

Hello, my name is Marley, and I am 15 years old. I am very excited about the possibility of living with you during my exchange in Denmark.

I would like to take this chance to introduce myself and share a little about my family, my interests, and why I am so enthusiastic about this opportunity.

I come from a family of six, with three older sisters, my Mum, and my Dad. I also have two dogs who are a big part of our family, a Groodle named Alfie and a Pekingese called Coco. I have always had a great relationship with my sisters; they have taught me patience and the importance of respect. With my parents, I share many special moments, such as travelling together to visit family and going to the Australian Open each year in Melbourne to watch the tennis. They have always encouraged me to be a kind, responsible, and hardworking person, which I strive to live up to as much as I can.

At school, my favourite subjects are English, Math, and especially Physical Education. Sport has always been a big part of my life, and tennis is my greatest passion. I play for both my school and a regional team, and the sport has taught me discipline, focus, and teamwork.

Outside of tennis, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, and I also work part-time at a local grocery store and café, which has given me experience in being responsible, reliable, and confident with people.

When it comes to food, I enjoy trying new things, but my favourite meals are sushi and pasta. I would love to share meals and experiences with you, and also to try new dishes during my stay.

My friends often describe me as funny, kind, and caring. I would say I am outgoing and sociable, but I am also the type of person who feels most confident once I am comfortable in a new situation.

The reason I chose Denmark for my exchange is that I want to experience a completely different way of life, as I come from a sub-tropical coastal town where the winter weather is not much different to the summer weather. The average high temperature in winter is about 20 degrees, and in summer it is about 28 degrees. Also, my Dad had 2 school friends who travelled to Denmark in their late 20s and stayed for an extended period

because they loved it so much, 1 of them actually still lives there with his 2 children in Copenhagen and speaks very highly about the country, which is a great recommendation.

I have been intrigued by winter sports ever since we spent 12 months in Toronto when I was 6 years old, and I would love the opportunity to experience the snow again. To spend time enjoying some winter activities would be amazing. I am also very interested in learning the language and understanding both the big and little differences in our cultures. I hope that I can add to your family life. I would be happy to share what I know of Australian culture with you through my personality, stories, and views on life. I am also used to helping with simple chores and responsibilities around the house, and I would enjoy being an active and supportive member of your family. Most of all, I hope to build a strong connection with you, learn about your culture, and make memories together.

Thank you so much for considering me as part of your family. I am very grateful for this opportunity, and I am looking forward to meeting you and sharing this adventure.

Marley 😊

Dear Host Family,

Thank you so much for welcoming our son Marley into your home and into your lives. We'd like to tell you a little about him, and about us, so you know the kind of person turning up on your doorstep.

As a student, Marley does well at school. He has good relationships with his teachers and works steadily enough to get his assignments done on time and generally keeps on top of things. He isn't the loud, center-of-attention type, he's happiest in a small group of friends, where he feels comfortable and relaxed. When faced with difficult situations, Marley tends to bottle things up and quietly move on rather than talk them out. The upside is he avoids drama; the downside is sometimes he needs a little encouragement to share what he's really thinking.

As a family, we're big at doing things together. You'll often find us on a coastal walk, wandering around a farmer's market, watching too many episodes of a TV series in one sitting, heading to the beach, or grabbing dinner or coffee.

Marley, Amanda and I all play tennis—sometimes with each other, sometimes in groups—but for Marley this is more than just a hobby, it's a real passion. He loves the game and is always keen on hitting. Over the years he's also tried his hand at Australian rules football, netball, trampolining, golf, surfing, and water skiing. He enjoys being active, trying new things, and generally throws himself into whatever sport is on offer.

He also loves spending time with his grandparents, who live a plane ride away, and regularly travels to stay with them during school holidays. Either by himself or with one or more of his sisters. That time has helped him build independence and confidence in being away from us.

At home, Marley pulls weight (most of the time!). He'll mow the lawn with the ride-on mower, chop firewood when we ask (though he's smart enough not to volunteer too often), and sometimes helps his mum in the vegetable patch, even though gardening is far from his

passion. What he does enjoy is cooking, he's a pretty good cook, and will happily whip something up in the kitchen. The cleaning up afterwards, on the other hand, is met with slightly less enthusiasm!

As for his responsibilities and behaviour, Marley is respectful, polite, and reliable. We trust him with freedom to go out with friends or do his own thing, as long as he keeps us in the loop. When dealing with disappointment, he processes it quietly, without fuss, and then moves forward without dwelling on it.

We think Marley will bring warmth, a sense of fun, and a helpful spirit to your home. We're very grateful that you're opening your doors to him, and we hope you enjoy having him as much as he will enjoy being with you.