

Estonia
Erasmus+ “Work in progress – My logbook“

Marie-Joy Zimmermann

(Name)

Wednesday, 3rd October 2018

On Wednesday morning our flight to Frankfurt took off at 10.35 a.m. It was the first flight of my life, so it was pretty exciting. After about 30 minutes on the plane, we landed in Frankfurt where we had a four hour break until our next flight which then went to Tallinn. But our journey wasn't over then. We had to take another bus until we finally arrived in Tartu at 9.30 p.m. It was then time to go to our assigned hotel rooms and meet our roommates for the week.



After we had put our suitcases away all Germans went to the nearby McDonald's with our teachers, because we were very hungry and hadn't eaten dinner yet. When we got back we met the Scottish people in the hallway of the hostel, got to know each other a little, exchanged our social media and had some nice conversations.

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Thursday, 4th October 2018



The second day in Estonia started with a nice breakfast at the hotel. Then we took the bus to the school where we spent the first half of the day. We met some Estonian friends from the project meeting in Germany and had a nice time catching up with each other.

The program began with a welcome speech and a little concert by some talented students of the school, followed by a presentation about the Läfte Ühisgümnaasium. We also heard and gave presentations about smart and sustainable energy in our home countries which we had prepared beforehand.



The first step was to divide us into the four different project teams: The photo group, the video group, the blogging group and the brochure group. To help us with the orientation at the school, we got a tour around the different buildings and learned some interesting facts. Afterwards we had lunch and then went to the Estonian University of Life Sciences for an energy class and a tour through the different parts. We learned a lot. During the walk to the University and back we had some time for conversations and forming bonds with each other which was very nice.

In the evening we went ice skating with some Estonians and the Scottish students. For dinner we stayed at the mall. Back at the hotel we played cards with the Scottish people and got to see a traditional Scottish dance that gave the day a very nice ending.



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Friday, 5th October 2018



This was the day we finally got to see the town we were staying in, Tartu. We got a tour around the city and learned many things about it, such as how old it really was. We also payed a visit to the mayor where we had an interesting presentation about Tartu and got a little insight on Estonian



culture. For lunch we went into the Püssirohukelder (Gunpowder Cellar Restaurant) and enjoyed the company and the amazing food.

Our next stop was the Tartu Environmental Education Centre where they taught us about learning from and with nature and showed us very cute animals. Afterwards we went to the Ice Age Centre to see what the world was like before electricity and energy. The probably most interesting centre we visited was the AHHA Science Centre where we were able to experiment with and experience science ourselves.

In the evening we were invited to an Escape Room by the Estonians where we got to enjoy our free time together with almost everyone involved in the project. We had a lot of fun, even though we were very tired from the exhausting day.



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Saturday, 6th October 2018

On Saturday we spent the whole day in Estonia’s Capital Tallinn. The first part of our program was the city tour where we got to see the palace, the ground of the Estonian Music Festival every five years and the beautiful old city. We had lunch together at a mall and had a little bit of free time after that.

In the afternoon we went to another Energy Discovery Centre full of experiments. We also had a little show. At four p.m. we got some free time and we were able to buy some souvenirs and visit a café.

After the bus ride back to Tartu we all hung out in the hallway together and played some bowling with a small set I had bought that day.



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Sunday, 7th October 2018



This day was a little different since it was a Sunday. We went on a little hiking trip in South Estonia, divided into two parts. Our first stop was a forest, with an observation platform, that led into a beautiful swamp we were able to walk through on a nice wooden boardwalk. The trail ended at a lake.

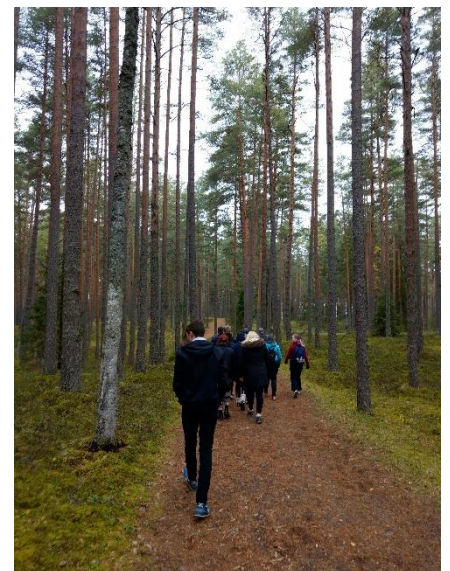
For lunch we stayed in the forest and ate some fish soup.

Our second stop was another forest where we walked for another hour and had nice conversations with each other.

The rest of the afternoon was free time and we used it to go to the mall with the Scottish people, and the Germans went to

dinner at an Italian place afterwards which was followed by a nice visit in the hotel sauna.

As usual we hung out in the hallway with everyone for the rest of the evening.



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Monday, 8th October 2018



For the last day on our beautiful trip we went to a small café with some Estonians and the Scottish girls for breakfast and had some pancakes and hot chocolate.

We spent the whole day at the school to hear the rest of the presentations about smart and sustainable use of energy in our own countries by the Italians and the Finnish people and to work on our projects after lunch. After six hours of putting together all the footage and knowledge we had gained over the week and the preparation of our presentations we had some dinner and then showed all the results of our work to everyone.

As a last activity we heard some Estonian music and learned many



traditional dances. We laughed a lot and had the best of times.

Because it was the last evening the Estonians came to the hotel with us where we all hung out together, talked and laughed a lot and played some fun games. Then it was time to say goodbye to the Estonians. There was a lot of hugging and even a few tears. We all had really grown to love each other and developed some great friendships which made it very hard to say goodbye to them.



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Tuesday, 9th October 2018



Tuesday was the day we all had feared throughout the week. The Germans went to the sauna one last time, the last things were being packed up and we ate our last breakfast in Estonia. Then it was time to get on the bus that took us to Tallinn. The first people we had to say goodbye to were the Finnish

students that had to take the ferry back to Helsinki. There were a lot of tears and last laughs about inside jokes we had formed over the days. When everyone had hugged each other, they took off with the bus and the rest went into the airport. Then we had to say our farewell to the Italians after we had taken one last picture together. We were lucky to be able to stay with the Scottish people until our boarding started. We used the time to play ping pong and chess and then we had to leave them too.

We used the flight to Frankfurt to finish up some work. After Frankfurt and the plane ride to Stuttgart it was time to say goodbye to each other too. We were going to see each other the next day at school, but it was still hard because leaving the airport meant that the week was finally over and we had to go back to our normal lives.

We truly had an amazing time in Estonia and we learned and gained so much from that experience that we will forever be grateful for this amazing opportunity and we will never forget the fun we had during our stay.

