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Learn French in France

is AIX-EN-PROVENCE

We look forward to welcoming you to sunny Provence

HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION 2018



Accommodation homestay encourages linguistic and cultural immersion. Keeping this in mind, we try to avoid, if possible, to place students sharing the same mother tongue in the same homestay.

You have the choice of three options:

- Individual room with **breakfast and dinner** with your family. Lunch is taken outside the home. This type of homestay encourages maximum immersion.
- Individual room with **breakfast only**. All other meals are taken outside the home. This type of homestay suits independent students. The family's kitchen may not be used. *It's recommend for short stays or students registered for a "Discovery of Provençal Cooking" course.*
- Individual room with **access to kitchen**. You may use the kitchen to prepare your own meals at hours agreed with your hostess. This type of homestay is recommended for independent persons or people with a restrictive diet that cannot be imposed on a family. There is less contact with the host family than with the half-board option.

LOCATION

The homestay addresses are carefully selected within bus or walking distance (30 minutes approx) from IS Aix en Provence.

DESCRIPTION

A few homestay addresses offer a private bathroom or a bathroom to share with another student. Bed linen and towels are always provided. Your hostess will allow you an average of one washing machine per week. Cleaning is also done once a week.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Your hostfamily is expecting you on Sunday evening from 6 pm and you'll leave on Saturday morning before noon. On request, we can organise a taxi for your transfer. Please inform your hostfamily of your estimated arrival time, especially in case of a different arrival time.

INSURANCE

You must have a civil liability insurance covering damages made to others. Any material damage you may cause should be covered by your insurance. The Institute will not be held liable for your actions.

For example: Replacing a lost set of security house keys may be expensive.

DETAILS

Accommodation is invoiced by IS.

If you request to share the room (spouse or friend), the fee per person is still the same. It is possible only in half-board.



LIVING WITH A FAMILY

WHY THIS CHOICE?

Homestay accommodation is highly recommended since it gives the student the opportunity to put in practice the knowledge acquired during the lessons as well as getting to know French people, which will give you a chance to discover French and Provençal culture and habits. All selected families want to welcome you and make your stay as pleasant as possible. They are ready to devote some of their time to you and you will share their everyday life. But they expect you to show some interest in them and offer to help. A good communication from the start will enable you to fit easily in the family, understanding when to respect their intimacy. It is a place of exchange and of mutual adaptation. Please remember that living with a family is different from staying in a hotel. It is a cheaper accommodation so you cannot expect to be offered the same services.

CLEANING OF THE BEDROOMS

Towels are changed every week and sheets every two weeks.

Towels must be used for bathroom use only and must not be taken out of the house (i.e.: not for beach or swimming pool use).

Cleaning is done once a week by your host.

You will be asked to make your bed and to tidy your bedroom as to facilitate the cleaning.

THE BATHROOM

Talk to your host to discuss what time is best to use the bathroom, as not to disturb them.

You will be able to take a shower per day, but no later than 10 pm to respect your hosts' and neighbours' tranquillity.

MEALS

Half-board includes breakfast and dinner, 7 days a week (from Sunday to Thursday for FH courses).

Breakfast will be taken at a time agreed with your hosts. It usually includes a warm drink, bread, butter, jam or cereals. French people do not usually have a big breakfast; they will usually have fruits, yogurts, cheese and ham with lunch or dinner.

Dinner must be taken at the table with your hosts (except if you made other plans). It should be healthy: meat or fish or eggs, vegetables, cheese or yogurt and fruits.

If you decide to go out, your hosts should be informed the day before at the latest.

Kitchen access allows you to cook in your host's kitchen during specific times decided with your hostess. Contacts with the hosts are more limited than with the halfboard option.

LAUNDRY

Your hosts will allow you an average of one washing machine a week. If you have the need for more machines, a small indemnity may be asked.

Clothes that need special care should be taken to the dry cleaners by the student.

An iron may be put at your disposal.

TELEPHONE

We ask you not to use the phone without permission.

If your hosts authorise you to use the phone, you will have to pay for your calls. You may receive calls but it must not disturb the personal use of the family. Thank you for deciding on the most convenient time and keep in mind the time difference between countries.

KEYS

You will receive a spare set of keys to the house. In case you lose them, you will have to reimburse all expenses.

ILLNESS

If you are ill, please call the Institute.

INSTRUCTIONS AND ADVICE

Please try:

- not to waste water and energy, and in particular to turn off the lights when leaving a room;
- leave the bathroom clean;
- throw nothing else but toilet paper down the water closet;
- not to wake up your hosts when you come in late;
- not to invite anyone without your hosts' permission;
- not to give your hosts' phone number without their approval.

The IS Aix-en-Provence team wishes you a positive and fruitful experience within your host family!