

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

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BELARUS

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The preparation for the trip was long and difficult. However, after all the issues with the necessary documents, I went on an adventure that will probably remain as one of the most wonderful experiences of my life.

I came to the University of Hradec Králové for the winter semester, having previously attended an online Czech language course during the summer. I can say for sure that everything that we learned there definitely became very useful during our life in the Czech Republic.

Everything was new for me: the format of education, living in a dormitory, communication with people in English or Czech languages. But everyone was very kind and tried to help, so the excitement and anxiety that I had before the trip quickly disappeared.

Here I met so many people from all over the world, with different cultures and traditions, which was an unforgettable and exciting experience for me. It was interesting to learn new things from students from Turkey, Hong Kong, Ethiopia, Estonia, France, Spain, and other countries.

It was also fun to talk about the traditions, differences, and peculiarities of my culture, to try to properly explain what the "Old New Year holiday" means, how Christmas is celebrated in Belarus, why if a person's left-hand itches, then this is a sign that money will come in the future, etc.





I also had the opportunity to get acquainted with Czech culture, which made me incredibly happy! I managed to visit different cities such as Brno, Tábor, Kutná Hora and of course Prague, to visit Karlštejn, Žleby and Bezděz castles. There are a lot of beautiful places in the Czech Republic that you want to return to again.

The national Czech cuisine was also a discovery for me. It is somewhat similar to Belarusian cuisine but different at the same time. I especially like knedlíky (although I understand that this is a very simple dish, but nevermind :). Many foreigners think that the Czech Republic is very small, but in fact, it has a huge number of amazing places that can surprise you.



For me, one of the most beautiful places was the Adršpašsko-teplické rocks. If you have time, feel free to go there.

I was also glad to come here in the winter semester. Many students think that this is a cold and uncomfortable time to travel, but winter has its own spiritual atmosphere, and autumn in the Czech Republic is quite mild and warm.

My time at the University in Hradec Králové was a great experience. I switched to a completely new learning mode for me and was able to choose interesting courses. I apologize to the teachers if sometimes I got confused due to excitement or the flow of thoughts, but I was glad that I was able to study here.

All the experience and knowledge that we get in the course of life can come in handy in the future. And now, I'm returning home with great memories and incredible experiences. Do not be afraid and always be open to new things, such as learning and communicating in new languages.



Ad astra per aspera!