

"Lia has an openness and interest towards international encounters and intercultural projects."

Lär känna Lia

Lia är född 2009 och kommer från Schweiz. Hon kommer i augusti 2025 och stannar under ett läsår. Intressen är bl. a musik (spelar piano), teckna/måla, konst, sällskapsspel, fotografera och utomhusaktiviteter (paddla kajak, camping). Hennes favoritämnen i skolan är bild och musik.

Dear host family,

I hope you are doing well! I am very excited for this exchange year, and I hope that during the time I am there, I will become sort of a part of your family as well. I live with my parents, and I have a sister. She is about 3 years older than me and has always been some sort of role model for me. When we were kids, we didn't fight very much and generally got along well. I love her very much. She has moved out now, and I of course miss her, but she only lives a few minutes away by car, so sometimes she comes to visit.

I have a generally close relationship with my family. We don't really argue a lot, and we often hug (I personally need at least 3 hugs a day). I also get a lot of freedom, and I mostly don't have to help a lot with the housework. I do understand that I will have to follow your rules though, and I am of course willing to help if you need it.

Although we live in Switzerland, my family and I have a German citizenship. We moved to Switzerland when I was six, I think, because my father found a job there and we would only see him on the weekends otherwise. Thankfully I didn't start school yet, so I didn't have to leave any friends behind, and I was enrolled in school there.

Speaking of school, I think I have a relatively good relationship with school. I am of course stressed out sometimes and I don't always get great Marks, but overall, I am doing good in school. I also enjoy school because it is one of the easiest ways to meet new people, and also just because it gives me structure. If I don't have to do anything, I sometimes don't even do the things I want to do because I just rot in bed.

A very important thing in my life, for example, is Art. I like to draw or paint, mostly while I listen to music or an audio book. It is really calming for me. I also like to go to museums and talking about art, which for me is mostly just making stuff up, but it's fun. One problem I have sometimes though, is that I get really frustrated when something doesn't work, and it can ruin my mood, but I think that goes for everything in life.

Another thing I like is music. Simply listening to it is fun, but I also like to make music. I sing in a band every second Tuesday and I play a bit of piano. I can't read notes, however. I started playing because my sister used to play the piano and so we had an electric piano at home. At first, I just pushed a few buttons but after a while I began watching videos of people playing the piano and I tried to memorize the finger placements. My parents also asked me if I wanted to go to a teacher, but I didn't really want to go and so I stuck with videos, which worked out rather well. At one point I could even play bohemian rhapsody, but I forgot most of it by now, which is the negative aspect about not having any notes.

The reason I want to go to Sweden, however, is that I absolutely adore Sweden. I grew up with Petterson and Findus and Pippi Longstocking and my family and I regularly went to Sweden in the summer and went canoeing for a few weeks. I know that all these things are a bit stereotypical and of course Sweden is not just red little houses by a lake, but I still love its nature and culture which I'm hoping to learn more about, and I also want to try to learn a bit of the language.

I also have some experience with living without my parents for a while. As I wrote before my parents, and I used to go camping and canoeing in Sweden sometimes. One time I wanted to go but my parents didn't, so they asked me if I wanted to go to Sweden without them, but with a group of teenagers and two tour guides for two weeks. I was hesitant at first but eventually agreed. The first few days were a bit scary because I didn't know anyone there, but after a while I started to open and talk with a bunch of people which I now consider some of my closest friends. And although it is not nearly the same as this exchange year, it still has some similar aspects, like living without my parents for a while or that I don't really know anyone yet. But also, that the first days, or in this case, months can be a little hard because you need time to adapt to your new surroundings.

Perhaps I will be a little quiet in the first weeks as well, because as I stated before, I need a bit of time to open.

So that's me. I hope you liked my letter, and I would be very happy if you would choose to look over me while I'm in Sweden so I can meet you! :)

Kind regards, Lia

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