

Thelma, French student from Université de Lille

Erasmus 2025-2026

When I arrived in Hradec Kralové I didn't know what to expect, I just knew it was a small city in Czech Republic but that's it. My Erasmus here was a very good surprise. I stayed 9 months in total and it felt like 3 months. Time passed really fast even though before coming I thought I would get bored very quickly.

During the first semester I had the chance to be in a shared flat with 5 roommates : Gladys Emilie Zoé Solène from France and Hannah from Belgium. They were amazing we shared lots of quality moments together. We went to Wroclaw and Krakow, to Budapest and to Vienna. I've never been to this part of Europe, the culture is very different from France I've loved it. I've also visited Brno and Prague. I also really enjoyed the classes I took in the first semester, they were different from the types of subjects I had in my home university. The thing that I prefer in terms of education is the way of teaching. We were maximum of 15 students for each lecture and it gave space for everyone to express themselves. Compared to France where we were 500 students in one amphitheater, it felt way better. We tried to attend lots of ESN events to meet people from other countries and this way we managed to bond with people from Latin America and we are planning to do a trip to Colombia, Peru and Brasil!



Gladys, Emilie, Zoé



With Hannah and Gladys in Budapest



Brno

Wroclaw

Vienna

In January I started my second semester after saying devastating goodbyes to my friends. I've met my new roommates : Maëlle Nina and Roza, all from France. Being only 4 in the apartment brought a new dynamic. We had more time to speak all together and also more space to live. We did again some trips in Poland, in Dresden and we visited Karlovy Vary and Kutna Hora. About the classes, I've less enjoyed the subjects of the second semester but it was still interesting.

About the social aspect, we organized lots of gatherings in the common room (which was closed during the first semester) it was super fun to have a space to meet with a lot of people. The only thing that was disappointing is that ESN didn't do as many events as the previous semester. We had one party in the beginning and two at the very end when some people had already left. But it was still a very fun semester, like usual we spent lots of night partying in Prague :)



Nina, Roza and Maëlle



Overall, my Erasmus in Hradec Kralové was surprisingly good. In the beginning I was sceptical about it but after just a few weeks I felt like it was my comfort place, Hradec became my home. The only thing that I was a little bit disappointed about is the fact that I didn't meet lots of Czech people, only the Czech students who were involved in ESN. I've loved meeting people from all over the world and living in Palachova made me go out of my comfort zone, I even attended high heels dance class with a Czech teacher who didn't speak English. I highly recommend to come in Erasmus here :))