

INTRODUCTION TO LIVING IN HOMESTAY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Living in homestay should be an enjoyable experience for both you the student and your host family. However, at first you may find it very difficult to live in someone' else's home. Your host family will be very keen to help you to settle in quickly and to make the most of living in Perth a pleasant and happy stay. You must also make every effort to settle, learn and fit in with your host family.

If a student has been placed into a Homestay through ISAA, this means that the Host Family has qualified and has met the requirements and standards to host International Students. This also means that their home and your room have been inspected and the hosts have the necessary Police Clearances and necessary character checks.

Over the page are listed the basic rules and guidelines to living in homestay. Although there appears to be a large number of DO NOTs if you are positive and co-operative in their dealings with the host/family and try to build an atmosphere of confidence and trust, then you will not find these rules too restrictive.

As a new student coming to Australia (maybe the first time) give yourself time and space to know your home and host/family. They will be very interested in you, your culture and the country you are from. Speak to them as often as possible, this will also assist you in learning the English language and will make them feel very comfortable and relaxed.

If you have any special needs or medical issues that you feel your hosts should know, tell them. If you like certain foods or are unable to eat certain types of foods, tell your hosts and don't be shy. If your hosts don't know you, they will not be able to cook things you like or do things for you that will make you happy.

Please remember, water is very scarce in Australia, our country has gone through many years without sufficient rain. When you have a shower keep it to a minimum, five minutes is ample time to have a shower. In regards to electricity usage, if you are leaving your room for any extended period of time, please turn off all lights and power points.

If you are considerate for your host family, they will be considerate onto you. The rules and guideline sheet on the following page will give you a good idea on the rules and regulations of all homestays and what is expected from you.

We at ISAA hope that you will have a very enjoyable stay at your NEW Homestay. ISAA have taken all care in choosing you the best accommodation in Perth. If you have any questions or queries, please speak with your host family first, if they cannot give you an answer then please give ISAA a call, we will be very happy to help you in any way we can.

Best wishes

Jodie Monteiro
Managing Director
ISAA

RULES FOR STUDENTS LIVING IN HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION

These rules apply to all International students. Students under the age of 18 years of age cannot give notice to move from their registered place of Homestay unless written permission is provided by the student's legal guardian, University or College and International Student Accommodation Australia.

1. The minimum time you must stay in a homestay is 4 weeks. You can give 2 weeks notice to your host at any time after you have stayed for two weeks.
2. You must always give your homestay hosts 2 weeks notice that you wish to leave or two weeks rent in lieu of notice.
3. There will be a transfer fee for each time you change your homestay.
4. Be considerate about using your host's telephone, always ask first and do not spend too long on the telephone, other people in the home will want to use the phone as well. Ask your friends and relatives to telephone you in the early evening and not too late at night. Discuss with your host family what the appropriate time for telephone usage is.
5. Not every homestay has a computer, which you may use, or an additional phone line for you to connect to the internet, you must pay for the line and the installation and that fee is non-refundable.
6. Please ask your hosts permission before inviting any friends to the home. Many hosts are happy to welcome your friends but some hosts do not like strangers in their home. (Do NOT expect your hosts to provide meals for your friends).
7. Talk to your homestay about food. You will probably find that food in Australia is very different from what you are used to. Tell your homestay host what you like and what you cannot eat. Many "Australian" hosts only cook western style food- if you do not like Western Food do not ask to stay with a Western family.
8. Families in Australia do NOT have servants. You will be expected to keep your own room clean and tidy and also the bathroom, which you use. You may also be asked to assist with small tasks around the home, for example setting the dining table prior to meals and helping with the washing up and clearing up after meals.
9. Heating and Air-Conditioning are very expensive; you should turn off electrical appliances and lights when they are not in use. Do NOT use an electric heater in your room without the permission from your hosts. You will also be responsible for your door key and for shutting doors, windows and setting the security system (if fitted) when you leave the house.
10. Water is very scarce and extremely precious. Do NOT waste it! Your host may ask that you spend 5-10 minutes in the shower so as to not waste water.
11. You must NOT smoke inside any homes in Australia. (Most have a covered outside area where smoking is permitted.) Smoking is NOT allowed in any schools, colleges, cinemas, restaurants and many public spaces-you can be fined if you do not follow this law.
12. It is a criminal offence for you to be in any possession of any Illegal Substance, or drugs other than that prescribed for you by your doctor.
13. Using or dealing in illegal drugs will result in a criminal conviction, either a possible term of imprisonment or the cancellation of your student visa.
14. It is a criminal offence for you to be in possession of any object which could injure another person and which could be classified as a dangerous weapon. This would include, guns, knives, flick knives, machetes, knuckle dusters, spears etc etc.
15. Never take a pet into your homestay unless you have permission from your host.
16. Talk and communicate with your host as much as possible about your likes and dislikes, ask as many questions as possible about Perth, Australians and Australia. If your hosts offer to take you out to meet other people or to show you around go with them, you may be surprised and something that doesn't sound very interesting or exciting can be an enjoyable experience.



Our students are lucky *ducks*

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACCOMMODATION AUSTRALIA

HOMESTAY AGREEMENT

I (Full Name of Student) _____ have read the Homestay Guide for Students and conditions and agree to abide by.

I have especially noted the following.

1. The Guidelines for Underage Students (All students under the age of 18 years of age).
2. The Fee to be charged and agreed is \$ 250.00 per week for students regardless of age. All rent must be paid in 4 weekly month payment. All rent must be paid and let in advanced.
3. Except in exceptional circumstances (to be agreed by the ISAA Officer), a minimum of two weeks notice is always required if either the "Student" or "Host" decide to end this agreement.
- 4. Students under the age of 18 years cannot give NOTICE to their host family until they have spoken to the ISAA Officer, provided written permission to move signed by their parents and have received approval to move and a replacement Guardian is arranged and appointed.**
5. The student agrees to pay a holding FEE of \$105.00 per week if the room is to be held vacant during the holiday period.
6. I have read the Rules and Guidelines for Homestay Accommodation and hereby agree and accept all rules and guidelines set forthwith in the document (page 2). I understand that should a fail to comply or adhere to any of the rules and guidelines set in the document, the Homestay Hosts may terminate my accommodation and therefore will have no financial claim against International Student Accommodation Australia (ISAA) or the Host for any rent paid in advanced.

If the student applying for accommodation is under the age of eighteen years, parent or Guardian signatures is required by law.

Print Name of Student

Signature of Student

Date: ____/____/____

Print Name of parent/Legal Guardian

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date: ____/____/____

Please sign two (2) copies: 1 Copy to be kept by the Student 1 Copy to be kept by ISAA