

Dear Host,this is the information we send to students about Homestay.

Attached is an application form for completion and return to our office.

Homestay offers **breakfast and dinner 7 days a week and lunch on weekends**. If you are going to be late for dinner or not going to be home for dinner, then we ask you to ring the host so as they do not prepare or cook a meal for you. This is a courtesy in our country and a polite thing to do. We also say "**please**" when making a request and "**thank you**" when receiving help or assistance e.g. "what a nice dinner, thank you".

You will have your own furnished room and the host will assist you with your washing in the washing machine.

In homestay students maybe requested to "wash-up the dishes" or other light household duties and of course keep your room clean and tidy.

In some homestays there is a weekly fee for use of the internet. The family will advise you of this charge on arrival in their home, between \$5.00 to \$10.00 per week is usual. **No downloading**.

The host will also show you the local supermarket so you can purchase food for your weekday lunches and snacks and the host will provide you with space in the fridge and in a cupboard to store your food.

On arrival at homestay you will receive an information kit with maps showing your homestay and the College/University, also student homestay guidelines and leaflets of things to do in Sydney. Take this opportunity to visit our museums, parks, places of interest and our beaches. Walk over the Harbour Bridge and go right to the top of the South Pylon and take great photos of Sydney. Don't stay all weekend in your room, go to the Blue Mountains or Hunter Valley or other regional areas out of Sydney. Your College/University often organise these excursions for around \$90.00.

We would like to advise that hosts **work Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm** so it would be appreciated if you could arrange a **flight arriving at night or on the weekend**.

Once payment has been received together with your flight details, your homestay profile will be forwarded to you.

We do not offer discounts for longer lengths of stay.

Finally, 2 weeks notice to be given to our office if wanting to leave homestay before the end of the booked period.

Although we endeavour to meet your listed requirements we cannot guarantee that all can be met. Remember homestay is **not a hotel** but an opportunity for you to live with an Australian Family.

Regards

Susie Randle
Manager
Meridian Homestay Services
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