

Erasmus trip to Finland

We went to Finland from the 11th of May to the 18th of May. There were seventeen students and five teachers so altogether twenty-two people. We went there by airplane on Saturday to Helsinki and on Sunday by train to Kuopio which was our destination.

We spent eight days in Finland and five days in schools. Kuopion klassillinen lukio was one of the schools that we were in. This is a high school, which is sport oriented, so the students pay more attention to their sport life and health care. The school is very modern, there are computers, projectors and movable teachers' tables in every classroom. There are different classrooms for different subjects like science, art and music. The science lab is very modern, there are eighteen seats with laboratory robes. In the art room there are a lot of pens, pencils, felt tip pens, paints and paintbrushes. The music room is very big, and it is well-equipped. There are several guitars, pianos and a drum. In most of the Finnish schools, students need to play at least one musical instrument.

They don't start school as early as us. Each lesson is seventy-five minutes long. They have a thirty-minute-long break when they can have lunch. In the school canteen there are two kinds of food. One is the normal one and the other is vegetarian one, plus if someone is allergic to something they can have a different one. In the canteen students can take their own portion of food, so there is no waste. They usually drink water or milk with the lunch, plus they eat vegetables and salads with every meal.

Hatsalan koulu is the other school where we were. This is a primary school. This school is for younger students. The view of this school wasn't so welcoming. The building was made from concrete, so it was grey, it was a bit depressing. In this school the lessons were forty-five minutes long, so just like in our country. We were there for only one day and we had four lessons. In this school there are classrooms for different subjects just like in the other one. There is a classroom for the soft materials like knitting, sewing and for the 3d printer. There is a classroom for cooking, art, music and for hard materials like wood and metal. The canteen is pretty much the same as in the other school.

On Saturday when we arrived in Helsinki we stayed in a hotel. The rooms were quite good, and beds were comfortable, but we were tired so I think we could even have slept on the floor. In the morning, we ate breakfast in the hotel, and it was very good. The other hotel called Kunnonpaikka was the place where we stayed for the rest of the time. This hotel was very good too. The rooms were small, but we made it comfortable. The pools and gym were very nice, it was good to have a place where we could relax a bit. We ate breakfast and dinner in the hotel. Both meals were very tasty. In the morning, we could decide what to eat and we could take our own portion of food. The dinner was pasta every day, it was not so good by the fifth time in row, but it was tasty every time.

After school we usually went sightseeing. We saw a bunch of good buildings in Kuopio, also a swimming pool and under it there was a hockey rink. It was very interesting to see how they save spaces with these things. We saw a church, a market and a big lake with a playground next to it. The next day we saw the museums. Old Kuopio Museum was like Skanzen in Hungary. There were houses from different times, lifestyles and jobs. The Kuopion museum was a museum about the nature, they showed us the evolution with stuffed animals. The other part of the museum was an exhibition with dresses, cars, boats and products from the fifties to the eighties.

All in all, I really enjoyed the 8 days that we were there. We studied some Finnish expressions, improved our English and it was really good to spend some time with people from our school.

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