

A Visit with a Host Family!



Welcome to the Lu Family's apartment in Beijing. The three of them live in a 2 room apartment close to lots of public transportation. Let's take a look around!

The Kitchen

This is the kitchen. It is very small, but has modern conveniences, like an electric stove and a rice cooker.



The Kitchen

Here is the other side of the kitchen.



The Living Room, Dining Room, and Bedroom

This is the Lu family's living and dining room. It is also Lu Yi's bedroom. It is the largest room in the apartment. There are lots of water bottles on the table because it is not safe to drink the water from the faucet in China.



Lu Yi's Bed



This is Lu Yi's bed. Since it is very hot in the summer, she sleeps on a wooden mat. Many people do not have air conditioning in China. Even when it is hot, the mat keeps her cool as she sleeps.

The Living/Dining/Bedroom!

This is where the family has their TV and computer. The family has many pictures and keepsakes on the shelves in this room, too.



The Bathroom

I did not get a good picture of the family's bathroom, but I will describe it to you. It was like a very small box, no bigger than 4 feet by 4 feet. There was a modern, Western toilet. The shower was in the corner, but there was no room for a shower curtain. When you turned on the water to shower, the toilet and sink got wet, too. You have to make sure to leave your clothes outside the bathroom when you take a shower there! 😊

LuYi's Desk



Look at all the books on LuYi's desk! This is one of the most important places in the apartment for her.

Education is taken very seriously in China, and students study many hours each day. Even though I was visiting in the summer, LuYi was doing a couple hours of homework every day!

Mom and Dad's Room

I did not get a good picture of my host mom and dad's bedroom. It was much smaller than the dining room/living room/Lu Yi's room combo, and only had a bed and a small dresser in it. Their bed also had a wooden mat on it to keep them cool as they slept.

There were no other rooms in their small apartment, but the family feels very lucky to have it! Although it is quite small and not very modern, it is close to the train station, the subway, and bus stops. The family does not have a car, so they walk or take public transportation whenever they need to get somewhere.

LuYi

Here I am with LuYi! She is 14 years old, and is in 8th grade. She is an only child.



Most Chinese families are only allowed to have one child. Many children are treated very well because they have no brothers or sisters! They have 4 grandparents and 2 parents always paying attention to them. Do you think you would like this?

Do you have any questions about family life in China after looking at these pictures? Brainstorm a list of your most interesting questions in small groups. One person should be the recorder in your group.



You have 10 minutes to talk and write down your questions. Then we'll talk about them together as a class. We'll email our 10 best to the Lu Family for them to answer!