

Norway mobility

Stend Upper Secondary School

Bergen



Hello, fellow humans, I'm definitely not a robot! In this newsletter I'm going to present to you our trip to Norway, a journey full of learning and fun



Authors:

1. **Toma Tecsán – 12F**
2. **Savu Florin – 12 G**
3. **Adelina Enache – 11F**
4. **Moraru Marius – 11C**
5. **Spinu Eva Alessandra – 10D**

A Student's Travel Diary

Monday 1.4.2019

This was the actual first day, considering the purpose of the project. On Monday, we were brought to Stend Upper Secondary School, in Fana, by Torbjorn, Magnus and Dag Morten.

Firstly, we've been greeted at the school cafeteria by Tone and Britt, and also by Magnus, the Head Master. From there, our group (from Romania), was taken to a tour of the school by two of their students. This is how we got to see the library, some of the classrooms, the gym etc. The entire building is equipped with all the high-tech equipment needed in a modern school, like projectors and new laptops, also monitors on the hallways, showing the weather. Also, the gym was very well equipped just like a professional gym in our country.

After that, we went to the lecture theater, where we were presented the program for the day. It was organized based on the groups in which we were separated and recognized by the color of the group. Every group had one or two of the students from Animal Care to guide them around the rest of the school. The school is separated in various buildings, destined for the different profiles existent in the school, so it was a long visit. Our guide was Frida, a very nice and fun student who studies insects, but actually loves every animal there. The separation of students in different groups was a very good idea, because we got to know everyone better.

We visited the dog training center, where we participated in a small race with two of the dogs, the greenhouse, the storage chamber, the tractors and the entire farm. Again, each of these places has the best equipment, also, the students presented the places and the activities they have to do at their profile in a very good way, so we understood everything. Every student is dedicated to their work and they're very enthusiastic when it comes to what they're doing. They showed us everything they've learned and I'm sure that they'll pursue a great career in the future.

We also had to prepare a meal, together, at school, where the groups from every country presented their traditional dishes. It was a great way to learn something new about our colleagues. This was the last activity of the day, before driving back to the hostel.

Norway mobility

Stend Upper Secondary School

Bergen

Tuesday 2.4.2019

On Tuesday, we went to Kristiania University College. We were presented the studying program at the university, specialized in economics and business. One of the teachers, David Coates, presented us his way of teaching, the courses and the projects, discussing every aspect and purpose of his lectures. All of this has been proven by two of their students, talking about what they expected, what they've learned and how they applied their knowledge acquired at the university in different business projects. For example, the idea of a safe way to protect the farmer's work from deer using the animal's instincts was very impressive and well put up.

After that, we had lunch and also the occasion to have an interesting discussion with David Coates about economic activities in our country and also the most important skills needed.

A 15 minutes' walk to the city center of Bergen was the beginning of our tour around the city. Students from Sales and Service were our guides, and they did an amazing job at showing us all the attractions. They presented us a short history or aspect about every location and it was a great way to discover Bergen and also to befriend our guides. One of their teachers came along to oversee the students while completing the presentation of the city.

Overall, it was a tour of Bergen with breathtaking sights and fun times.



Wednesday 3.4.2019

It was the busiest day, full of activities. Coming back to Stend, Britt offered us a short introduction of how mini companies work and are managed at the school. Their whole activity in mini companies is based around some simple, but very important principles, especially learning by doing.



Then, the entrepreneur Marianne Raa presented us her company, from the starting point and her own experience with running a company, to the final results and successes. She presented everything in a very fun and interactive way, with short stories.

Also, we were presented a mini company ran by some of the students, a Halloween themed one and a company ran by one of the teachers, where students with disabilities work very well to make different useful products and have fun while doing so.

After that, we had some parallel activities in groups, like playing some fun games with each other, which built a strong teamwork feeling in us. We also visited two other mini companies, Social Farming and Safe Space. These activities were very well organized, each student contributing in their own way.

Another activity that tightened our friendship bonds was brainstorming for the creation of our own mini company, based on at least one of the principles of wellbeing. We were separated in groups and given a list of these principles. In one hour of work, we had to create the mini company by organizing the ideas, connecting them and

Norway mobility

Stend Upper Secondary School

Bergen

illustrating them using pictures cut out of random magazines or just doodles. At the end of this, one member of each group had to present the mini company in front of everyone, which was an opportunity for us to speak ourselves and feel like true entrepreneurs.

The last activity of the day was having dinner in a Norwegian family. Separated in groups again, we went to either a teacher's home or a student's one. My group went at Ms. Lisbeth's house, where we were nicely welcomed. We had the chance to explore a Norwegian's taste in room design or just to discover a little bit about their daily life. We had a conversation with our hostess, finding out small things about her family, friends and also about Norway in general. We also got to tell her about ourselves, just to know each other better.

At the end of the day, everyone had a different experience to share.



Thursday 4.4.2019

On this day, we had the chance to discover the nature of Norway, in Hordaland county.

