still pairs Montessori roots with IB rigor in two languages.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	55/100
Academic outcomes	58/100
University placement	52/100
Prestige & heritage	66/100
Alumni network	48/100
Facilities	58/100
Transparency	42/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

In San Isidro, Colegio Santa Úrsula occupies a distinct niche: a Catholic girls’ school founded in ****1936**** by the Ursuline tradition, teaching in Spanish, German and English, and pairing a declared Peruvian and German curriculum with the IB Diploma since ****2013****. That combination is rare in Lima. So is the through-line from Montessori in the early years to a senior programme built for university entry beyond Peru. Parents looking for a bilingual or trilingual education with a strong confessional frame will find a school with a **clear identity** rather than a generic international package. The average annual day fee, at ****PEN 25,449****, places it in the serious private-school bracket without pushing into the ultra-luxury end of the market.

What marks Santa Úrsula out is not scale or flash, but coherence. The school states its commitment to the education of girls from initial through secondary level, to Catholic formation, to service, and to the arts as part of a full education. It also foregrounds social responsibility projects, an alumnae association, a library, dining provision, extracurricular sport through ADECORE, and a named art gallery, all of which point to a school that values institutional culture as much as exam preparation. The German strand matters here: many schools advertise language learning; far fewer build German into the identity of the school itself and add international certifications in both English and German. For internationally minded Peruvian families, or German-Peruvian families who want continuity of language and culture without giving up local rootedness, that is **a serious advantage**.

This is not the right choice for every child. It is a girls' day school with a Catholic, Ursuline ethos, so families wanting co-education, a secular environment or a looser moral framework should look elsewhere. It will suit girls who thrive in structured settings, who can handle bilingual or trilingual demands, and who benefit from a school that takes service, belonging and faith **seriously**. It also suits students who want the IB Diploma inside a school that has not abandoned its own traditions to chase international-school fashion. Santa Úrsula belongs on a shortlist for parents who want **substance over gloss**: a school with history, linguistic range and a defined moral centre, not a school trying to be all things to all families.

STRENGTHS

- Long-established Catholic day school for girls, run by the Ursuline order, with roots going back to the early twentieth century in Lima.
- Located in San Isidro, one of Lima's central and well-connected residential and business districts, easing daily commutes for many families.
- Combines the Peruvian national curriculum with a German-language and cultural strand, offering a bilingual academic option uncommon among local schools.
- Single-sex structure that some families and educators associate with a focused, distraction-reduced learning environment for girls.
- Day-school format keeps overall cost of attendance lower than comparable boarding institutions in the region.

TRADE-OFFS

- Girls-only admission excludes families seeking a coeducational environment for siblings of both sexes.
- Catholic religious character and associated practices may not suit secular families or those of other faiths.
- Primary instruction is in Spanish with German-language components; families expecting a fully English-medium program will find limited provision.
- Detailed fee schedules, class sizes, and independent accreditation data are not readily available through public international sources.

ADMISSIONS

Colegio Santa Ursula admits students mainly at kindergarten and early primary levels, with occasional openings in higher grades subject to space. The process typically involves an application form, entrance assessment, and family interview, with priority often given to Catholic families and siblings of current students. As a well-regarded traditional Lima school, places in popular entry years can be competitive, so early application is advised. Prospective expat families should confirm current language-of-instruction balance and religious-participation expectations directly with the school.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_8761697df3.