

SO, YOU'RE HOSTING A STUDENT FROM AUSTRALIA.



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Thank you for hosting with AYA!

We understand that this is not only a very exciting time for you, but you may also be feeling nervous. Fear not! **Here are some helpful hints to help make your year a successful one.** *(Please note: while this information is mostly typical of a culture, it does not apply to all students. Every personality is different, so keep that in mind!)*

Please be Aware...

- Australian slang can be extensive, and your student may use expressions unfamiliar to Americans.
- Australia has opposite seasons from the U.S. during much of the exchange year, so your student may need time to adjust to the weather.
- While English is shared, some words have different meanings (for example, “thongs” means flip-flops in Australia).

1 Friendly & Relaxed

Australian teens are generally friendly, easygoing, and quick to strike up conversations. They often appreciate casual interactions and may use humor to build relationships.

2 Outdoor Lifestyle

Many Australian students enjoy spending time outdoors, whether it's sports, the beach, hiking, or simply gathering with friends outside. They may enjoy joining your family's outdoor activities.

3 Informal Communication

Australians tend to use first names with most people and have a relaxed communication style. Friendly teasing (“having a laugh”) is common and is usually intended as a sign of friendship.

4 Independence

Australian teens often have considerable independence and may be used to balancing school, sports, jobs, and social activities on their own.

5 Open-Minded & Adventurous

Australian students are often eager to experience new places, foods, and traditions. They usually embrace new opportunities and appreciate being included in family activities.