

## HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION 2020



Homestay accommodation 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 family.

Three options are available :

- Individual room with **breakfast and dinner (half board)**. Lunch is taken outside the home. This option is the best cultural immersion.
- Individual room with **breakfast only**. All other meals are taken outside the home. This option suits independent students. The family's kitchen may not be used.
- Individual room with **access to the kitchen**. You may use the kitchen to prepare your own meals. This option is recommended for independent persons or with a restrictive diet that cannot be imposed to a family. There is less contact with the host family than with the half-board option.



### LOCATION

Families are carefully selected within a short bus or walking distance (30 minutes max) from IS Aix en Provence.

### DESCRIPTION

Some host families provide a private bathroom or a bathroom to share with another student. Bed linen and towels are provided. You will be able to use the washing machine once a week. The bedroom is cleaned once a week.



### ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Your host family is expecting you on Sunday evening from 6 pm and you should leave on Saturday morning before noon. We can book a taxi for your transfer on request. Please inform your host family of your estimated arrival time few days before.

### 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 is not responsible of any damage you might cause.

*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 remains the same. This is only possible with the half board option.



## LIVING WITH A FAMILY

### WHY CHOOSING HOMESTAY?

Homestay accommodation is highly recommended since it gives the students the opportunity to practice the knowledge acquired during classes and to discover the French culture and habits and French people. 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 feel comfortable in the family and to understand 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 the same services.

### BEDROOM CLEANING

Towels are changed every week and sheets every two weeks.

Towels are 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 should make your bed and tidy your bedroom in order to facilitate the cleaning.

### BATHROOM

You should 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.

You should eat breakfast 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.

You should eat dinner 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, you should inform your hosts at least a day before.

Kitchen access allows you to cook in your hosts' kitchen at specific times.

### 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.

You might want to take clothes that need special care to the dry cleaner.

An iron may be put at your disposal.

### TELEPHONE

You should not to use the telephone without asking your hosts.

If they 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 of 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 ADVICES

Please try:

- not to waste water and energy (don't forget to turn of the light when leaving your room).
- leave the bathroom clean.
- to only throw toilet paper down the toilet.
- not to wake up your hosts when you come in late.
- not to invite anyone without your hosts' permission.

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

