



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

## Featured Country: Pakistan



### Top ten reasons to host a student from Pakistan:

10. Selected from a highly competitive application process: 100 students from 2500 applicants
9. Most students are highly fluent in English.
8. Many students have academic records that rank in the top quartile.
7. Students are very service oriented.
6. Students come from a [cultural tradition of strong family values](#).
5. Pakistan has been an AFS partner since the creation of the [Kennedy-Lugar YES program](#) 8 years ago.
4. Students receive six months of orientation before arrival in U.S.
3. Hosting a student from Pakistan can create connection with a region of the world critical to world peace.
2. Placing a YES student from Pakistan in your area can [help present a positive image of the U.S.](#) to a future leader of Pakistan.
1. Help your community learn about Pakistan from a young person who wants to share the best of his/her country with the U.S.

### Country Information

Pakistan is one of the oldest occupied lands, dating back 5,000 years. Throughout its history it has been invaded by Turkey, Greece, Afghanistan and others, and until 1947, was a part of modern day India, with whom it still struggles. Citizens tend to feel more alliance with their region than with the country as a whole. Today, the country is slowly becoming successful politically and economically.

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## Lifestyle and Family

The family is the center of social and support, and tends to be fairly conservative. The nuclear family is close-knit but at the same time very large, with five or more children in a family. When the sons get married, the couple often moves in with his family. People work hard to support themselves, and their lives rarely include many modern conveniences.



## Teen Life and Sports

Popular sports of Pakistan are cricket and squash, sports that were introduced by the British and are still played till this day. Teens love to go out and listen to music and dance, usually at night.

## Diet

The flavor of the Pakistan food is spicy, usually incorporating lamb, beef, and rice. The poorer families tend to leave the meat out of meals. Everything is seasoned with curry to give it the spicy taste. Tea and milk is served with each meal.

## Language and Religion

English is the official language of the country, used by the government and schools. However, there are hundreds of different languages spoken in Pakistan because of the variety of ethnic groups that live in the country. 90 percent of Pakistanis are Muslim.



Apply now to host a student from Pakistan at [www.afsusa.org/host-family/apply](http://www.afsusa.org/host-family/apply).