

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

ALBA CERVERA, SPAIN

I am Alba Cervera, I am from Spain and I am studying International Relations. Hradec Kralové was my first Erasmus choice since I wanted to study in Czech Republic because of its geographical location.



I wanted to travel around central Europe and spend some months away from the Mediterranean region. However, at first, I was a little bit worried because I did not know if I had made the wrong decision of coming here, to a small city, two hours away from the capital; maybe there would not be much to do.

I arrived to Palachova and everything was a bit empty: there were no basic kitchen tools and we had to buy them all. What is more, I had to share my room with a girl I did not know at all, and share the flat with two

more girls that were also coming from Spain. Everything was new and unstable, I knew nobody, but everyone was at the same situation as me.

I started to know a lot of people, doing a lot of activities with international students, and getting more used to the university and to live in Hradec Kralové - sharing the room and flat was no longer a problem. I felt that every day I was learning something new. Furthermore, as I planned, I did some trips to different countries around Czech Republic at a very low price in transportation and

accommodation, so it was the perfect destination for a traveller. In addition, the course program of the Philosophical Faculty was very complete, with a large variety of courses, and professors were quite understanding since we all were international students.

Regarding the night life, the city does not have many discos where we could party, so we ended up going to the same pub every week. Nevertheless, this was not a big deal for me either. Also, in general, local people were not very friendly and sometimes they shouted at us or were a bit rude with us because we weren't Czech people.



To sum up, I found in Hrádec Kralové all the things I was looking for and my experience was amazing. I found incredible people from all over the world that made me feel at home and Palachova was a really cozy place because of them. It has been a personal and professional growth that I would definitely love to repeat.