

# MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

DANIEL PFEIFER PITTHAN

BRAZIL

SUMMER TERM 2021-2022

Writing a report about Hradec Králové while I'm still here is a peculiar experience. It entails a mixture of feelings: nostalgia, happiness, sadness...

Sadness because of leaving the city. It is a little painful to write this story, knowing that I'm going to come back home, leaving so many friends behind. It was an incredible experience, it will certainly be unforgettable and all the beauty of the present moment almost makes me forget all the problems I went through at the beginning of the process when I arrived in Hradec in winter (one of the warmest winters in the last 200 years yet very cold), the difficult adaptation, the loneliness, and the language barrier. However, when the snow falls and fills our eyes, we understand that the challenge is worth it.



I didn't stay in the student apartments at Palachova, so I can't say much about the experience of being there. Installed near Adalbertinum, five minutes from the Philosophical Faculty (which was undergoing renovation, but will be ready for the next semester), I was able to experience life in the city and meet local people. If there's one tip I can give to you, it's this: get to know the local culture, learn the language (even if it's just a little because Czech is really hard - unless you're Slavic), travel through the countryside, discover the nightlife of Brno, the fountains of Olomouc, the beautiful Český Krumlov - a city portrayed by Egon Schiele so many times - And Prague, of course: its incredible architecture which we never get tired of.



In fact, all the architecture of the cities in the Czech Republic is amazing. Its Gothic cathedrals, its Renaissance palaces, its Baroque churches, its castles...

Travel around, get to know other Slavic countries, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary - and everywhere else you can visit.

And meet Hradec Králové. its people, its food and, of course, its beer! (*Dám si ještě jedno, prosím!*)

And study.

The university has wonderful professors who teach with passion. I am very grateful to them for what I learned and for all their help and attention. I have absolutely nothing to complain about. I will miss them and the faculty and university staff too, always so kind.

And last but not least, fall in love! Live! Enjoy! Time flies very quickly and soon, what was a project, becomes a memory (and what a memory!)

I'll go back home a bit sad because of the friendships I will leave behind, but so happy about the experience.

And with the desire to return.

*Uvidíme se později!*

