Erasmus experience

Ugne Jakubauskaite IIB

To be honest, the very start was quite challenging. It was hard to communicate with the host family, because they didn‘t really know any English. But we found a way to understand each other by using google translator. Though, later on, I learned a few basic words in Turkish, so the family was really happy about that. They showed me some really beautiful and popular places in Antalya. But I think my favourite part was when we rode the big ferris wheel, the view from it was spectacular, also it was quite funny to see how scared Betil and her sister were, because we were so high off the ground. It was really hard to say goodbye to the family.

The children from the school were very VERY friendly. At first they looked quite shy, but as the days went by, they became braver. Every day, they came to us and asked us different questions and gave us hugs.

We explored a lot of different places, archaelogical and historical sites, which were stunning. They made me realise how beautiful Turkey is. I think my favourite place we visited is probably Olympos. But overall what I loved the most was the nature, it‘s really different from Lithuania.

I think my favourite part of the trip was when we stayed in the pension near Olympos. The stunning mountains, the fragrant orange trees and the cozy wooden houses created such a picturesque view. I hope I can come back there some day.

Thanks to this program, I met many wonderful people, created beautiful memories and gained a lot of experience.

Laura Mazrimaitė IIC

The trip to Turkey was exhausting, but we were eager to meet our Turkish friends as soon as possible. None of us expected that our hosts would not speak English. However, Google Translator was the greatest help and our best friend that enabled us to communicate with our host families.

The family that I stayed with was very hospitable and friendly. They introduced me to the traditional Turkish lifestyle, daily routine and food that was very delicious. Although it was not easy to communicate using Google Translator, we still made friends very quickly and we couldn‘t keep our tears when we had to say goodbye to each other.

Even though it was not my first trip toTurkey, I visited many spectacular places that I had never seen before. I was fascinated by archelogogical sites, stunning landscapes and especially the magnificant sea view from the top of the mountains. The hotel that we stayed at was surrounded by fabulous nature and the sunrise in the mornings was breathtaking!

I am thankful for the opportunity to participate in this project as I made friends not only with Turkish pupils but also with partners from Italy. My visit to Turkey was definitely an unforgettable experience.

Matas Zulkus IIIB

Upon arrival our expectations were low. On our way to Antalya, questions such as "What if they don't speak English?" or "What if the living conditions are not very good?" were frequent. Sadly, both of these questions were answered with a "They are". The low expectations that we so much hoped to not be experienced, were met, and the first day there I was convinced that the remaining days would be a living nightmare. Yet, I completely underestimated the positive aspects of the visit. For starters, the kindness and generosity of the hosts came as a surprise. They did not spare any food and always made sure I was having a good time. The family was also very communicative. Despite the obvious language barrier, we were able to find such compromises as Google Translator, showing simple hand gestures or using head movement to answer simple questions. Suprisingly, the care of the family managed to mask the discomforts of living there, and in the end, I came home with an experience that will not be forgotten for a long period of my life.

Saule Mackeviciute IIC

It always takes some time  to adapt to a new environment. Life abroad is very different from life in your own country or city where people that surround you have been known for many years. Even though it took some time to get used to a new place, I fell in love with Turkey and realized what a wonderful country it is. Orange trees, mountain tops, stunning sea views and powerful waterfalls fascinated me. It was a completely new  experience for me. I have no regrets visting this country as it was an exciting adventure that I would definitely go for again.

Joris Lisas IIB

Accepting the offer to participate in the Erasmus program was one of the greatest decisions I've made. I had the wonderful opportunity to visit Turkey for a week and stay with a local family. At first everything felt foreign. There was a huge language barrier, the culture was different but we managed to overcome every problem. My host family was very welcoming and friendly. I had tons of fun spending time with them. The activities that the organizers had planned for us were also very intriguing. Exploring ancient Greek and Roman archeology sites and ruins was quite exciting. Overall this experience was a lot of fun and I would encourage everyone to partake in it.