

# MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

JEANNE VERDIER

FRANCE

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I arrived in Hradec Kralove on 09/09/2021. The ESN had arranged that a girl named Juliana would be there to pick me up at the airport and from then on, she was there for me. She facilitated my adaptation by introducing me to all her friends. But later on, in activities such as volleyball afternoons near the lake, I got to meet students from all over the world.

Then if I had to choose a word for this Erasmus, it would be: **discovery**.



I had the chance to discover a new country. I had never been to the Czech Republic before and this country is full of things to do. I went to Prague many times, to the Punkva Caves, to Karlovy Vary, to Pilsen, to the mountains in Korenov, and I still didn't manage to discover all the places this country has! Also, of course, I discovered the Czech food, and I think my top 1 is still goulash! Well, maybe top 2 ... beer in top 1 instead!

In the Czech Republic, I also discovered the Czech population. I must tell you that the Czech smile is not a legend, do not be afraid! But don't worry, you will still find pleasant things! I am still happy to have taken a Czech course because it made my life easier in certain situations where my interlocutors did not speak English.

This Erasmus also allowed me to travel to the neighboring countries at a very cheap price... I remember that we went from Prague to Bratislava, then Vienna, and we came back to Prague for the equivalent of 20 euros!!! So I went to Vienna in Austria, Bratislava in Slovakia, Wroclaw, Krakow and Auschwitz in Poland, and Budapest in Hungary. We planned to make one trip per month and it was great!

I also met people from all over the world and it was a real experience to see that we did not live in the same way and did not have the same points of view on certain things. Now I have friends in Portugal, Chile, Colombia, Malaysia, Brazil, and Turkey...

Another of my outstanding experiences during this Erasmus was the experience of seeing so much snow. I had seen snow before but never like this and for so long. I remember the white landscapes when traveling by train or by bus. But also just behind Palachova, there is a small forest where we went for a walk with friends and met families who were sledding! Without forgetting the snowmen and the snowball fights with my friends.



As you can see, I keep many memories!