

## UVIC HOMESTAY

### Flight Details and Arrival in Victoria – Individual Students

Please contact your homestay family directly to let them know your flight arrival information. It is your responsibility to ensure that your hosts have your arrival information so they can pick you up.

- **Please note that you must make travel arrangements to Victoria.** Acceptable arrival locations include the Victoria International Airport, the Victoria Bus Terminal, the University of Victoria, the Swartz Bay Ferry Terminal, a Victoria hotel or hostel, or another host family residence in Victoria (Capital Regional District). Hosts cannot pick you up at the Vancouver Airport. When you arrive at the Vancouver Airport, it is a 25-minute plane ride to the Victoria International Airport or a 3-hour and 40-minute bus and ferry ride to the Victoria downtown bus station. Please make sure your travel arrangements bring you to Victoria.
- Students should arrive **on the [Program's set Arrival Date and Departure Date](#)** between 8:00am and 10:00pm on the weekends, or weekday evenings (and not during the weekday work hours) so that your hosts can make the necessary arrangements to pick you up. *Hosts are not required to pick up arriving students before 8:00am or after 10:00pm at any location.*
- Students should depart on the **[Program's set Arrival Date and Departure Date](#)**. *Hosts are not required to drop off students before 6:00am or after 10:00pm at any location.*
- Homestay placement is guaranteed from the Program's Arrival Date to the Departure Date only.

### Early Arrivals

Students needing to arrive earlier than the Program Arrival Date /date listed on the Hosting Dates of the Placement Contract:

- Students should make other accommodation arrangements for any nights outside of the homestay contract dates listed. Hosts are advised not to accommodate early arrival requests, and students are advised to make other arrangements for nights before or after their homestay contract.
- It is the student's responsibility to arrange accommodation until the arrival date listed in the Hosting Dates of your Homestay Placement Contract (see [Accommodation in Victoria](#)).

- Students arriving during weekday work hours, must make their own arrangements and at their own cost, to get to the host's home at a mutually agreed upon time. Students may also take a taxi or airport shuttle to the University of Victoria campus (Continuing Studies Building) and wait for their host to pick them up.
- Once accommodations have been arranged for early arrivals, student must contact their homestay family to tell them where they are staying, so the family can arrange to meet the student and bring them home.
- Students should arrive on the weekends or weekday evenings, no earlier than 8:00am and no later than 10:00pm (and not during the weekday work hours) so that homestay families can make the necessary arrangements to pick up the student.

### **Late Arrivals**

Students planning to arrive in the Homestay home after the Program Arrival Date/ date listed on the Hosting Dates of the Placement Contract:

- Students must contact their host with the request via email, with at least one-week's notice.
- Students arriving on a weekday may be required to take a taxi, at the student's expense, to the host's home. Students arriving early in the day on a weekday are advised to take a taxi to the University of Victoria, Continuing Studies Building, and join the day's activities – your host will be able to pick you up after their workday from the UVic campus. Please arrange this directly with your host.

### **On the day of your arrival**

When your host family meets you at the arrival location, they will generally hold up a sign with your name on it. If you have shared photos, you might be able to recognize one another.

**If your flight was delayed, or in the very rare occasion that your host family is not at the agreed upon arrival location when you arrive:**

- Call their home/cellular phone numbers or use a communication application to leave a message to update them of your travel or tell them where you are waiting for them. They may have a delay in getting to the location to meet you.
- If you are at the Victoria Airport, go to the Airport Information Booth (Red Coats Volunteers - located in the centre of the Arrivals area, phone: 250-953-7533) and ask if your host family has left a message for you.

**If you have waited for a long time and your host family is not at the arrival location to meet you and you cannot contact them by phone:**

- Take a taxi or the airport shuttle bus from the Victoria Airport to downtown Victoria.
- Stay at one of the hotels or hostels listed on the [Accommodation in Victoria](#) sheet
- If you arrive in the evening or weekend and have not been able to contact your host family, please contact the UVic Homestay Office on the next business day (Monday to Friday), during office hours (8:30am to 4:30pm) at 250-472-4268 or visit our office located on the second floor of the Continuing Studies Building at the University of Victoria.

We suggest that you keep in touch with your host during your travel, ideally through a free communication application such as Whatsapp, Viber, Line, etc. Please exchange contacts prior to your departure. While there may be a charge associated with cell phone use, we also encourage you to carry your host's cell phone number and email with you so you can phone or email them if there are changes or delays to your travel arrangements while you are travelling. If you have a cell phone, please provide your host with the number in case they need to call you.

**On the day of your departure**

- Departure details must match the Program Departure Date.
- *Hosts are not required to drop off students before 6:00am or after 10:00pm at any location on the departure date.*
- Students should make other accommodation arrangements for any nights outside of the homestay contract dates listed. Hosts are advised not to accommodate late departure requests, and students are advised to make other arrangements for nights after their homestay contract.
- It is the student's responsibility to arrange accommodation for nights beyond the departure date listed in the Hosting Dates of your Homestay Placement Contract (see [Accommodation in Victoria](#)).