

International week 2019 in Budweis

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We started our trip on Saturday evening with the train to Hannover, taking the Nightjet from there to Linz in Austria. After this relaxing night we spent half of the day in Linz, enjoying a little walk through the city and a beer at the riverside of the Donau. After that we had two more hours of train ride, until we reached Budweis main station. There we were picked up by two very nice and welcoming czech students, we got the card for the rooms with our name on it in different colours, the ticket for the public transport for the whole week and we filled in some forms. Then the students explained the bus system and helped us to find the right bus to the university and the dormitory. We lived in the student's home right next to the university, a big building with 10 floors. We were sharing rooms with one or two other participants, every room had an own bathroom and fridge. The bathrooms were clean and nice and so we had everything we needed to have a good week there. Then we spent the rest of the Sunday walking around in the city and having dinner.

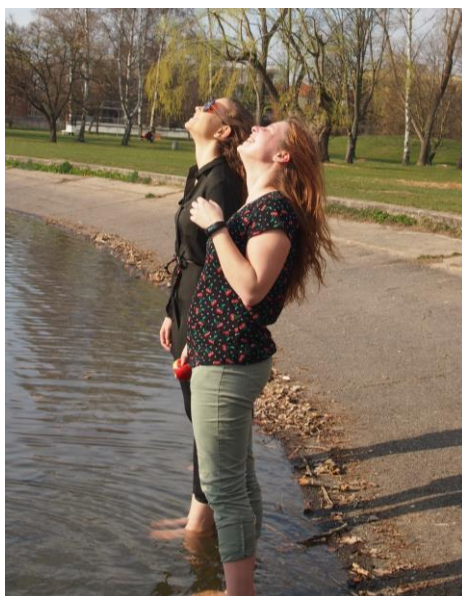
On Monday the program started and there was a first meeting in the auditorium. Beside some organisation tasks a professor from Amerika held a presentation about happiness. After a short break we prepared the room for the student's marked, where every group had the possibility to show some typical food and tell something about their country, region and university. After this first impressions we had some time to get in contact with the others. In the evening there was a big welcoming party with fantastic typical czech food. After that we played some games the students had prepared to get to know each other. The groups were separated by the colours, that were on the room cards we got in the beginning. So every group had students of different

nationalities in it. That was a great chance to get to know new people. After that official part of the program, we had the opportunity to go to a bar. More than half of all participants took this chance and so we had a good first evening.



All participants of the International week in Budweis

The second day started with field trips, there were different institutions offered and we had the possibility to choose the one were most interested in. In the afternoon we had our first workshop and the students had organised a city tour for us, we had to find different places and take pictures there. In the end we all met at the central market place. From there we had the possibility to go to different restaurants, recommended and accompanied by czech students, to take dinner.



Enjoying some free time at the lake

On Wednesday we had two workshops in the morning and one in the afternoon. From every participating university there were teachers coming with the students and preparing workshops for everyone. So besides the topic of the workshops it was also interesting to see the way of teaching in the different countries. There were always four different workshops at the same time to choose between. One workshop had the title „comparing welfare states“. The teacher motivated us to compare how social work is done in our home countries.

The last full day was Thursday, it started with a field trip. After lunch we had the possibility to have a tour through the Budweiser Brewery, there we learned a lot about beer.



Plenty of beer bottles are filled in the brewery every minute

After that the farewell party took place in a club in the city. Again there was fantastic food. After all of us had eaten we were dancing and having fun, enjoying the last evening together.



The beautiful and tasty buffet, served at the farewell party