

# TRAVEL Rules and Guidelines

## Volunteer Abroad Program



### In general:

- All travel **must be approved** by host family, work placement, AFS volunteers and AFS national office. **DO NOT BOOK BEFORE YOU HAVE APPROVAL!**
- Your work placement must agree to the days you would like to have off.
- A **year** program volunteer is entitled to a maximum of **5** weeks holidays.
- A **semester** program volunteer is entitled to a maximum of **3** weeks holidays.
- A **trimester** program volunteer is entitled to a maximum of **2** weeks holidays.
- Travel must **not interfere** with compulsory AFS events or with participation in activities arranged by host parents.
- All applications for travel need to be made **at least 1 month before** the desired travel date.
- Once we receive a valid travel application, AFS national office will send you a **Travel Waiver** to sign.



### Allowed:

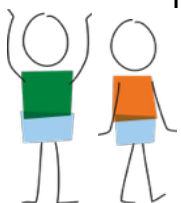
- Travelling with host family within Australia (no Travel Waiver needed)
- Travelling with host family to approved countries (Travel Waiver needed)
- Travelling with work placement (no Travel Waiver needed)
- Travelling with a trusted youth/ community group (Travel Waiver needed)
- Staying over night with another AFS family or trusted family (e.g. family of your host family) (depending on the case Travel Waiver needed)
- AFS organised travel (no Travel Waiver needed)
- Independent travel within Australia and to approved countries (Travel Waiver needed)



- AFS Australia discourages visits from relatives and friends during the program as it can disrupt your exchange and may cause difficulties for host families and the local support structure.
- Relatives and friends can not visit unless they have obtained prior consent from AFS.
- Any visits that are approved by AFS should only take place at the end of the program.

### Not allowed:

- Non-approved travel
- Travel to non-approved (i.e. unsafe) countries (please contact AFS for details)



## Visits from family or friends



I want to travel, what do I need to do?

1. Read these guidelines and check if your travel plans can be allowed
2. If so, seek verbal approval from your host family and work placement
3. Seek verbal approval from local AFS volunteers
4. Complete travel application form and send to AFS
5. Wait for the final approval of AFS National Office and sign a Travel Waiver
6. Book your trip and enjoy your travels:)