We were picked up from the hostel. The ride was quite long, but it had small breaks in different places, where we could explore for ourselves. The Norwegian teachers gave small presentations for each place that we visited, making the whole trip even more fascinating.

We also visited a farm up in the mountains. Its owner gave us a brief history of his business and explained to us the activity that he is doing at the farm, such as livestock farming and fruit harvesting. Nearby, there was a small cave in which we entered to find out that people can have



their wedding ceremony hosted in there. Next to the farm, the owner had opened a traditional Norwegian restaurant, where we had lunch and found out more about the Norwegian folklore. We also assisted a small show, where the owner played traditional Norwegian songs on a Norwegian violin.

After this, we went the other way to visit the harbor and the city. Truly, a day full of adventures and all sorts of places to see.

The day ended with a farewell dinner, where Ms. Tone had a speech, telling us how grateful she was for the project, making it possible for us to meet and create such strong friendship bonds. To better remember the whole experience, we sang a song together and went outside to take group pictures in front of the breathtaking view of the city.

To make this moment even more memorable, we had an activity for entertainment, where some of us contributed with songs, poems and other different talents that we shared before having to say 'goodbye' to our new friends.

Friday 5.4.2019

The last day of our mobility began back to Stend, where we were separated in groups and sent to assist different classes, so we could observe the teaching methods at a Norwegian school.

Before that, we had a summary/reflection of what we learned during the week.

The other groups assisted math classes, while the group I was in assisted a vocational one. In the math class, students of our age have a less complicated program to follow, considering the fact that they only need the principles for what they do at school in general.

My group, on the other hand, assisted an optional class where different students learned how to make horse riding accessories out of leather. Their workshop is very

Norway mobility

Stend Upper Secondary School

Bergen

well equipped, and the skills that the students have acquired during these classes are impressive, getting to use some creativity as well by decorating these pieces by their own liking.

The students were so nice to present to us some areas that we've never seen before, such as their horse training center. We got to know all their horses and a little bit about horse care and horse breeds, as well as where they are trained, how the training works and for what they're training. Of course, the students who work with horses participate in national competitions for which they train a lot.

We had our last lunch at the cafeteria, where we said goodbye to the Belgian and Italian students, also, to our Norwegian friends.

What followed was a meeting between us and Mr. Magnus, the principal. We discussed with his daughter about experience in Norway, which was a very interesting exchange of ideas.

The last thing on the list was a visit of a museum outside the school. Here, Ms. Tone and Ms. Britt presented to us old Norwegian buildings and their history (the time they were built, how they were built etc.).

Saying our farewells to the teachers, we spent our last day in the city of Bergen, Norway.



Toma Tecsán – about the mini-companies in Norway:

"I say that the learning companies are rather practical, they encourage innovative ideas and focus on helping people. Even if they do not rely on theory, they are based on actions that are inspired by all the students, which, by the way, are supported by the state. They use real currency instead of virtual currency."



Florin Savu – about Norway in general

"I love how they're all about doing the job, rather than learning theory about it. I highly appreciate the relationship they have with animals and nature in general, the way they accept every human exactly as he is, no matter the flaws, culture or origins. Another thing that impressed me is how well organized they are and how much they insist on clean surroundings and a healthy lifestyle"



Norway mobility

Stend Upper Secondary School

Bergen

Marius Moraru – about the lifestyle in Norway

“People in Norway seem less worried than most nationalities in every possible way. Their lives are way healthier. They’re really nice to each other. They’d take a bike ride over a car ride any second, the air is really fresh and...uhm... did you see how they cook the fish? – it’s heavenly! No wonder they’re so healthy!”



Adelina Enache – about the things we learned

“The Norway mobility provided us a lot of knowledge, entrepreneurship wise and social wise. Through this project, we had the possibility to sustain our will to make a huge step in the world of business, sharing different ideas coming from different minds. We learned that teamwork is the key for having a successful start in the business world, and we’ve learned that the Norwegian way: we learned by doing. The exploration of the country, as well as of the nature gave us the opportunity to meet new people and open our minds more, to see the potential and possibilities of our surroundings.”



Spînu Eva Alessandra – personal impressions about Norway and about the international company.

“It fascinates me how they think and how they put in practice their thoughts and theories. I saw a mini company a little bit different from what I usually see, based on taking care of animals and people are really friendly to them

In my opinion, a mini company created by Norwegians is subjective and organized with clear arguments and theories. I think it’s amazing that they’re relaxed all the time and they feel free to explain their own innovative ideas.

The only thing I can say about the international company that’s about to be created is that I truly want to be all social and creative. I look forward to accepting others’ arguments and working with them side by side. We should use the Norwegian way of doing things, the practical one, the one based on communication, smiles and positivity, where people can open themselves up to others and make their ideas be heard.”



Bye-bye, Norway!

This material has been created with the financial support of the European Commission. The authors are solely responsible for the contents of this material. The National Agency and the European Commission assume no responsibility whatsoever for the manner in which the contents is to be used

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

