

Dear host family,

First of all, I would like to thank you for reading my letter in which I want to introduce myself and tell you some things about my family, friends, and my all-day-life.

My name is Kertu and I live in the capital city of Estonia, Tallinn. My family is a typical Estonian family. I live with my father and big sister. Sadly my parents are separated but it's no big deal since I still see my mom almost everyday. My father owns a small company and to be honest, I still have no idea what he does and my mother works at a small warehouse where they sell kids toys. My sister is finishing her last year of high school and works at a cafe on the weekends. I have a close relationship with all of them, minus the occasional fights, and I can tell them anything whenever. People say I take after my father, and my sister after my mother since me and my dad are more calm and my mom and sister the opposite. I also have two dogs Pontu and Ruudi and a cat named Maša.

I used to play soccer but I quit last year since managing school and soccer got too tiring but I still play with my friends in my freetime. Fun fact, my interest in soccer and Portugal came from the same thing. I remember watching the European Championship in 2016 where Portugal was competing against France and won. After that game I started to play soccer and for some odd reason, I started to like Portugal and when I found out I could be an exchange student to any country I would like, I just knew I had to take the opportunity. Now my hobbies are mountain skiing and bike riding. Usually I ski at least once here in Estonia and some winters with my friend's family in Finland or Sweden. I really like skiing, it's different from other activities and the view from the top of the mountain is memorable. I said my other hobby is bike riding but I don't mean that I take long bike rides as a sport. I mean, in the summer, a bike is more fun to ride than the bus.

During the school year I mostly focus on school and most of my freetime is spent annoying my sister and not really doing anything, but on school holidays, which we have quite many throughout the year, I hang out with my friends and family. The summer holiday is my favorite, mainly because there is no school for 3 months and it's the prettiest time in Estonia out of all the other seasons. It's warm and everything is green and it's light out till 1 in the morning. In the summer me, my mom and sister have many road trips all around Estonia. My mom's side of the family is quite big. I have three aunts, two uncles and six cousins. Two of my aunts and uncles live in south Estonia and one has a big countryside house. Most of my summers are spent there since all my cousins are there so it's always fun and when I'm at home I spend time with my friends. I work in the summers as well, sometimes I help my mom in the warehouse and I used to babysit my neighbor's kid but she started school so I'm no longer needed:)

Since I already know what I want to do after my exchange year, it makes my life a little bit easier. I want to become an interior designer and there is a school here for that. My long time dream has also been to move to another country and as of right now I only know two languages but learning yours as well, would give me more options. This experience would make me more independent as well. I'm a curious person so I would love to learn everything there is to know about your culture. I know this experience would give me many good memories and maybe even lessons. I can help in the household and pretty much know how to do all the basic tasks so I'm not totally useless.

Thank you again for taking the time to read my letter and I hope that your family will be the one to show me the true beauty of Portugal. I'm sure this experience will be unique, memorable and fantastic for me and you!

Sincerely,
Kertu