



Homestay Key Considerations

Living in a homestay with a local family is one of the most rewarding ways to maximize your linguistic and cultural immersion in Morocco. Here's what to expect:

- A private room (that you may share with another ALIF student in some cases) – you should not share rooms with homestay family members or guests.
- A key to your room and to the house/apartment. (Please do not share your key with anyone. Respect this privilege.) Keep your door locked when you are not in the room.
- Families are not expected to depart from their standard diet except for medical or religious/ethical restrictions.
- Respect your family's eating schedule – expect meal times to be late!
- Many Moroccan families may not appreciate you returning late at night without prior notice – keep your family informed of your plans and whereabouts. They will worry!
- Bringing guests without permission from the hosting family is considered impolite.
- Wear modest clothes at home. If in doubt, cover up.
- No shoes on furniture. We advise taking your shoes off at home even if the family says you don't have to.
- Some families use a water hose with the toilet instead of paper. If you wish to buy your own paper products, these can be purchased at any market, convenience store, or grocery.
- Families will wash your clothes (except undergarments) on their laundry day.
- Water heating is often by propane tanks. Your family will show you how to use this if you are unfamiliar with it.
- Noise from television and cell phones should be expected.
- No alcohol. No exceptions.
- The point of living with a family is to spend time with them - if you spend the majority of your time at home alone or away from the home, the family may worry that something is wrong.