

My Erasmus+ -week in Croatia

On Sunday when our plane landed in Croatia I was very excited about the next week. We drove from the airport to the Pantovcak Elementary school and I got to meet my host. I was a bit shy at first but when we got to know each other it was very fun and I enjoyed it. In the evening we got a car ride from my host's dad to the British Square to see the other students of the project. We had a fun time together while walking to the city center to see the Christmas market. There were a lot of Christmas lights around the town, especially on trees. There were also a lot of people and the music was very loud. We walked a lot on that day and when we got home I was happy to go to sleep.

On Monday in school we had a welcoming ceremony in the theatre. Our finnish group had a quick moment on the stage when we got a little gift from the teachers and took a group picture. After the tour of the school we had some ice-breaking activities in the gym. They were a bit weird but they definitely did their job. We left school with our hosts at 11.30 to eat lunch. While eating my host's parents told me they always eat soup before the actual lunch which felt funny because I always got full of the soup before the lunch was even brought to table. In the afternoon we took a bus to the British Square because we had to meet there before the guided tour of Zagreb city. Unfortunately I missed the tour because my suitcase got lost while travelling to Croatia and I had to go buy some clothes with my teacher. In the evening our student group went ice skating together and I tried fritula which is a traditional croatian food. It tasted amazing and I had so much fun!

On Tuesday we splitted into two teams and did some ecologic activities in two different classrooms. I made a new friend there while making recycled paper and handbags from T-shirts. I also got to taste some croatian mandarines and they were actually the best ones I have ever eaten. In the afternoon we went to visit a RIMAC car factory! It was interesting and I learned a lot about the history of the car brand. I also made there another friend from our group. It was sadly a rainy day so me and my host just stayed at home. We spent the evening by playing Monopoly with my host's friends.

On Wednesday we visited the Greenville farm! The bus ride was nice and I had so much fun with my new friends. We learned about green entrepreneurship and did some problem solving tasks in smaller groups. I also ate mandarines there and they tasted even better than yesterday. At the end of the visit we did a fun "flying egg" game in teams where we had to build a cover to an egg so it doesn't break when we drop it. Our team was one of the winners! We got back from the farm and went for a quick visit to the Museum of Illusions. When me and my host got home we decided to make a Monopoly night. We invited my host's friends again, played some music and ordered pizza! This day was definitely one of the most fun days of this week.

On Thursday we splitted into two teams again and learned about green marketing. We got to make an advertisement about Christmas cards made of recycled paper which was fun. I needed some help with the computer but it was quickly fixed. After school we rushed back home to eat lunch and then went to a cat cafe! Our group had just a few of our finnish group's students and their hosts. I ordered a bubble tea which was a little expensive but I'd

say was worth it. We played a card game for a while and then went back to school for the math night. We arrived to school a bit late because the public transport wasn't on time. I personally didn't enjoy the math night that much but it was still a nice experience since we don't have that in Finland. Then we went to the city center again, this time I was with the french people and their hosts. We were just hanging out together and eating the snacks we bought from a local grocery store. When we got home I finally got my suitcase that was lost for a few days.

On Friday we had two invited experts in the theatre telling us about green entrepreneurship and marketing which was very interesting. After that we had activism and student council and then a quick evaluation about the week. In the afternoon I was just writing my diary on my host's room and getting ready for the party. We went to the city center to hang out with mostly just the french students and their hosts for a few hours and then went straight to school. We had a farewell party in the school's gym with some nice food and music. The party was super fun but it was sad when it ended since it was the last day we all were together.