

"Liliana is mature according to her age. Last year she took her own initiative to organize a school event for 60 students."

## Lär känna Liliana

Liliana är född 2007 och kommer från Slovakien. Hon kommer i augusti 2024 och stannar under en termin. Intressen är bl. a hästar, promenader, böcker och filmer. Hennes favoritämnen i skolan är biologi, kemi, språk och historia.

Dear host family,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Lily, and I am sixteen years old living in Slovakia.

My family is very supporting and loving. They help me in every aspect of my life. I spend a lot of time with my family. They drive me whenever they can to the barn and are always there to support me at the horse-shows. They are always there for me, holding my hand if I need it.

I am currently in my second year of a five year bilingual program focusing on natural sciences. I love my school and it is a huge priority for me so I try to work really hard on my goals to be able to chase my dreams. When I want to achieve something I set everything aside and I don't give up until my goal is reached. I am a very hardworking and strong-minded type of student, I try to always show off my best work. My school is full of great and talented people and I have many friends there which I look forward to seeing everyday. It is sometimes hard to balance my time between school and studying and my sport since I am a showjumper and own 3 horses which I dedicate all of the time which isn't spend in school to. Everyday right after school my first steps go to the barn where I ride and train my horses.

I see my sport more than just a sport. It doesn't only keep me in good condition, shape and physical health. It has brought me to many different places while traveling around international shows every weekend, getting to know new people and eating delicious food. I gained many beautiful memories, and they have brought me so much joy, so many tears off happiness. Among other, my horses have taught me responsibility and discipline which made me who I am today.

I try to always find some time also for my friends, because they are also a very important part of my life. I enjoy going to lunch with them, having picnics in parks and just enjoy nice moments together as much as we can. I laugh all the time with them and spending time with my friends always gets me in a positive mood. I am participating in the exchange program not only because in the future I want to study at university abroad and I think that an exchange semester would be the ideal opportunity for me to check out how it feels like to live away from home, but also I want to experience the different cultures, habits and views on life in a different country. When I had to make a decision, in which country I want to spend my exchange semester, the answer was very clear for me. I adore the Scandinavian way of life and especially the way of "mind". I tend to think of Scandinavian person as someone who embraces the simplicity of life, finding joy in the small pleasures. From my perspective a Scandinavian person represents a balance between tradition and modernity, reflecting the values of community, equality and innovation.

I am really looking forward to learning about Swedish culture, traditions and way of life through interactions with your family. I am eager to immerse myself in the Swedish language, cuisine and mostly everyday experiences. I am excited to explore the beautiful landscapes, landmarks, and vibrant communities that Sweden has to offer. Most importantly, I am more than excited to get to know each member of your family and to contribute to our shared experiences and memories.

I believe that living with a host family will not only enhance my understanding of Swedish culture but also provide me with insights and perspectives that I can carry with me for a lifetime. I am committed to being a respectful, responsible, and I am happy to participate in family activities, lend a helping hand whenever needed, and contribute positively to your household. I am more than grateful to be able to spend time abroad, breaking the pattern of my stereotypical day to day lifestyle and to have a chance to experience a diametrically different lifestyle and be a part of your family, and I cannot wait to begin this adventure together.

Kind regards Lily

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