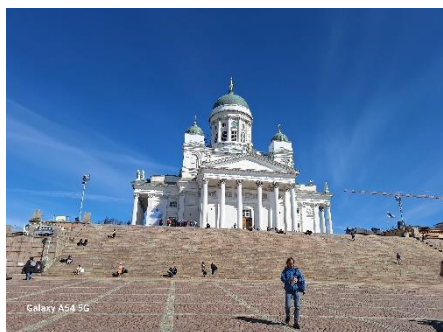


# Finland

I was one of the 17 lucky students who could go to Finland on an Erasmus+ trip. I believe it has been one of the greatest experiences ever.

It all started on the 11th of May when our plane took off in Budapest and landed in Helsinki two hours later. A little later we arrived at the hotel we stayed in for one night. Everything went smoothly and although we arrived late, we were able to sleep. I was told that in Finland people don't use curtains, but I was relieved when I saw them in both of our hotel rooms. The next day we went sightseeing and when we asked for help, everyone was really nice. After that we headed to the train station. The seats on the train were extremely uncomfortable. When we arrived in Kuopio, we met Henna and it was interesting to see that she was a bit excited, too.



On Monday we went to see the school. The way there was short and simple, the streets were very clean and peaceful. They separated us into three groups and some students gave us a tour of their school. Our guide was a girl named Angel and she was friendly with us, she was interested in our school system as well as in us. The teachers were really prepared for our visit, and they greeted us with presentations and games throughout the week. Almost in all the classes we visited, the teachers tried to make us participate as much as possible. This school gives the children a lot of freedom but in return they need to be mature and responsible. The school system in Finland couldn't be more different from the Hungarian system. In my experience it works well for them.

On Thursday we visited a different school, and it was a bit of a contrast. It was not as modern as the other one. What really surprised me was that we had to take our shoes off to go into the classroom. The

kids were our age, and they were open towards us. The second we sat down two girls came over to us and started asking questions about us. Their English was amazing, they spoke very well. One major difference that I noticed is that their teachers are less strict about the children's appearance. For example, almost every girl wore revealing clothes and a lot of kids had a piercing or two.

The whole week flew by like it had been one day. Every afternoon we went to see something or learn something except on Friday because on that day we went out for lunch, and it was delicious. The vibes were great, and we played golf, Uno and other games but we also enjoyed the sunset every evening.

On Saturday the travelling was peaceful. Our train left the station at 7:38 am so we didn't get much sleep because we left the hotel at 6:00 am. The plane was lovely as well, and the sky was stunning, I couldn't take my eyes off it.

I am over the moon right now. It has been three weeks since I came home and I still haven't processed it. I am thankful and I hope I will have more experiences like this soon. All in all, I loved Finland and I hope I will be able to go back one day.



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