Living with an Exchange student

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In the Rotary Youth Exchange program, as it name says, it is based on an exchange. When a student is going abroad, his/her family has to host a foreign student (an Inbound from any country). For example, it’s not because I’m going to Korea that my family will host a korean student. It can be from anywhere in the world.

The student stays in a host family between two and five months. It depends of each case.

Anyway, since the 1st April 2017, I’m living with Natalia, a Mexican exchange student.

I already had experimented the fact of having a foreign student at home but that wasn’t for a long time (not more than 10 days). So I was quite nervous about living with someone for three months.

I had met Natalia in september 2016 and we were seeing each other at school but we hadn’t really introduced ourselves to each other, we hadn’t spoken, exchanged. When she arrived home we started talking (her french level had improved a lot) and we got along really quick. That was a good surprise to be that comfortable with each other that fast.

We already have so many nice memories and so more to create. I won’t forget this wonderful time I had with living with Natalia. Thank you for everything.

Here are a few tips for Host families about to welcome an exchange student :

Talk and share with him/her your habits, your hobbies. Tell him/her when she/he does something that you’re not okay with. But you also need to tell when you’re proud of him/her. Communication is the key during his/her stay at your house. So that the student will feel at home and can improve in the language a lot.

Here’s how Natalia describes Mexico, for the ones that would like to go there for an exchange or just holidays !

« Girls are the prettiest, perfect, the most beautiful, there are the coolest people that hold alcohol well and they know how to party ! »

Here’s the end of this post , thank you for reading!