

Homestay

My homestay was one of my defining experiences in Japan during my exchange program. My host family was so welcoming and I got to learn a lot about them, their background and Japan.

I really enjoyed all the places we went to, and it was fun to see some of the hallmarks of Hamamatsu.



During my first day of my homestay program I learned more about Aya and her child, and we all ate together, the food in Japan is really great and Aya is a great cook. I learned about how she spent 8 years overseas, and it really shows because both her and her sons' English are amazing!

On the second day, I went with Aya to the beach and Suzuki museum. We had a lot of fun there because we also met my girlfriend and my professor for a short time. That day we also had food outside for lunch, it was Hamamatsu gyoza!

In the third day, Aya's husband Shun took us to some traditional temples, and we also tried some Udon at a traditional Udon restaurant. Later that night we also went to Sawayaka, which I heard is famous in Hamamatsu. At all times the places we went and the food we ate was amazing, but the thing I really appreciate the most is the time I got to spend with my host family. It was cool to learn about their interests, history and background. Their son had some really fun games to play from Bluey (A TV show from my home country of Australia).

Overall, I recommend the homestay program for anyone looking to learn about Japanese life, Hamamatsu or make new friends. It's so interesting to learn about the differences between your country and Japan. I hope that I can hold a life long relationship with my host family. The picture attached is of when we went to Sawayaka together!