

UVIC HOMESTAY

Flight Details and Arrival in Victoria – Group Arrivals and Departures

Please note that travel arrangements must be made to Victoria. Acceptable arrival and departure locations include the Victoria International Airport (YYJ), the Victoria Bus Terminal, the University of Victoria, a Victoria Hotel or a Hostel. Hosts cannot pick up at the Vancouver Airport (YVR). The Vancouver Airport is a 25-minute plane ride to the Victoria International Airport (YYJ) or a 3-hour and 40-minute bus and ferry ride to the Victoria downtown Bus Station.

Flight details must match the Program's set Arrival Date and Departure Date. Partners/agents should book travel that allows their students' flight details to match the Program's set Arrival Date and Departure Date. Groups should aim to arrive between 8:00am and 9:00pm on the weekends, or weekday evenings (and not during the weekday work hours) so that hosts can make the necessary arrangements to pick up their students at the agreed-upon location.

Hosts are not required to drive to the airport/ferry terminal to pick up their students after 10:00pm. If the flight booked arrives after 10pm on the Program's set Arrival Date, students are required to take a taxi to their homestay, at their own cost. Alternatively, in these cases students may also wish to book a hotel, at their expense, for the night. A bus will need to be booked (at students' cost) to bring students to the University of Victoria campus for 8:00am the following day where students will join start up activities for their program. Students will be picked up by their hosts after 4:30pm (after regular work hours) from the UVic campus on the day after the set Arrival Date.

Once you have confirmed and shared your Group's Travel Form details, the UVic Homestay Program will provide homestay families with the group's arrival and departure information.

Arriving Before your Program's Arrival Date

Students needing to arrive earlier than the date listed on Program's Arrival Date will need to make arrangements to book a hostel or hotel accommodation for the night/s preceding the Program's Arrival Date. Homestay hosts will pick your students up from the hotel/hostel accommodation on the Arrival Date at the check-out time specified by the hotel.

Arriving After your Program's Arrival Date

Groups arriving during a weekday, after the Program's set Arrival Date, are required to book transportation, at students' cost, to the University of Victoria campus, where students will be picked up by their hosts after 4:30pm (after regular work hours). Homestay Staff will be present at UVic to welcome and facilitate the meeting between host and student.

We can help with YYJ-UVic bus booking, and require advance notice of bus booking requirement to do so. We cannot help with YVR-UVic bookings. Bus drop-off location at UVic Campus for late arrivals is the University Centre.

On the Day of Arrival

Hosts will meet your students at the arrival location, and they will generally hold up a sign with your student's name on it. If the student and host have shared photos, they might be able to recognize one another. Homestay staff will also be present at Group arrivals if numbers are greater than 9 students.

On the Day of Your Departure

Return flights should depart on the Program's established Departure Date between 8:00am and 11:00pm on a weekend, or if during the weekday (in the case of Customized Programs), at a time that does not interfere with regular work hours. Should the return flight be scheduled to depart before 8:00am or after 11:00pm on a weekend, or during regular work hours on a weekday, ground transportation (such as taxis, a bus or shuttle) will need to be booked at students' cost, to take the students to the airport. Alternatively, partners/agents can make arrangements to book a hostel or hotel accommodation for the night preceding the Program's Departure Date. Hosts will drop your students off at the hotel/hostel accommodation the night before departure, and students will be required to make travel arrangements to the airport for the late departure that evening or early departure the following morning.

Hosts are not required to do student drop-offs at the departure location before 6:00am or after 10:00pm.

Groups departing after the Program's set Departure Date are required to make arrangements to book a hostel or hotel accommodation, at the student's expense, for the additional night/s. Homestay hosts will drop your students off at the hotel/hostel accommodation on the Departure Date at the check-in time specified by the hotel.