



## Erasmus+ Mobility Through My Eyes

Our journey began on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. A few of us were chosen for this project, 7 people from our class (including me) and a few from IV.BP . Our target destination was Prague and the train was here by 19:39, each compartment had 3 beds! For me, this was the first time travelling so far by a train and it was an amazing experience! Well, minus the fact that I could barely sleep, but that was probably caused by the amount of excitement I felt that night. We arrived at Prague at around 8 o'clock in the morning, it was pretty cold outside. We had a tour of the Charles' Bridge as we waited for our bus to take us to Leipzig. After our tour and wait was over, we got on the bus and we were headed straight to Germany! The trip was around 4 hours long and some of us were still kind of tired from all the travelling, so we slept through most of the journey. And finally, we were in Leipzig. We had to catch a train to get to Schkeuditz, where our campus was located. Once we got there, some people from Vitalis drove and dropped us off at the campus. It was quite small, but very nice and cozy! All we had to do was to unpack our stuff and then head down to the club room, to be introduced with all the campus rules and with the staff.

The following two days were focused on introduction with our workshop courses and exploration of Leipzig. First session with our mentor Martin was pretty tense, we were all nervous and barely had said anything. That would get better with time, of course. I remember I was amazed the first time we entered the city of Leipzig. Now we were able to explore almost all bits of it, with the help of our tour guide, who would tell us all about the historical buildings and fun facts about the city. She was even kind enough to give us free postcards, how cool is that? We had some free time to roam the city alone as well.

The next day we had our first official day at "work". All we were told was to practice our coding skills at codeacademy, that was our job for 2 days. Martin told us to start working on our own websites after we are done with all the necessary courses. The layout was simple: a few buttons on top of the website and an image slider gallery with photo descriptions. That took us all a little over a week to finish. I enjoyed working on my website, it let me improve my coding skills and explore more of my hobbies, like graphic design. It feels really nice when you figure out what mistake you've done in the code and then fix it, even if it's just a silly little mistake.

Before the week's ended, we were told that we would go to Berlin. We got on the bus in Schkeuditz and after roughly 2-3 hours, we were at our destination. Everything looked amazing! Even if the first thing that we've seen was the train station, it had over 3 floors! Germany's capital is a really, really huge city. We had a tour guide with us here as well. She took us to some of (if not) the most memorable monuments and landmarks in the city: Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, Alexanderplatz, etc. The tour took us 4 hours, so we had only 1 hour spare to roam freely around the main square, before going back to the campus. I enjoyed the tour. The city was full of people from many other cultures and countries, it felt like we were at the crossroads of the world.

New week meant new job for us at Martin's workshop. Now we were learning all about smart home technology and if we had more time left at the campus, we would even learn how to configure it and make it work. We went on one last trip to Leipzig, before our stay was over and then came back.

We left Schkeuditz on October 5<sup>th</sup>, early in the morning. The road was exactly the same: bus to Prague and train to Košice, except we didn't go by ČD this time, but by RegioJet. Our departure was planned at around 2 o'clock in the afternoon, but the train was late by 2 hours, so we left at 4 o'clock and arrived at 2 o'clock in the morning the following day! By that time, there were no trains going to Michalovce, so we had a mini bus waiting for us in Košice (it was REALLY "mini"). Once we got to the city, our families were waiting there for us, ready to take us home.

Those 2 weeks were very positive for me. I got to visit a new country, explore new cities, new cultures, improve my English and most importantly, my coding skills. If I ever got the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus project again, I would definitely take it! It was quite the journey for me and I enjoyed every last part of it. :]

