

What type of sleeping arrangements should we provide for our guest?

Your guest will need a private room, even a small box room is sufficient. Including a small desk is ideal as they may have assignments or tasks to work on during their stay. A shared bathroom is perfectly acceptable.

Do I need to prepare separate meals?

No need to prepare entirely separate meals, but it's thoughtful to inquire about their food preferences upon arrival. Having cooked rice readily available is useful, along with soy sauce and chili sauce, which they appreciate. While they have different food habits, they are open to trying new things and are flexible. Having fruits and raw vegetables on hand can also be helpful. They are accommodating and willing to adapt to your meals.

Do I need to prepare a lunch box?

Yes, most days they will require a packed lunch, especially when they go to school. They can prepare it themselves if they know where to find the ingredients. Fruits, pre-cut raw vegetables, and rice are often favored options.

What is their schedule during their stay?

They will spend time at the school, visiting classes, and participating in school activities with children. They may also be invited to other community activities. Importantly, you won't need to drive them around as they will walk to school, likely with your child, and return independently. They'll need a key to the house for access and will often retreat to their room for work or downtime. Specific needs will be communicated in advance through the WhatsApp group.

Do they speak English?

Yes, they have good conversational English skills, though you may need to speak more slowly or clearly. They are eager to share their culture and learn from you.

What activities or experiences should we plan?

You don't need to plan additional activities beyond your usual week. Include them in your family activities—last year, one student joined a local girls' soccer team and had a great time, while another attended a communion. The experience is immersive during school hours, so they will fit into your family's routine. Take them along to places or activities your family enjoys together.

What should we do if our guest seems homesick or uncomfortable?

Adaptation can be challenging for some. They will be accompanied by an organizer for the first few days to ease the transition. If concerns arise, reach out to other hosting families or organizers through the dedicated WhatsApp group.

Is there any support for host families during their stay?

You'll have access to a dedicated host families WhatsApp group and plenty of support from involved individuals, so you won't be on your own.

You will also be invited to a preparation meeting with all hosting family to answer any of your questions prior to welcoming your guest.

How can we prepare our children or family members for hosting a Cambodian guest?

Children at DPETNS should already be aware and prepared for this experience. Encourage them to learn about Cambodia and understand the significance of this life-changing visit for our guests.

Is there a recommended gift or gesture to welcome them into our home?

Your warm welcome and inclusion are the best gifts. Show them around, engage with them, and ask about their preferences and experiences to make them feel at home. Do what feels right, there is no right or wrong and no