

Dear host family,

my name is Francesco, I am 16 years old and I am from Italy.

I consider myself a nice guy, honest, kind and my values are sincerity, respect and friendship. I have a good relationship with my family, I think they always try to do the best for me and they are always disposed to let me have the best possible experiences; I also have a wonderful relationship with my brother, in fact he has Down Syndrome and I consider him the person who makes the family happy. On the other hand, talking about friends, I have a good relationship with all of them and I'm happy every time I hang out or do something with them.

The hobbies I cultivate are many: I like playing the guitar and I'm attending a course, I love cooking all kinds of dishes, from starters to desserts, I really like sailing, I love listening to music, mainly 80s / 90s Rock music but I like every kind of nice music. The activities I am doing at the moment are many: I am part of a scout group, where we often do some very nice activities and outings, I do lifesaving swimming as a sport. I'm a patented lifeguard and a BLS (Basic Life Support Defibrillation) executor.

In Italy I attend a school very demanded. The subjects I prefer are Art History, a subject that has recently begun to attract me, and Latin, a subject that I like because it gives me the opportunity to learn more about my origins. Compared to my classmates, my grades are in the average, as regards my future programs, however, I still don't have clear

ideas, but for now I am directed to the university faculty of Psychology and to work as a lifeguard in the summer.

I live in a small town of central Italy. My town is known all over the world for the paper production since 1264. It is also the city where was born the famous painter *Gentile da Fabriano*. Although small in the recent past this city became important thanks to the household appliances production of the *Ariston* industry. I think that it is a nice town to live because it is quiet and safe. But now that I'm 16 I want to expand my horizons, so I would like to go abroad to meet new people and new culture because I'm an open-minded person.

I think that the program abroad that I intend to do will certainly be a huge experience for me from the point of view of my culture and personal background. About the language, on the other hand, I intend to try to speak the language of the country I am going to go as best as possible, even if it will be a totally different language from mine, because it will also be part of my cultural background for my whole life. It will be a little bit difficult in the first few months, but I think that in any case I will do my best to speak Portuguese.

I can't wait to meet you to know your traditions, your culture, listen to your music, learn your language and also to taste your cuisine and in particular your famous *bacalhau* !!!

Muitas saudações de Francesco! 😊