

Sunday 7 May 2017

Getting up before 4am, car, coach, 2 planes, a sky train, and 2 trains later we are finally in Bielefeld !

First flight for Florian and Jules.

Florian : I found the trip very stressful but also funny at times, for instance having fun in the escalators and taking the sky train.



Jules : I really liked taking the plane even if it moved a lot and it was very noisy. The landings were a bit shaky !

Raphaël : We had to get up very early and I was very tired, but I was so happy to leave that I forgot about it.

Julie : The landscapes were just fabulous, as usual. The flights were great. In the train, we were speaking loud, laughing and occupying a lot of space. We did not think about what was coming next. *A few worries nevertheless...*

Clarence : I am a bit anxious about meeting my host family and my penpal. I am afraid I might not understand her.

Time to go to bed now, we are all exhausted !

Monday 8 May

Regan : It was hard to get up... My host family is really adorable.

For breakfast they offered me a great choice of food but I finally had some Nutella!

Arrived at school, I was happy to see some partners I had met in France. Their school is really modern and well-equipped compared to ours !

I was a little bored during the visit of Bielefeld castle because History is not my cup of tea, but the view from the tower was magnificent. We had some free time and I made friends with the Austrian team.

Jade : When we arrived at school I saw Xenia and Lamprothea, two Greek girls I had met in Athens, I was so happy, it was great to see them again! The German school is very big, I wish I had the same school in Le Bugue !

Clarence : In the morning we had a guided visit of the German school. It is huge : there are more than 700 students and 65 teachers ! We can be ashamed of our little school so poorly equipped ! They even have a toboggan inside !

We spent some time in the student's game room where they have two billiard tables and table football. They also have board games. We could play with students from all the partner countries and learn to know each other.



Logan : I liked meeting the partners and visiting Dr Oetker's. The pizza were delicious !



Tuesday 9 May

Raphaël : This morning we spent ages in the coach, it was very long. What's more the coach had a mechanical problem and we had to stop at a garage. When we finally got to Cologne we went for a boat ride on the Rhine.

Julie and Perine : In the coach to get to Cologne we talked a lot with Jovi and Dante (from Austria) and had a lot of fun.

We arrived 2 hours later than the other coach but we enjoyed our day all the same.

Lucie : On the boat we talked and laughed a lot with students from all the countries. We took pictures, that was great !

Jade : The Dome of Cologne is really magnificent. Inside we listened to organ music, I found it really moving, I don't know how to explain it.

Then we had some free time and I bought the same sweater as Clarence.

Now we are back in the coach. I feel exhausted but I had a great day !



Wednesday 10 May

Raphaël : this morning we visited Bielefeld transport company (tram and bus). We learnt about the history of transport in Bielefeld and how a tram works.
After the visit Emre, my correspondant in France, taught me how to say « How are you ? » in German.



Jade :Then we went to the Town Hall. There were drinks and cakes, it was cool ! But when the Mayor talked, I did not understand anything so I kept smiling and pretended to understand ! 🤪



In front of the Town Hall



Lucie : When we got back home, I went to have an ice-cream with my correspondent, her German friends and their 2 Greek penpals, and then we went on a pedal boat. I had a lovely afternoon. In the evening we had a barbecue at one of my correspondent's friends'. There were a lot of us, including Julie. We took pictures, went for a walk and played games outside.

. Thursday 11 May

Clarence : this morning we all took a train to Dortmund where we visited the museum of football. To be honest I do not like football at all so it was interesting for me.



While waiting for the 15:00 train for Bielefeld, the Germans and the Greeks played some music. The Greeks did one of their dances and I joined them ! We also danced the Macarena.



We had a lot of fun !

In the train we must have disturbed the other passengers but we had a great time !



Friday 12 May

Jade : an UNFORGETTABLE day with so much emotion ! I got up telling myself it was the last day. We started by preparing the national stalls. All the stalls looked beautiful ! Then we watched a slide show with pictures of all the mobilities, that was awesome! Then it was time for the exhibitions of dances from the 5 countries. I am not going to make a lot of comments as our peasant dances were ridiculous compared to the others !



Lucie : We laughed a lot when it was our time to go on stage. It was fun ! Then we could taste food from all the countries, that was great !



Discussion on stage about the benefits of the project



Regan :The ceremony was great. I particularly liked the slide show, it reminded me of a lot of good memories.

Lucie :In the afternoon I went back to my correspondant's with Julie.. We went to the skate park to meet Florian et Nicklas who were doing BMX.

Jules : In the afternoon we went to the swimming pool. My host family was really fantastic !

Regan : At the farewell party everybody was dancing, it was a great evening, full of emotion. At the end everybody was crying because we realized we would probably never see each other again.

Jade : At the beginning of the evening, the other countries organized « a party before the party », in the playground. I danced a lot and had a great time !



Then it was time to say goodbye...

I said goodbye to the Germans, the Austrians, the Spanish and finally the Greek, those with whom I got on the best.

Lucie : In the evening everybody met at school again to have dinner and dance. It was awesome, we all danced and had a lot of fun, it was the best evening of the week. Then it was very hard to say goodbye. It is a pity it is over, it was a fantastic experience.

Saturday 13 May

Raphaël : This morning it was departure day. I was both sad and tired. Tired because I went to bed late and sad because it was the last Erasmus trip. When I got to the station the Greeks were still there. All the trains were late.



Regan : This morning we had to get up very early, it was hard ! Once in the car I told myself it was the last time with Mileen and her mother and tears came to my eyes but I managed not to cry. Then, when it was time to part for good, I burst into tears in their arms. They are so lovely, I already miss them !

Jade : my correspondent woke me up at 6:20 but I did not want to leave at all so I did everything dragging my feet ! When I got to the station, surprise ! The Greek team was there, I was so happy ! Then I said goodbye to my correspondent and her parents. Her mother gave me a big hug. When I saw the Greeks leave in their train, I could not hold my tears any more... In the train it was too long, the flights were okay and now I am in the coach from Toulouse airport to Le Bugue. I am looking forward to seeing my house again, but at the same time I wish I could go back to Germany. Erasmus projects are really fantastic projects and I wish all students to be able to live such a great experience because you can create friendly ties with extraordinary people from other countries.