

Erasmus Year in Kecskemét

I found my Erasmus experience in Hungary to be a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Before I moved to Hungary I knew very little about the country, the people and the culture and it was great to experience the new country and culture first hand. Not only did I learn about Hungary but I also learnt about many other countries from the other Erasmus students that I met.

Although we found that Kecskemet was a quiet place we still found lots of good nightlife and we often travelled to Budapest to go out at the weekends. On Wednesdays we sometimes went to folk dance and on Thursdays we always went to Teka for some Karaoke. The accommodation was excellent, our house was in the centre of Kecskemét so there was always something for us to do and our Landlord Gabor was very helpful.

I found the college courses to be very good. I especially enjoyed the music lessons with Atilla Smuta, his classes were interesting, enjoyable and very practical. We also had lessons about the Hungarian education system and teaching foreign languages as well as more practical lessons such as puppetry where I learnt skills that I will definitely use in the classroom. We also did teaching practice in Zrínyi school, I taught English classes from 3rd grade to 8th grade. I think that the teaching practice part of the course was my favourite, it was an invaluable experience for me to be able to teach in a Hungarian school as I really got a feel for the school culture here in Hungary and how the education system works. All the teachers were very helpful and welcoming and my teacher Márta could not have been more kind and helpful.

Many trips were organised for us by the college such as wine tasting and a visit to the parliament. Both of these trips were very enjoyable. I especially enjoyed the wine tasting trip as we got to see how the Hungarian wine is made and also had a traditional Hungarian dinner which was delicious!

Overall my experience in Hungary has been extremely positive, our Erasmus co-ordinator Eszter was very welcoming and helpful and whenever we had any questions or queries we would ask Atilla Racz and he was very helpful and prompt in his response. It is hard to think of any negatives from the year as everything was organised very well and I enjoyed everything we did. However, I was disappointed that we did not get the opportunity to visit the Kodaly school and observe a lesson. This was something I was really excited about when I heard that I was coming to Hungary on Erasmus and during the year as I learnt more about the Kodaly method I became more and more interested in it and would have loved to see it in practice in the classroom. Other than this, the year has been very beneficial and enjoyable for me. I would recommend anyone to come to Kecskemét on Erasmus and I'm sure like me they won't be disappointed!



Ice Skating in Budapest at Christmas



One of many Karaoke Nights



Our first day in Kecskemét



Dinner with our new Danish housemate Signe Buus



The girls in the first semester in Jokai house



Visiting the beautiful city Pécs



A visit to the parliament



Mercedes Factory Visit