

HOST FAMILY ACCOMMODATION

WHY CHOOSE A HOMESTAY?

Living as part of an English speaking household is the best way to truly immerse yourself in the language and culture. You will be practicing the English you have learned every day with other English speakers, which means that you will never stop learning and improving your fluency. It is also a great chance to build relationships with people living in New York and share their lifestyle.

HOW WE CHOOSE OUR FAMILIES

At BSL, we choose our families carefully. We want your stay in New York to be as comfortable as possible so we have spent time selecting the right families, based on their levels of pastoral care shown to our students.

We ask potential hosts to fill out an application form to learn more about their home life (i.e. do they have children or pets, what their interests are, some information about their home, where they live, etc). We also ask for a few images of their home, especially the areas the student would use, such as the bedroom, bathroom and kitchen. We ask for the address so we can check if the area is safe and has convenient transportation. All of this information helps us to screen families before setting an appointment to meet in person. We then visit their home and check for comfort, cleanliness and the general atmosphere of the house, as we want hosts who are genuinely interested in accommodating students.

New York is famous for its cultural diversity and built on ethnic multiplicity. Some families may be of Latin or Asian descent for example, but that does not make them any less American. Your hosts may also speak another language, but English will always be the language used at home.

LOCATION

Most of our families are based in Brooklyn and the average commute time to the school on public transportation is 30 minutes (may be longer for some homestays, especially in high season).

AMENITIES

Students can choose to stay in a single or a twin room, with breakfast only or breakfast and dinner included. Towels and bed linens are provided. Washing machines are rarely available in US homes but laundromats are always found nearby (usually \$4/wash and \$2/dry). Homestays with private bathrooms are also available on request and at an extra cost.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Arrival day is on the Sunday before your course starts, and departure day is on the Saturday after your course ends. If you wish to add one extra night on arrival or departure, we will try and arrange this with your hosts (at an extra cost).

AVAILABILITY

All year round.

