# Vancouver Homestay

**Room type**

Single and Twin

**Bathroom**

Shared

**Board status**

Half Board

**Available**

Year-round

**Arrival and departure**

Saturday/Saturday

## Immerse yourself in local culture and hospitality with a selected host family.

Stay with a local host family in Vancouver for a unique way to experience the city and its people as you improve your English. Homestays can be a comfortable and welcoming environment for international students, and Vancouver is a beautiful place for an English learning experience. Stay with a host family, experience everyday life and truly connect with the local community.

### Your Neighbourhood

Vancouver is a beautiful and vibrant city on the west coast of Canada. It has stunning beaches and large parks and is surrounded by large mountains. Vancouver is a very diverse and multi-cultural city with many different neighbourhoods, such as Downtown, Gastown, Chinatown, and Granville Island.

### Your Accommodation

Students often choose a homestay for a first-hand experience of Canadian culture and to practise their English language skills in a comfortable and natural environment.

**Housing**

All homestays are different and unique. Some Canadians live in apartments or condos, and others live in the suburbs in family homes. Some homestay providers are single and live alone, while others are married couples and large families.

### Arrival and Departure

**Available:** Year-round
**Arrival day:** Saturday
**Departure day:** Saturday
**Room check-out:** 11:00 am

### Contact

**Phone number:** +1 604 683 1199
**Emergency number:** +1 236 514 1230

**Rooms**

Students studying in EC Vancouver have the option of choosing a single or twin room. Each room has a bed, a desk, a lamp, and a cupboard. All rooms must also have a window at eye level.

Bathrooms are usually shared either with one other student or with the rest of the homestay members. It is the responsibility of the homestay host to clean the bathroom once per week. All bathrooms must be equipped with a toilet, sink, and shower/bath.

**Laundry**

Students are responsible for their own laundry and laundry supplies, such as detergent, etc. However, homestays are required to give students access to the laundry facilities and show them how to use the machines. Hosts must also provide and wash students' towels and linens.

**Wi-Fi**

Internet access is included, and phone usage is restricted to incoming calls only.

**Meal Description**

Breakfast and dinner are provided daily; however, lunch is not included. The host will provide room in the fridge and pantry to store any food that students may purchase. Hosts are encouraged to offer students whatever the homestay typically eats. Students will eat whatever the homestay eats and help set the table or clear up after dinner. Students are encouraged to participate in family activities and outings.

**Breakfast**

Breakfast varies from host to host. It is typical for Canadians to have a quick, on-the-go breakfast such as toast and coffee.

**Dinner**

Dinner time is usually around 6:30 pm, but homestays will inform the students of the time when they eat. Not all homestays will sit down and have dinner together every night. The student must notify the host beforehand if they are late or do not have dinner. If a student misses dinner, they cannot take it for lunch the next day, since lunch is not included in the homestay programme.

## Arrangement and Transport

**Journey to school**

All our homestays are within 60 minutes of EC Vancouver, conveniently located in downtown Vancouver. The nearest subway station is Granville Station. It is common for students to get from their homestay to school using different modes of transport, such as the bus or the Skytrain (Vancouver's train system). Hosts show students how to get to and from their homes on their first day. We also encourage hosts to provide students with a map from their house to the school with the following: homestay address, telephone number, closest main intersection to the home, and the number of the bus or train that they must take.
We recommend the monthly ticket for students staying four weeks, which gives them unlimited access to all bus and Skytrain routes.

**Host Family Locations**

All EC Vancouver homestays are conveniently located on a bus or Skytrain line in Vancouver, North Vancouver, Burnaby, or New Westminster. The average journey time to and from school is 40-60 minutes. Times are approximate.
Before students arrive in Vancouver, they will receive a family profile with all the host family's details (home address, email address, contact numbers, etc.). They also receive a Google Maps link showing them where their homestay is. Hosts show the students which bus/train to get to and from school, downtown, or anywhere else they may want to go.

## Airport Pickup

Students who request airport pickup should wait for their transfer in the arrivals hall at the Vancouver Airport. Before arrival, they are given our 24-hour emergency mobile number and the number of the transfer service we use. If students have missed their flights or connecting flights are delayed, they must ring either number and notify us so we can contact the transfer service. We always advise the family when their students have paid for this service. Not calling might result in a transfer cancellation.

If you have problems and cannot contact your driver then please call the EC emergency number on +1 236 514 1230 (from the information desk or a mobile phone).

**House Rules**

- Homestay families are generally aware of any allergies that students may have, such as pet allergies, food allergies, or special dietary requirements. It is the student's responsibility to remind the hosts about these allergies on their first day.
- If students request a homestay without pets, EC Vancouver will not place that student in a family with pets.
- Homestay families are encouraged to give students keys to their homes and show them how to use any alarm systems they may have.
- Special dietary requirements may be accommodated subject to availability at a fee per week.
- Students arriving in EC accommodation between 22.00 and 08.00 may be asked to book alternative accommodation for their first night. This is to ensure the students' safety on arrival.
- Students are required to follow the EC Student Code of Conduct; failure to do so can result in termination of the accommodation.

For more accommodation terms and conditions please refer to EC accommodation policy.

**Cancellations**

**Cancellation prior to arrival**

Cancelling accommodation on short notice or less than 14 days before arrival will carry cancellation fees in accordance with EC Terms and Conditions. Students must provide written notification a minimum of 4 full weeks in advance to qualify for a refund of unused accommodation fees.

**Cancellation after arrival**

Students leaving their accommodation must give notice in writing 4 weeks prior to termination. After deducting the price of accommodation used, including the required notice period, charged at standard accommodation rates, students will be refunded the remaining accommodation costs. If the 4-week notice period is not provided, a cancellation fee equal to 4 weeks of the accommodation cost will apply.