

Dear Host family,

My name is Charlotte, I am 16 years old and I live in the South of France.

I am a rather friendly, pleasant and open-minded teenager. I have always had many friends : My primary school friends from my village, especially Luna, she moved 63 miles away but I keep seeing her. Then my friends from *middle school* and high school, including Paulyne. I love seeing my friends for chat, stroll around town, shop, go to the movies, have a drink in a coffee shop, go swimming...

I love to learn and discover things, I am interested in others and I like to talk a lot, especially about travel or things I don't know.

At school I have always had good results and all subjects interest me. The subjects I like depend on my teachers. Last year I had a professor of History and geography who was interesting and who made me want to know more.

Thanks to my parents, I had the opportunity to travel in several countries. When I was 12 years old, we traveled 4 month by bike in South America. It was an extraordinary experience for me, I discovered other cultures, other lifestyles, other people. And it made me change and then I wanted to go to others and to travel.

My life in France is quite usual.

I have school every days except wednesday afternoon and week ends.

On Wednesday afternoon I usually do my homework and I go cycling alone or with Mum or Dad or I go walking with my dog. I also often cook cakes for my family or friends. If I don't have too much homework, I take a bus with a friend and we meet other friends in town. I used to dance two hours on Wednesday afternoons; but I had to stop because I had too much homework (and also because of Covid). Yet I love classical and modern dance.

On the weekend, it's kind of the same program as Wednesday afternoon. Besides, with my parents and my sister, we often go for walk or bike rides around our house. And every Sunday morning I'm going to the public swimming pool with my mother.

We don't have TV at home but we use the computer to watch the TV news and, on weekends, we watch a movie together.

Every holidays, I see my friend Luna. Either she comes at home or I go to her home one week.

Also, my parents like to rent a house for a few days at the sea or in the mountains. On February holidays, we often go skiing.

I usually go to camp once or twice a year and I really like it. Later, when I will be a student, I would like to be a camp leader in the summer.

During the summer holidays, we usually do a week of cycling and hiking with my parents. We do wild camping.

And from May until September, we take advantage of our swimming pool at home; then I like to invite several friends to have fun together.

I have talked a little bit about my family, but I will tell you more.

My parents are nice and understanding but strict, I love them very much. Compared to my friends there are more rules and less freedom. For example until last year I was allowed to have my mobile only one hour a day. Also at lunch or dinner, we eat together and there's some rules to follow (keep hands on the table...).

But I think that's good because it gives us a framework to live together.

My sister Marion is two years younger than me, I love her very much. We have fun together and we are complicit but sometimes we have quarrels.

I like to share things together with my family, for example when we travel or when we play games together. Then, we have fun, we laugh together and we are close.

I decided to go to Ireland for a year to discover the Irish culture and way of life. Also to spend time in an Irish boarding school. This is all very different from my French life which is why I am so interested in doing it.

I want to live this experience now because I think that it will bring me even more openness, maturity, and a level of English which will be very beneficial to me the rest of my studies.

Thank you to host me in your family for week ends.

Charlotte