

Děkuji Univerzita Hradec Králové!



At the beginning I only thought about coming back home. I say this because one of the hardest things of this experience is to live with many people in a small flat, but this is at the same time a personal challenge (especially if the girls are Czech) because you must learn about other people. Now I think they sure learned something about my life style and the culture of my country, and this is good.

Traveling is not a guarantee you'll become a better person, but when you are out of your comfort zone you can see the world with different eyes and this is the most important aspect for me in this academic exchange. Because more than academic it has been a personal and life exchange.



I must say several things about this: Hradec Králové is smaller than Medellín and, as we all know, people are totally different from us. In Colombia we are warm and that makes the difference with Hradec, especially in winter (it's amazing to see the snow, but only the first week). During this season I had to find the way to be active and be strong. I love the sea and summer, so for me -10 degrees or less is not too very nice.

On the other hand, safety is priceless: you can walk in the night without fear and that's great (but then again, I felt observed because I look different). Maybe with time and when more international students come to Hradec the feeling could change. For me it was a cultural shock because my university is diverse and full of accents.

But now let's talk about the spring... It is beautiful. The most amazing part is to see how everything changes in a few days, even people. Everything looks happier, kinder, friendly... To have seasons is interesting because it's possible to see how the environment impacts the life of a place in a different way, compared to tropical countries. And how feelings change according to each season.



I appreciate the help of the International office, especially Tomas. And I must thank you for the opportunity to go skiing that will be unforgettable. Thanks for the trip to Poland, too, and for letting me be part of the volleyball team during Rector's sport day. I could see how sport unites you no matter the language; it is like music. Also, I'd like to say that the scholarship was a gift, and being in this city, allowed me to know different places that I had always had in mind.

Now I can say hello, thank you, please... in Czech when a few months before I was scared when I listened at least one word in this language. I think that I can understand more, and if you don't believe me you can go with me to the supermarket.

Thank you for this opportunity, University of Hradec Králové. I'll come back to Colombia stronger and happy for having been able to know this part of the world and to have different people to visit in my next trips.

