

Hey Everyone,

my name is Laura, I am sixteen years old and I am thrilled to call Canada my home for the next ten months. Here I live in a small village in the southwest of Nova Scotia named Doucetteville. I have an amazing host family which includes my host mom, my host dad, their dog Bandit and my host sister from Belgium. From the very beginning we all got along really well.

My journey to Canada

Leaving my family and friends was the hardest thing I have ever done. But I knew it was the right thing to do. For the last three years I had dreamed to go abroad to experience a different culture. I wanted to see the world, make new friends and try things I'd never done before. So, I said goodbye to my family at the airport in Germany and went through security on my own.

My first flight was to Amsterdam. There I met three other exchange students from Germany who were also on their way to Canada. From Amsterdam, our journey continued to Toronto. I even tried to sleep on that eight-hour flight (spoiler: it didn't work that well). As we neared the airport, it hit me for the first time that my life was about to change completely. The feeling I had in this moment was indescribable.

At the airport we had no idea where to go, so we just followed the signs. After passing through immigration (don't worry about that, sometimes they look a bit grumpy there but it is part of their job) I still had about four hours to go until my flight to Halifax started so I made my first visit at Tim Hortons :). There I just drank a plain black coffee because I didn't know what to order.

When I finally arrived in Halifax it was already 9p.m (by that time, I had been traveling for about 24 hours and was completely exhausted). I spent the night at a hotel because my new home was three hours away from Halifax.

The following day, my host dad and my host sister picked me up from the hotel. I was so excited to meet them. We hopped in the car and set off. On the way, we also made a short stop at Tim Hortons again. When we got to the house, my host sister and I met our host mom for the first time. After a quick lunch we chose our rooms and unpacked our stuff.

Once we were settled, we got into the car and drove to the camp. The camp is a really small cozy house with a kitchen, a bedroom and a tiny living room. It is located directly by a large and beautiful lake. My host sister and I took the chance and went paddle boarding and swimming in the lake. We had a lot of fun but we couldn't stay in the water for a long time because it was really cold. After we got home we had dinner, watched a movie and went to bed.

It was an amazing first day.