EDUTOUR HIGH SCHOOL IN CANADA PROGRAM – SINCE 1997

EduTour is here to take the uncertainty away - we do everything possible to ensure every student enjoys their Canadian experience, succeeds in their ambitions, and becomes a more rounded person through our programs. Our staff is dedicated to ensuring that each student has access to the best that Canada and our educational system has to offer.

Every student completes the EduTour Homestay Application. Students receive pre-departure handbooks and regular communication from us. We want to ensure that parents and students are all prepared for the program prior to departure. We will ensure that all the necessary visa information is provided well in advance of arrival. Students will also receive a full dossier with information and photos from their host family. Students will have lots of time to get in contact with their host family and get to know them even before they arrive in Canada.

From the time a student arrives in Canada, we will be there to assist them. We provide a student Orientation, assist students to register at school, and our local staff help each student to learn about Canadian culture and how to adapt to life at Meadowridge School and Canadian community. We are a source of help and encouragement for students from the beginning to the end of their stay.

HOMESTAY:

It's right in our name! We take pride in the quality of host family offered to every student. Most of our host families are referred to us by other host families who have had a positive experience hosting with EduTour.

All families are interviewed personally in their home by our staff, and thereafter carefully screened and matched with each student. Every family is required to provide us with a clear Criminal Record Report.

Our families enjoy hosting because they love introducing their student to Canada and our Canadian lifestyle. They also know EduTour staff is always there to assist their student and their family. That's what makes the difference. And we make it 'personal'.

Since 1997, EduTour Homestay Associates has provided quality Homestay programs for International High School students. "Homestay" is right in our name. That's what we do and we take pride in offering carefully selected families and caring support for every student.

What does EduTour provide that's better?

EduTour has a Homestay Manager right in the school community. The Manager reports to EduTour's Head office. Working under the Manager are local Homestay Coordinators providing services to each child. The local EduTour Coordinator lives in the same community where your student lives. Our coordinators know your child and your child's needs. More importantly, they personally know every family that hosts. They know YOUR child's Homestay family well.

Our Coordinators personally visit the host family in their home; provide a one-to-one Orientation for each family to be sure they understand our Homestay program and their obligations to your child. That means our Homestay families also receive personal attention and can ask those special questions that are unique to their family.

Our coordinator continues to meet with the Homestay family throughout the year. Our Coordinator also meets your child when they arrive in Canada. They provide a personal orientation for each student and they are in constant contact in person and by telephone during the student's stay in Canada.

Our families know they can call their EduTour Coordinator any time with questions or for assistance. Your child can call anytime too. Both your child and the host family are also free to contact our Manager or the EduTour Head office (we have a toll-free number) and we offer 24 hour emergency assistance, 7 Days a week.

Our Coordinator also meets your child at school. Our Coordinator will help your child to register for school courses. Sometimes, meeting your child away from the host family is important. That way your child will feel free to express themselves openly. Our coordinator also meets with school staff. We know your child's school and the staff at that school. We can make sure they are meeting your child's needs at school both socially and academically.

Travel: Did you know that EduTour ALWAYS knows where your child is? Did you know our students are not allowed to travel without our permission? Would you want your child travelling by herself or with someone you don't know to another city for a weekend? Where would they stay? What would they be doing? How would anyone find them if something happened? EduTour knows the answers to those questions because **we require advance travel permission.** We ensure your child only travels with an adult over age 25 that we know!

Sometimes, our students think we supervise them too much; but isn't that the way most parents would want their child to be supervised away from home?

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Problems in Homestay:
If an EduTour student has a problem, they know they can count on us to help them. Overseas parents know who EduTour is and they know how to reach us to share any concern they have about their child. That's the way it should be. We want every student's parents to feel that we hear their concerns and will be there to assist their son or daughter.

EduTour provides the following services for all students taking part in our Homestay Program

- Provide liaison with Meadowridge School during the school year and prior to arrival.
- **Custodianship** for students (required for all Minor students in Canada)
- Homestay Placement with carefully selected Canadian family (includes all meals & private room)
- Local EduTour Coordinator who meets regularly with each student
- Regular student progress reports (in English)
- Host family Orientation prior to student arrival
- Student Orientation in Canada after arrival
- Student pre-departure and program orientation handbooks
- EduTour Head Office and Manager provides student support through our Local Coordinators
- Airport greeting on arrival and departure, if requested
- Transfer from airport to Homestay included in our program on arrival and departure, if requested
- EduTour acts as the liaison between the student / school / homestay family and overseas parents or representative.

Items not included in our program:
- International and domestic airline travel
- Medical Insurance. EduTour can provide insurance if requested - additional fees apply. All students must have comprehensive Medical Coverage. EduTour will require proof of insurance cover.
- School Uniforms, Laptop computers or other items required by the school.
- Spending money for personal items, going to movies etc with friends
- Transportation to/ from school
- School book and extra-curricular student fees on arrival. Please budget approx. $500 for this.
- Study permit application fees

PROGRAM POLICY INFORMATION

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

EduTour Fees: Applicants who cancel their program *before arrival* for any reason will have any EduTour Fees refunded, less an Application Fee of $500. No refund of fees if student cancels *after arrival* in Canada or if the student is dismissed from the EduTour program (except for unused portion of homestay fees, less month payment).

AIRPORT TRANSFERS: Are included on arrival/departure in Canada. EduTour will provide greeting services and transfers by host family or EduTour staff on arrival and departure.

OVERNIGHT STAY DUE TO AIRPORT TRANSFER: If your student's flight requires that student stay overnight in a Canadian city prior to flying on the next day to their homestay destination, EduTour can usually provide Airport Greeting, transfer to/ from Airport and overnight stay with Breakfast. Fee for this service is $200/ student.

TRIPS AND TOURS: In addition to EduTour sponsored trips; students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of trips and activities through the School and sometimes through trips arranged personally by EduTour managers. Students wishing to take part in these activities should check with the school and EduTour Manager after arrival and sign up in advance. (Fees for any such trips are not included in the EduTour fees.) Students must obtain and provide to EduTour, permission in writing from their Natural Parents/Guardians.

STUDENT VISA/ STUDY PERMIT: All students staying 4 months are longer, whether full year or semester MUST have a STUDY PERMIT. Please ensure that the Study Permit extends at least TWO weeks beyond the date of the end of the Semester/year. Students need this leeway to ensure they are within their Visa dates in case of a delay in obtaining a return flight to home.

END OF PROGRAM STUDENT DEPARTURE POLICY

All students must leave Canada at the end of their program. Students should book their travel so that they depart approx June 30th (full year) or February 1 (for semester). EduTour is not responsible for students after the end of the school year and students should not expect their host families to host beyond June 30th.

Please book airline travel for your student with these dates for departure in mind.

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