



To start a new life for six months. To take care to myself. To face my fears. To arrive alone to an unknown country. Not knowing what their culture is like, and not even their language. To be alone. All those thoughts came to my head before coming to study in the Czech Republic, however, the experience was unmatched.

In November 2017, I learned that I was going to go to Czech Republic alone to study Philosophy; something I never imagined. I did not even know anything about this country or how they would receive me. Anyway, I joined forces and without thinking twice I accepted the challenge.

When I arrived in the Czech Republic alone, just with Google Maps as a guide, I found the beautiful and fascinating city of Prague. I fell completely in love with its charm, streets and buildings. Everything was magic.

Two days later I arrived in Hradec Králové, a name I could not even pronounce. Also, without knowing any Czech word. I could barely understand the receptionist of the student residence. She finally gave me the keys to the apartment where I would spend my next months. In the department there were already two of my roommates, both spoke Spanish and they were very helpful for me in my first steps in this city.



The days went by, more people from different countries were arriving. I never thought I could meet so many people from such different countries and cultures and that we would

have so many things in common. We all wanted to make this an experience that would mark our lives.



Then, I began my first days at the university and the first encounters with the Buddy system. There, everyone treated me very well and tried to make me have a good experience in Hradec.



Throughout the semester I learned to live alone. I learned to have responsibilities that I did not have before. I learned to adapt to a new culture and I learned to love it.

Living here allowed me to travel and see places in Europe that I had always dreamed of knowing and I did not think I would do so soon. Also, I could make a group of friends from many parts of the world with the same desire to travel and explore as me.

I will be different when I get back to Argentina. I will have another perspective of the world and of the people. I learned to not judge and to open my mind to other forms of life and thought. I am proud to say that now I can fend for myself and fight for what I want.

